

# Asia Clean Energy Forum: **Opportunities in the APAC REC Markets**

**Roble P. Velasco-Rosenheim**  
**The International REC Standard Foundation**

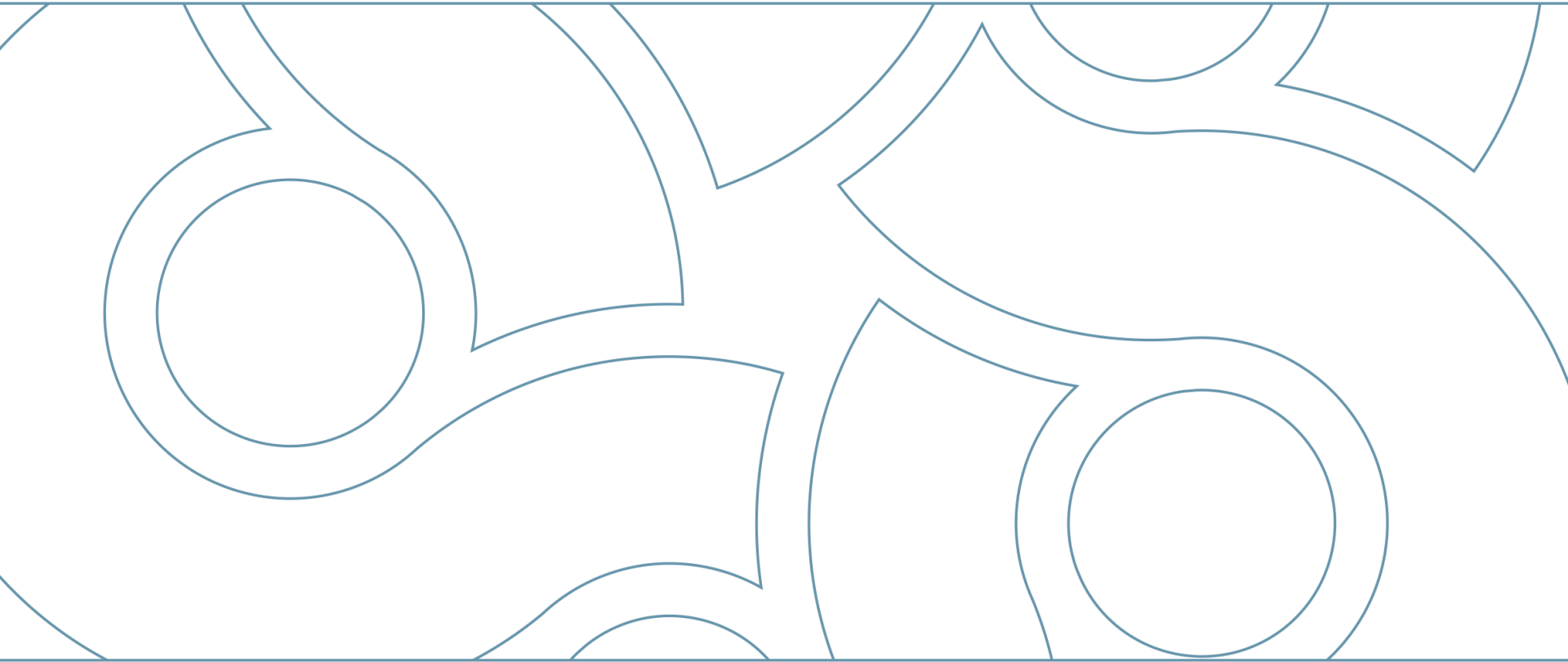
# Today We'll Cover...

- **Overview of RECs**
- **Opportunities in APAC**
- **Transaction Volumes (if there's time/interest)**

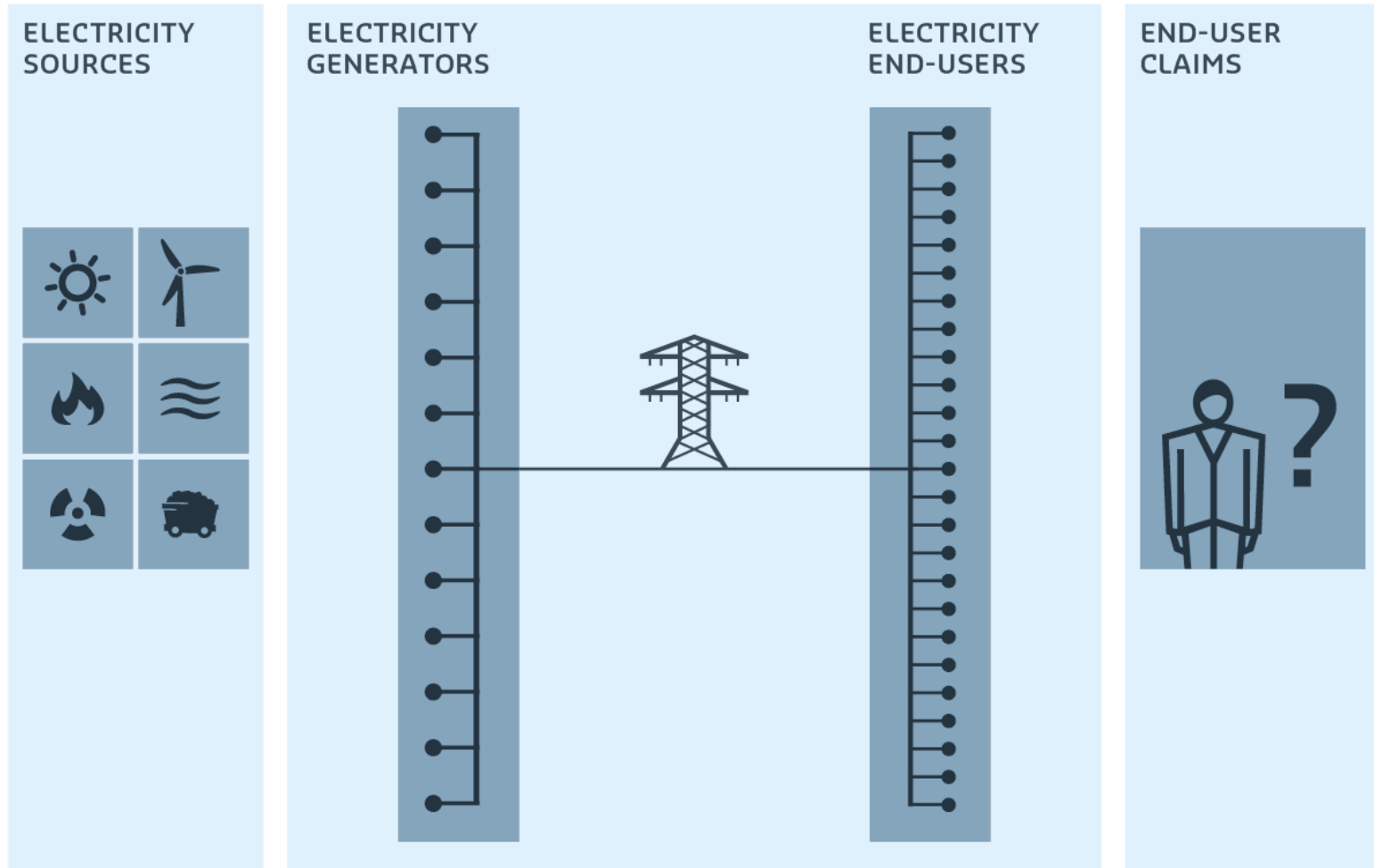


THE INTERNATIONAL  
REC STANDARD

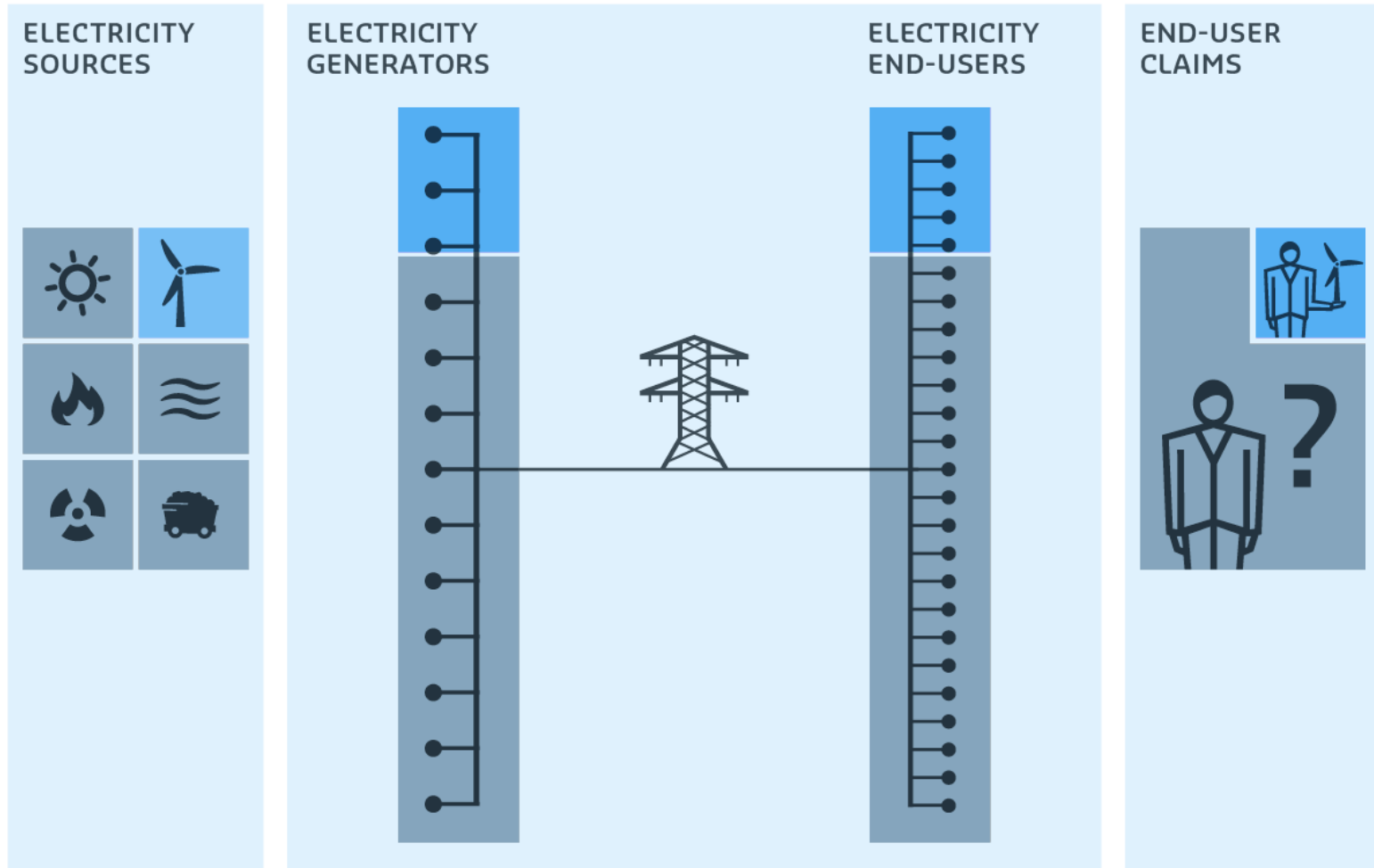
# Part 1: Overview of RECs



**Renewable energy certificates (RECs) tells us where our electricity comes from.**



 TRACKED  
 RESIDUAL



 TRACKED  
 RESIDUAL

**RECs tells us where our electricity comes from.**

## A REC tells us facts, or “attributes”:

- 1MWh of power was generated by a renewable source.
- When, where, and who generated this MWh.
- This information has been confirmed by a trusted source or “standard”.
- Someone owns these “green attributes” and can transfer or claim ownership.



THE INTERNATIONAL  
REC STANDARD

This Redeemed Statement has been produced for

**[Beneficiary Name]**  
for  
**[Participant Name]**  
confirming the redemption of

**10 000**  
tREC Certificates, representing 10 000 MWh of  
electricity generated from renewable sources

This Statement relates to electricity consumption located at or in

**[Beneficiary Location]**  
in respect of the reporting period

**2019-01-01 to 2019-06-01**

The stated Redemption Purpose is

**[Redemption Purpose]**

THE INTERNATIONAL  
REC STANDARD

**Evident**

QR Code Verification  
Verify the status of this Redeemed Statement by scanning the QR code on  
the left and entering in the verification key below

**Verification Key**  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8  
tREC is a trademark word

Redeemed Certificates

Production Device Details						
Device	Country of Origin	Energy Source	Technology Supported	Commissioning Date	Carbon (tCO <sub>2</sub> e / MWh)	
Hydro Plant 1	India	Hydro-electric	Run of river	No	2014-01-01	0.000

Redeemed Certificates					
From Certificate ID	To Certificate ID	Number of Certificates	Offset Attributes	Period of Production	Issuer
0000-0000-0000-0001	0000-0000-0001-0000	10 000	Exc	2019-01-01 - 2019-06-01	[Issuer Name]

**Auditor Notes**

This statement is proof of the secure and unique redemption of the tRECs stated above for the named beneficiary to be reported against consumption in the country during the reporting year stated. tRECs are assigned to a beneficiary at redemption and cannot be further assigned to a third party. No other use of these tRECs is valid under the tREC System.

Where offset attributes are 'exc' the device recipient, who exclusively holds the environmental attribute rights, has undertaken never to offset carbon offsets in association with these MWh. 'exc' means carbon offsets relating to these MWh may be traded independently at some point in the future.

For labelling scheme information please refer to the scheme's website. Labelling scheme labing may not be substitution.

Thermal plant emit carbon as part of the combustion process. Whilst this is not zero carbon, it is generally recognised as carbon-neutral where the source is recent biomass.



**Other names:** Guarantee of Origin (GO), Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs).



# Demand: Who Consumes EACs?



~~8,000~~ **13,000+** companies reporting worldwide

(2% of companies worldwide, worth \$12 trillion report through CDP)



~~263~~ **400+** companies promise **100%** renewable



~~992~~ **2,500+** companies taking action

# Demand Perspective

- **Why renewable electricity?**

- **Pure economics:** Business leadership and competition.
- **Pure economics, again:** Price (hedging) and policy influence.
- **The “right thing to do”:** Less of a driver. Let’s be honest.

- **Why use RECs?**

- **Access:** only way to get and claim renewables from the power pool.
- **Reporting:** disclosure to CDP, RE100, and others is based on best practice guidelines, which require use of certificates.
- **Ownership:** green power without RECs is like a car with no title, yes, even under direct-line PPAs and onsite installations.

# Demand: Who Consumes RECs?





# Demand: Who Buys?



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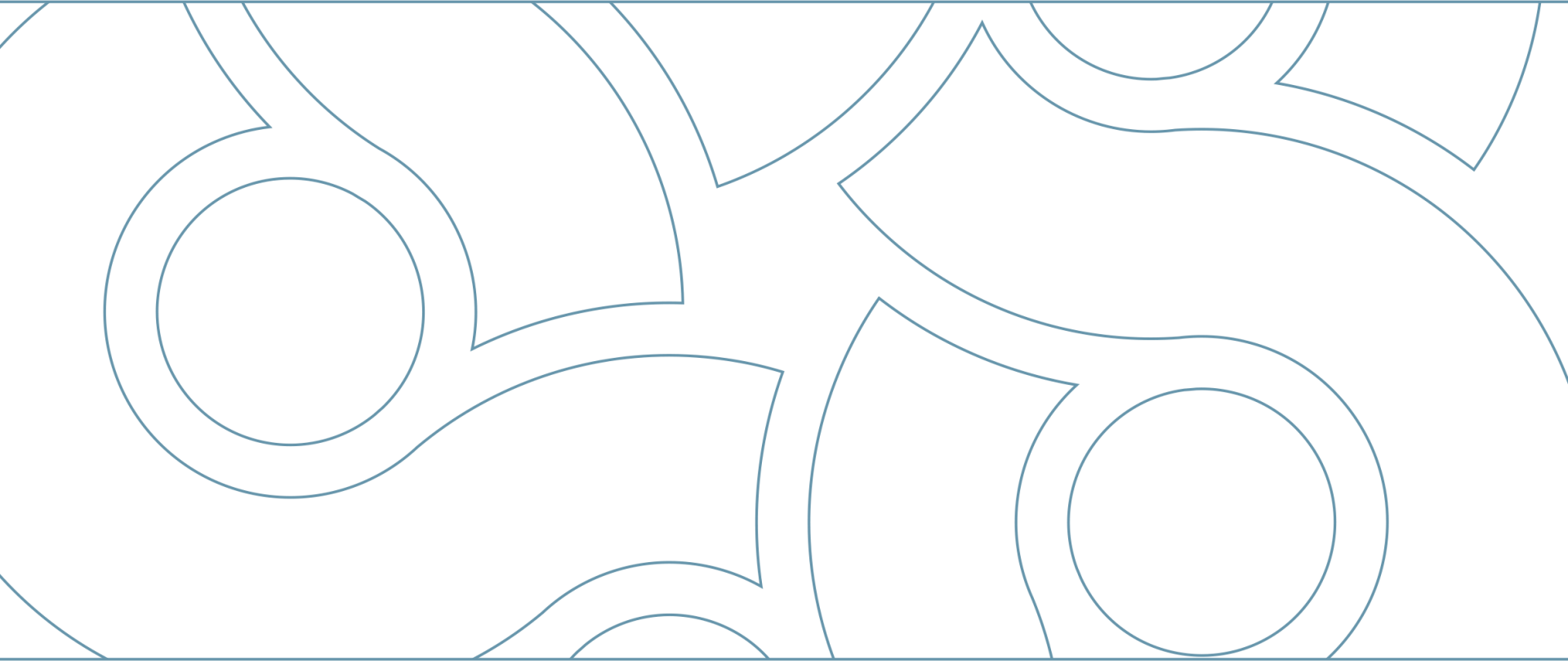
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# Seller's Perspective

- **It's all about the money...**
- **The following stakeholders can make money by...**
  - IPP/Asset owner/developer → Sell RECs, multiple paths to market
  - Utilities, Electricity Retailers, and Distribution Utilities (DUs) → green tariffs
  - Commodity brokers and traders → Trade till landing at corporate
  - Corporations with self-owned asset → self consumption (for clean claims)
  - National authorities → Green tariffs and phase out subsidies
  - Development Partners...?

## Part 2: Opportunities in APAC




**RECs are NOT just an “unbundled” certificate.**

**They are used for tracking physical transactions as well!**



# HOW? Transaction Structures

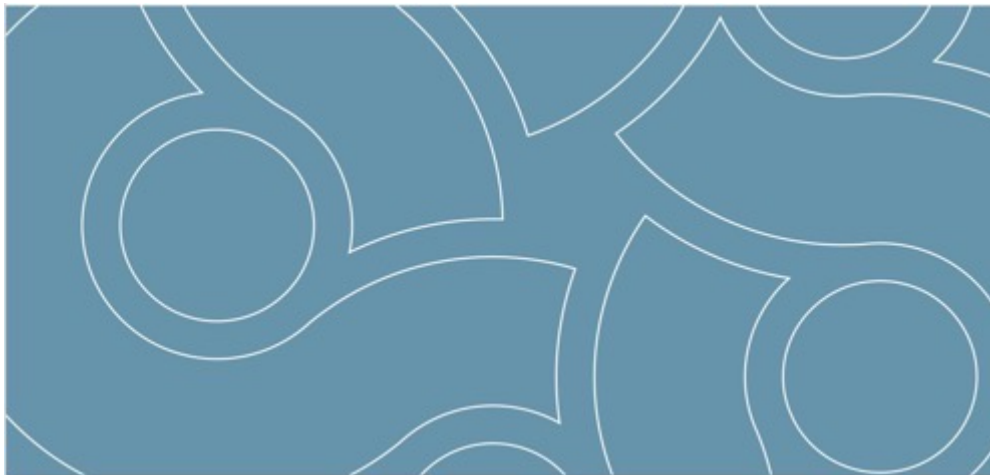
Structure	Description
Unbundled	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certificate only, totally separate from power</li> <li>• Electricity from one source, RECs from another</li> <li>• (HINT: Go talk to the traders/brokers in the room!)</li> </ul>
Bundled 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Electricity + certificate, sold together</li> <li>• RECs used to track:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Power Purchase Agreements (PPA) with developer</li> <li>• Solar rooftops (self-consumption) with developer</li> <li>• Utility "green tariff" products (for homes and businesses) from retailer</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

# What to Look For Next

- **Procurement models are changing**
  - **How:** Bundled and longer-term contracts (green tariffs and PPAs)
  - **How much:** Price transparency shifts business models (value → volume)
  - **Who buys:** Supply chains will become the new demand hub
- **Market boundaries *could* open**
  - Currently, markets are isolated
  - Growing interest in expanding boundaries
  - RECs are a “make-or-break” for cross border transmission financing



**Thank you!**

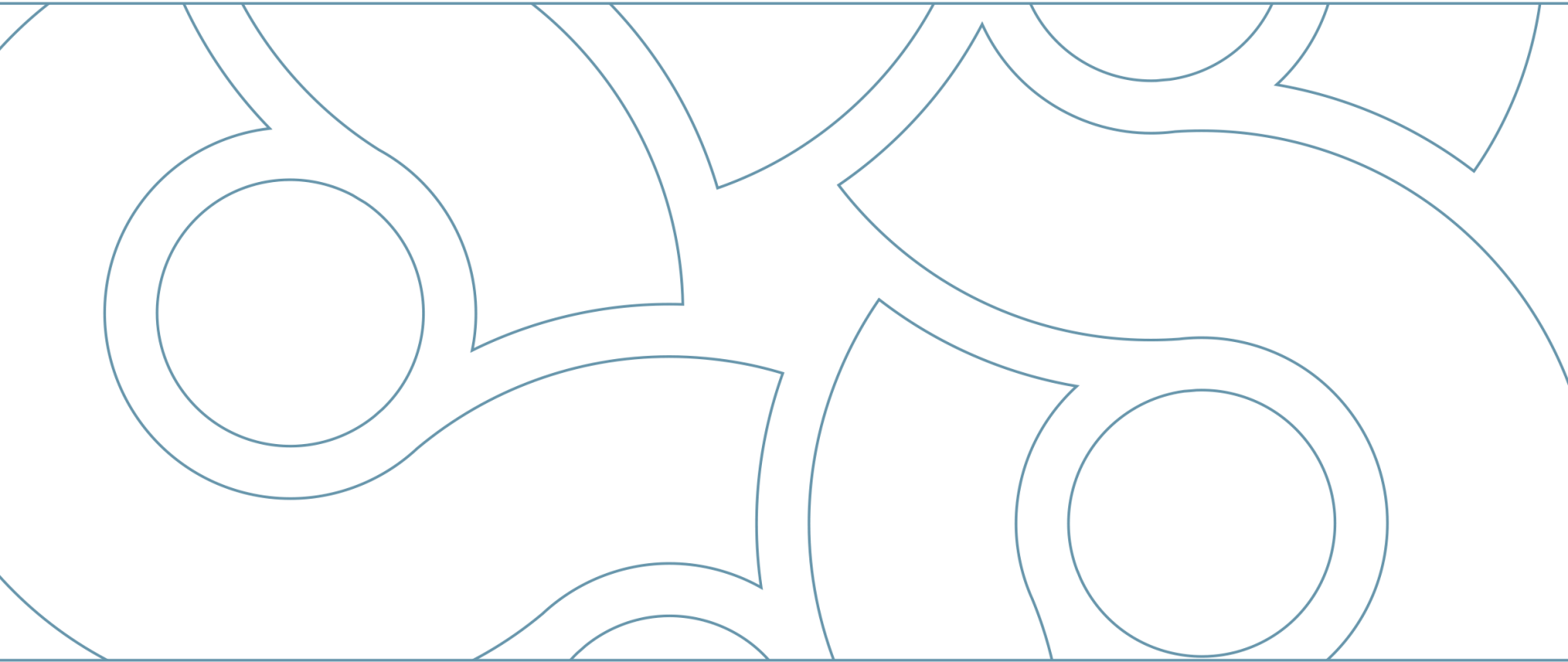


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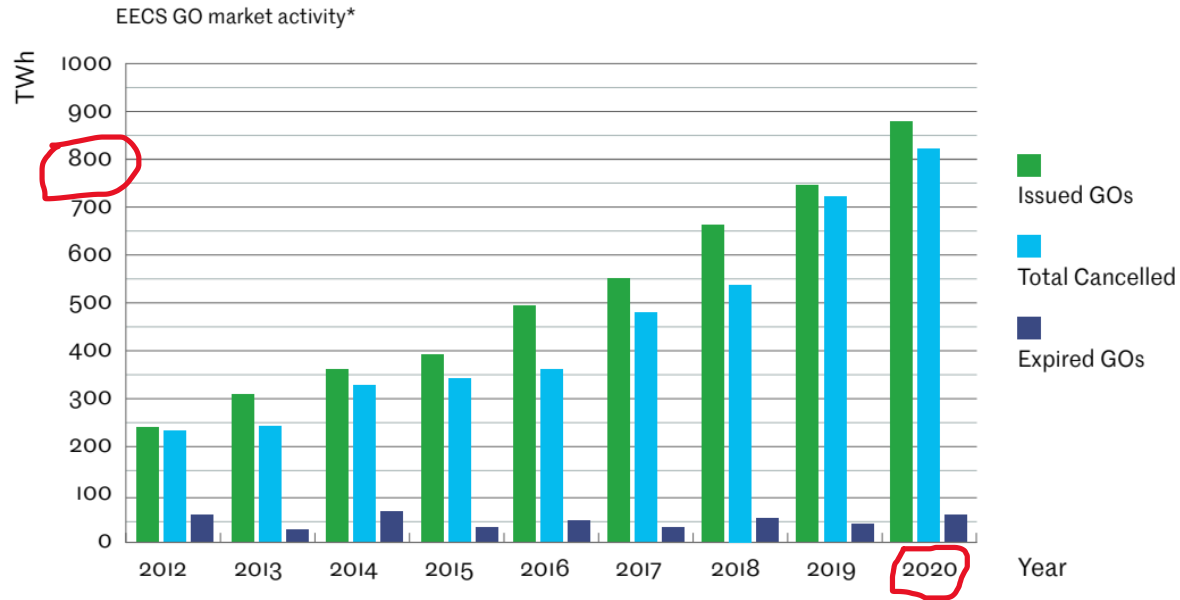
**Regional Director, SE Asia  
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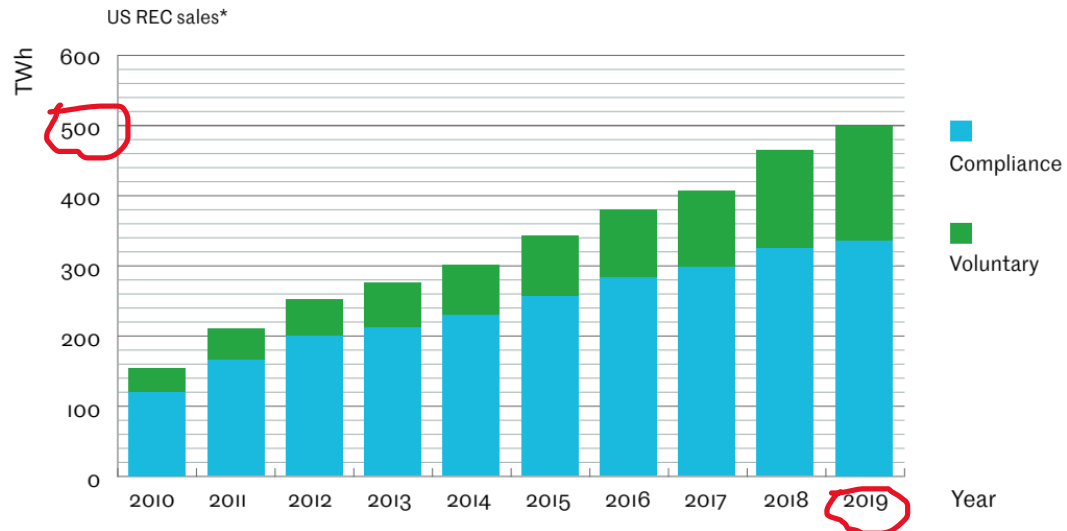
# Part 3: Transaction Volumes



EU Markets

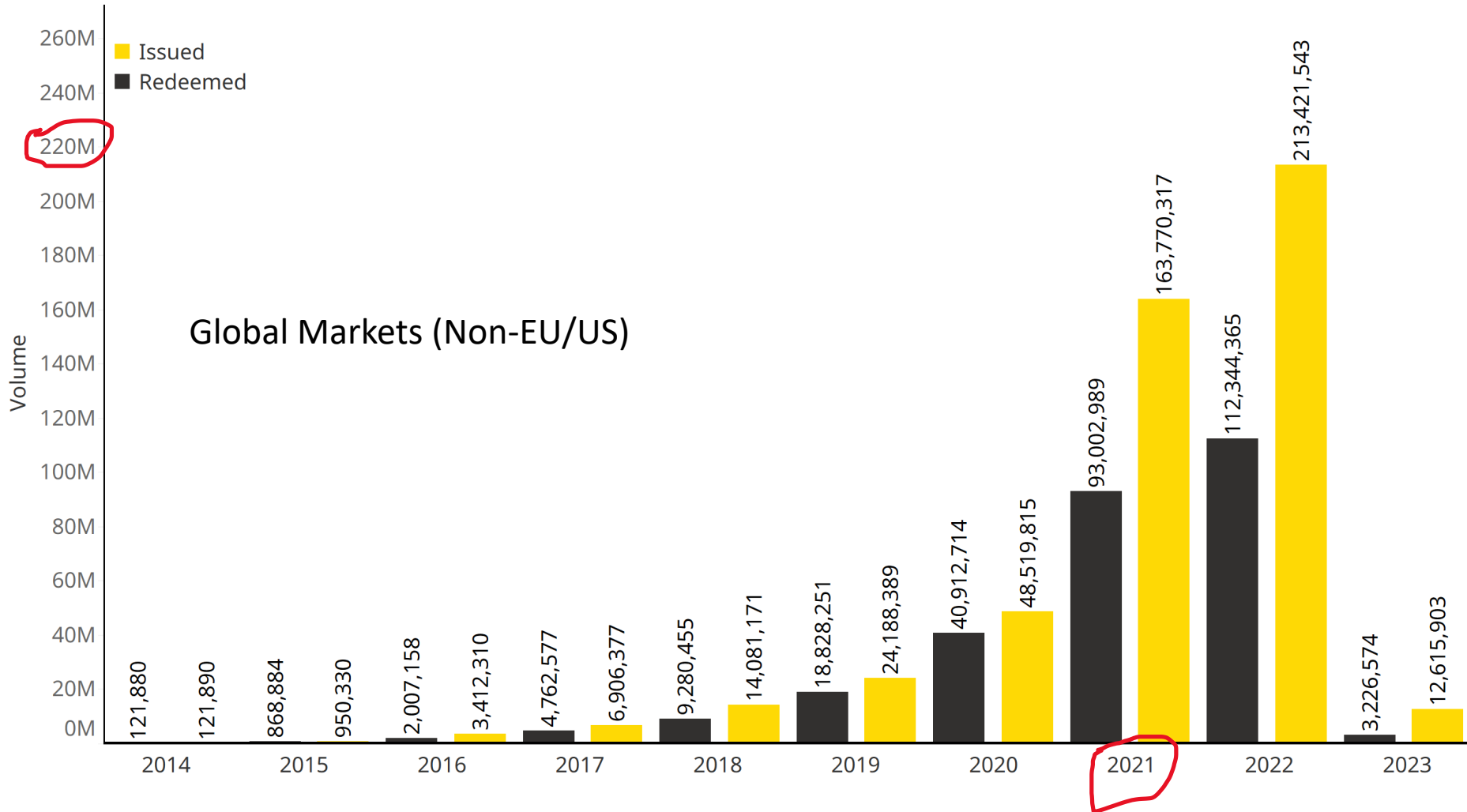


US Markets

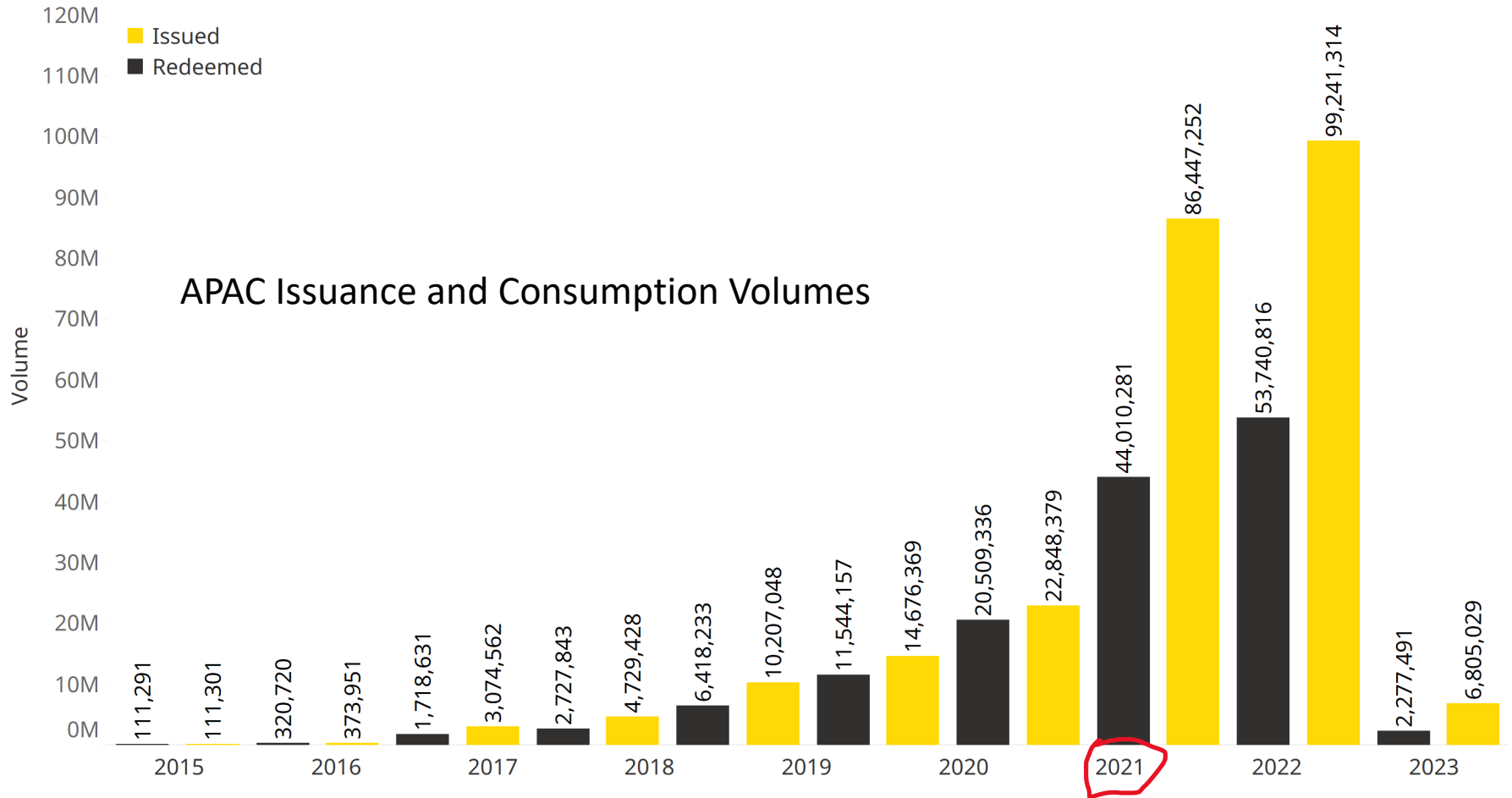


\*Source: National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) and Lawrence Berkeley National Lab

Issuance and Redemption by Vintage



Issuance and Redemption by Vintage (APAC Area)



# This tells us...

- **EU markets are the largest (800), followed by the US (500).**
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- **International markets are growing faster and will take over.**
  - Issuance has doubled each year since 2014
- **APAC accounts for half of total Issuance and Consumption.**
  - Issuance has doubled each year since 2014

# Most Common Question

(other than price)

**What's the difference between RECs and Carbon Credits?**

Topic	REC	Carbon Credit
Unit of Measure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MWh</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tons of avoided CO<sub>2</sub>(e)</li> </ul>
How its measured	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meter readings (fact-based)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Methodologies (assumption-based)</li> </ul>
Issuance Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meter or financial data verified (simple)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consultants estimate using product methodologies (complex)</li> </ul>
What it's used for	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scope 2 (emissions from electricity consumption)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scope 1 and 3 (everything else: direct emissions and downstream supplies)</li> </ul>

# Use Cases

**There is much more to RECs than unbundled transactions!**

# Market Structures

- **Voluntary:**

- Companies choose to go green.
- They use EACs to prove it, in line with reporting frameworks like RE100, the Science Based Targets Initiative, and Race to Zero.

- **Compliance:**

- The government determines that certain entities (usually the utility or power retailers) need to use X% renewables.
- Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS) and Renewable Portfolio Obligations (RPOs) are common examples.

Structure	Description	Why/Why Not?
<p>“Attribute Only” (Unbundled)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certificate, totally separate from power.</li> <li>• Bilateral and trilateral deals.</li> </ul>	<p>Access Easy Easy Extra cost</p>
<p>PPAs and Leasing (Bundled)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grid moves power, EACs move “green”.</li> </ul>	<p>Impact—additionality Free EACs or low cost Lack of understanding Policy barriers</p>
<p>Tracking Self Consumption (Bundled)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Own assets, issue EACs, redeem EACs.</li> </ul>	<p>Impact—additionality Free EACs or low cost Lack of understanding Up front costs</p>
<p>Green Tariffs (Bundled)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utility or retailer sells power+RECs</li> </ul>	<p>Easy Often unavailable Extra cost</p>