

# Julie's Bicycle

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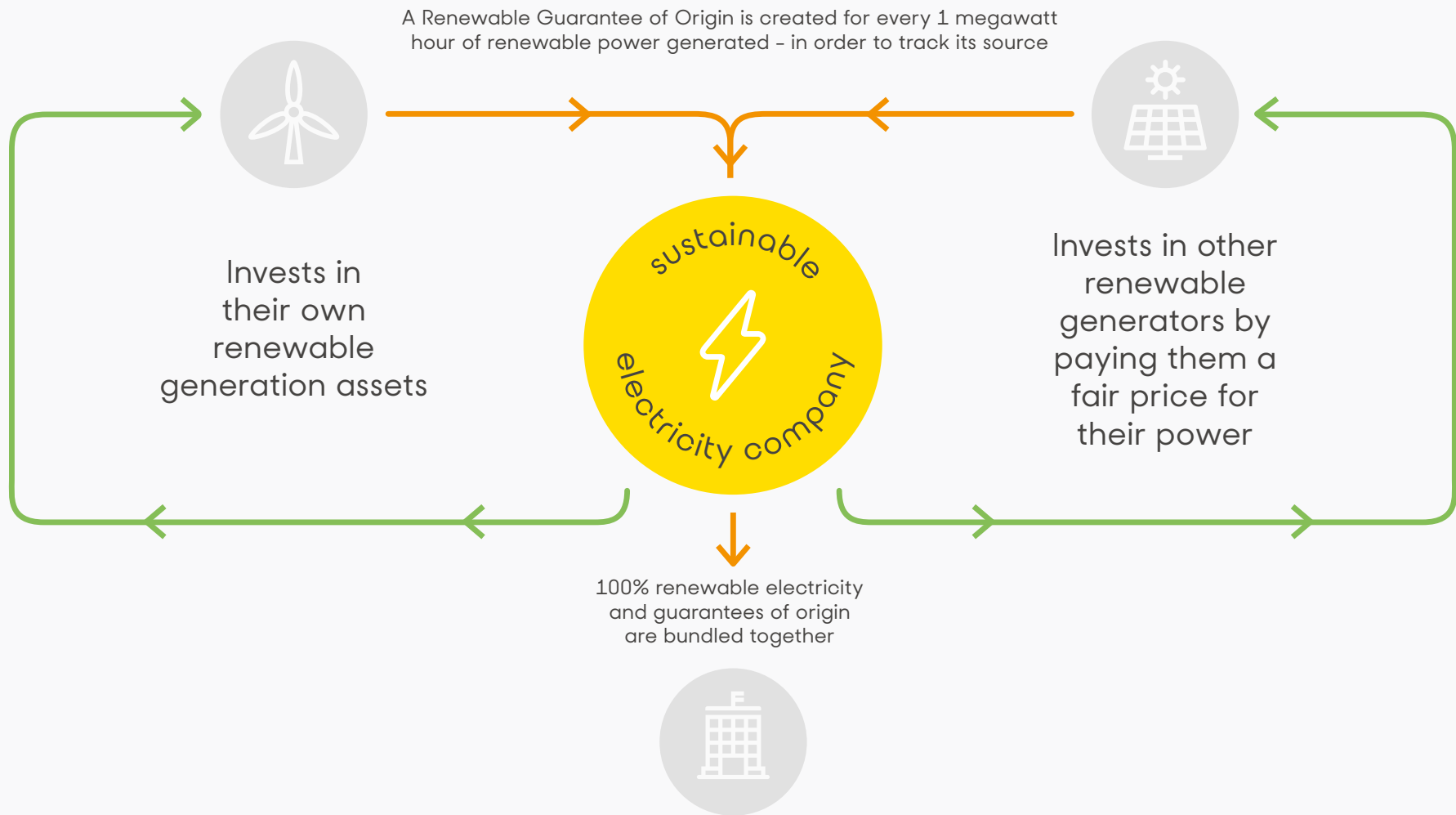
'Light Night 2016' by Tom Arber, Photographer of Opera North, a cultural institution who worked with Julie's Bicycle to change their energy supply to Good Energy in 2018

## how to buy sustainably sourced renewable electricity for your business

This handbook was produced in partnership with Julie's Bicycle.



# what is sustainably sourced renewable electricity?



Reassurance that your business is supplied with power matched back to specific UK renewable sources



buying renewable power is one of  
the biggest things your business can  
do to help combat climate change.

so how can you be sure you're  
buying a sustainably sourced supply?

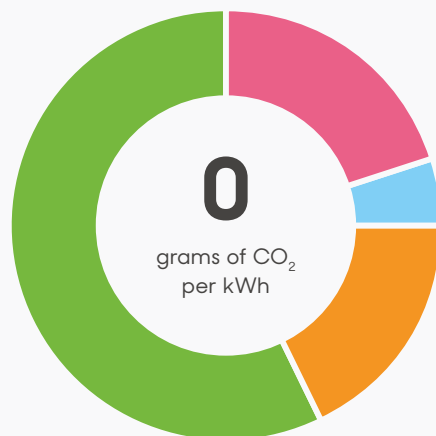


# 1 check a supplier's published power sources

Every year UK electricity suppliers have to publish the fuel sources used to generate the electricity they sell. This is known as the fuel mix disclosure and always covers the period 1<sup>st</sup> April–31<sup>st</sup> March. It should be easily available on a supplier's website, or by just asking them.



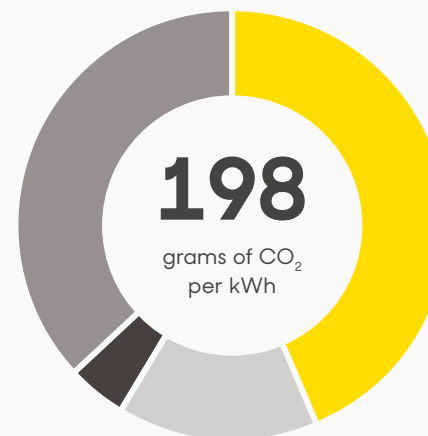
## 100% renewable fuel mix



- The power comes from renewable sources only
- The disclosure shows figures for each renewable generation type
- The power comes from a diverse range of sources



## Renewable & non renewable fuel mix



- The power comes from fossil fuels as well as renewable sources
- Not immediately obvious what the renewable sources are



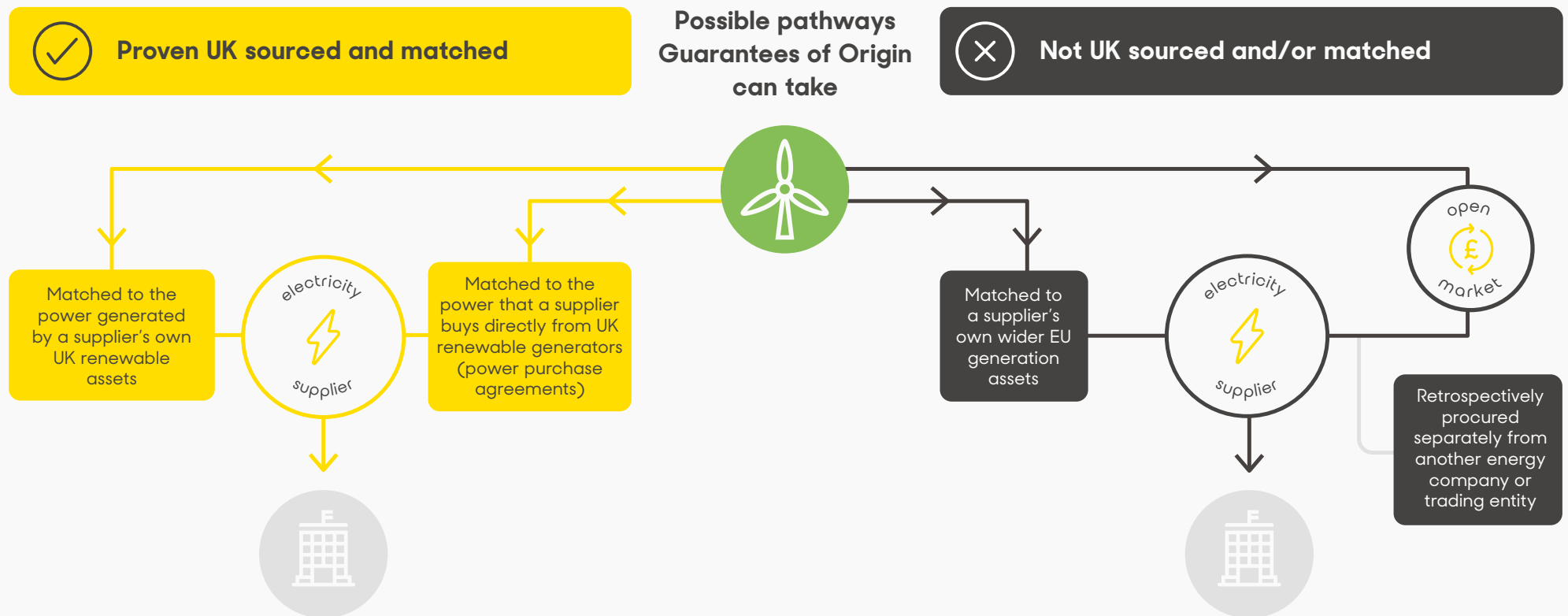
**Best practise** – buy from a supplier who only offers 100% renewable tariffs.

**Why?** Because you have greater confidence that they're not purchasing from or supporting fossil fuel generators.



## 2 check the origins of a supplier's renewable power

Every unit of renewable power a supplier sells needs to be backed up with a guarantee of origin. This is what supports their annual fuel mix claim to OFGEM. How a supplier gets these guarantees of origin determines how sustainably they source the power they sell you.



**✓ Best practise** – buy from a supplier who has UK Renewable Guarantees of Origin for the power they sell that can ALL be matched to assets they own or assets they have agreements with.

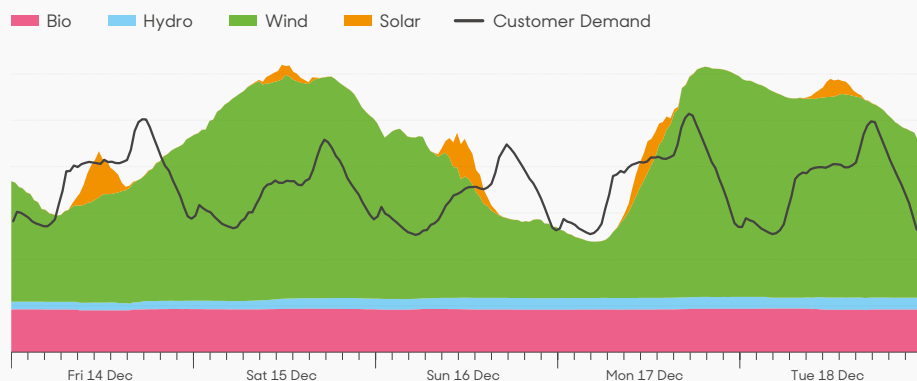
**Why?** Because you can be more confident that the power you're buying is supporting the growth of independent UK renewable generation.

### 3 check how a supplier matches renewable supply with customer demand

Checking how a supplier matches their renewable power supply with their customers' electricity demand will demonstrate that they know where your power originates at any given time.



**Aiming to match supply and demand every half hour**



A supplier receives Guarantees of Origin (REGOs) from renewable generators on a monthly basis as they're created by OFGEM to cover the renewable power that's been purchased.

Any excess REGOs at the end of the year are retired rather than traded with other energy companies

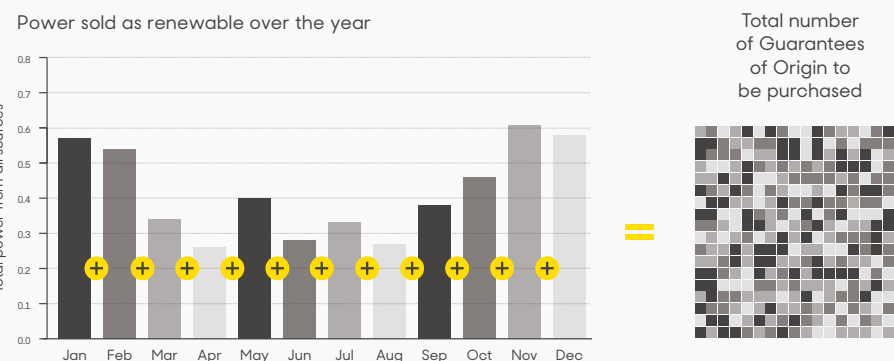


**Best practise** – buy from a supplier that actively looks to match their customers' usage to purchased sources of renewable power on an regular basis.

**Why?** A sustainable system should look to maintain a balance between renewable supply and demand. Not use an accounting trick to just claim power is renewable.



**Retrospectively balancing supply and demand**



Supplier has no process in place to match in real-time.

Supplier calculates how much power has been supplied over the past year to customers and buys the number of Guarantee of Origin certificates needed from the open market to claim this power as renewable.

# how sustainably sourced is your renewable power?

The model below details various attributes that help determine how sustainable a supplier's electricity sourcing is.





Interested in finding out more?

Please get in touch – we'd love to hear from you.



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