

SUCCESS STORY

Saint Louis University Achieves Renewable Energy Milestone

SLU is Missouri's first institution of higher education to commit to match all electricity used in student residence halls with renewable energy through the Ameren Missouri Pure Power® Program.



Founded in 1818, Saint Louis University (SLU) is one of the oldest and most prestigious Catholic universities in the nation. 2018 marks its bicentennial and to continue the 200-year commitment to serve a higher purpose while

always seeking the greater good, a student-led sustainability initiative was started four years ago to lead the effort to reach this milestone.

To match electricity used in residence halls, SLU purchased Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) from Midwest wind farms through the Ameren Missouri Pure Power Program. By purchasing these RECs, SLU is able to prove that renewable energy was generated and added to the grid, and in turn bolsters the renewable energy industry as a whole.



The initiative was headed by Douglas Fritz, now a senior who founded the student group, Green Billikens, and who also co-chairs the Sustainability Committee for the Student Government Association. "We made it happen during our bicentennial year, creating a campaign around sustainability that focuses on making our campus greener for the next 100 years," Fritz said.

"Pure Power is one of the many ways Ameren Missouri is providing affordable choices for customers who support and want to grow renewable energy in the Midwest," said Tom Thompson, supervisor of energy services at Ameren Missouri.

3Degrees Business Development Manager, Debra Pottinger, worked closely with SLU to bring this project to fruition. Pottinger notes "During the first year, SLU will create the demand for 8,004 megawatt hours of electricity to be generated by Midwest Wind Farms and added to the Midwest power pool."



Sustainability initiative leaders include (L to R) Laura Beilsmith, Green Billikens president, Douglas Fritz, Green Billikens founder & co-chair of the SGA Sustainability Committee, Laju Sudhakar, president of the Residence Hall Association and Antonio Hornstein, chair of the Green Billikens Renewable Energy Working Group.

BY THE NUMBERS

- + 60 percent of residence hall students responded to two surveys about reducing their carbon footprint
- + 88% agreed to pay \$20 tax per semester
- + SLU has reduced their electricity carbon footprint by 12,959,821 pounds of CO₂.

Greenhouse Gas equivalents:

- + 1,427 vehicles off the road for a year
- + 173,173 trees planted OR
- + 239,496 incandescent bulbs switched to LED