



*City of Houston's
50 MW Solar Power
Purchase Agreement*

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Legal Education

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16th Annual Gas & Power Institute

Oct. 6, 2017

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Procurement Decision Drivers:

- Renewable Energy Leadership
- Save Taxpayers Money

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City of Houston
Renewable Energy Leadership

EPA's annual national top 100 green power users:

- # 8 purchaser of renewable energy in America
- # 1 local government purchaser of renewable energy in America



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City of Houston

Regulatory Challenges in Deregulated Market



Not a municipal utility like Austin Power or CPS Energy (San Antonio).



Deregulated market in Harris and surrounding counties.



Texas Public Utility Regulatory Act (PURA):

- A retail customer can only purchase electricity from a Retail Electric Provider (“REP”). PURA § 31.002(17)
- REPs cannot own generation assets. PURA § 31.002(17)
- Generators must sell electricity at wholesale. PURA § 31.002(10), § 39.351(a)

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City of Houston

Options for Renewable Power



1) Purchase Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)



2) Build solar or wind facilities on-site (“behind the meter”)



3) Negotiate complex three-party Power Purchase Agreement (PPA)

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Title search: City of Houston's 50 MW Solar Power Purchase Agreement

Also available as part of the eCourse

[Electricity Markets: What the Future Holds](#)

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the
16th Annual Gas and Power Institute session

"Meeting the Electricity Needs of Industrial and Large Commercial Customers"