

Strictly Organic Coffee greens its beans with Blue Sky

by Bend Weekly News Sources

Strictly Organic Coffee Company made two big business decisions recently; to open a retail shop at 6 SW Bond in Bend and to begin buying Blue Sky renewable energy from Pacific Power.

For seven years, Strictly Organic has maintained a loyal, wholesale customer base by selling Certified Fair Trade and Organic coffees to consumers, restaurants and grocery stores. Now the company is greening its power as well as its beans.

Strictly Organic Coffee Company is located at 6 SW Bond Street in Bend, Oregon. "I think it's very important to support alternative energy," said owner Rhonda Ealy. "We've been buying Blue Sky as homeowners, and it's also part of our business mission to be as environmentally conscious as we can be. We even use biodegradable cups and silverware in our shop."

Blue Sky enables customers to help bring more renewable energy into the region. Energy generated from wind, biomass and solar helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Strictly Organic is buying ten blocks a month of Blue Sky Block wind power, equivalent to the amount of electricity a typical household uses each month. Over the course of a year, Strictly Organic Coffee's Blue Sky purchase reduces carbon dioxide emissions by 12 tons, which has the same environmental benefit of planting 2,350 trees or not driving 25,700 miles. Buying just one, 100 kilowatt-hour increment of Blue Sky Block costs only \$1.95 per month. Oregon customers also can choose Blue Sky Usage, which allows customers to receive their equivalent energy usage from renewable resources, or Blue Sky Habitat, which allows customers to buy renewable energy, and make a donation to The Nature Conservancy of Oregon to preserve native fish habitat.

Pacific Power's Blue Sky Quantity Savings program allows large business customers to buy renewable energy for less, provided they purchase at least 101 blocks of Blue Sky per month.

Enrollment in Blue Sky is optional, and customers can change their participation or withdraw at any time. For more information or to sign up for Blue Sky, go to www.pacificpower.net/bluesky or call 800-769-3717.

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