



Sokol Blosser Winery | 2009 Sustainability Report

By Michael Brown, Direct Sales Manager

I. INTRODUCTION

2009 marks our seventh year of outlining our sustainability efforts in this report format, and we will continue to inform our readers of our successes and setbacks from the previous year. We view our business through a lens that measures our success not only by the bottom line on our financial reports but by a “triple bottom line” that takes into account our social equity and how we treat the natural environment around us. We will always strive for the brass ring of net-zero energy and waste and a culture that supports those goals from our vineyards to our office. To view our efforts from prior years please see our website at sokolblosser.com. Here is a short list of our successes prior to 2009:

- Organic certification for our vineyard in 2005
- U.S. Green Building Council LEED certified barrel cellar (first winery in the world to achieve this) in 2002
- Renewable wind power purchased from PGE – 33% of our power usage
- 25kW solar panel system – 20% of our power usage
- Winery waste from harvest (grape skins and stems) recycled into compost piles, which is then used to improve vineyard soil
- 50% biodiesel in vineyard tractors and trucks
- Member of the Prescott Western Bluebird Recovery Project with about 15 birdhouses located around the vineyard
- Brochures and copy paper 100% post consumer waste recycled content when possible
- Eliminated foil capsules, printed wine labels on recycled paper, and put finished wine into kraft cases
- Active in the Oregon Natural Step Network (Susan Sokol Blosser is on the board)
- Active in Governor’s Carbon Neutral Pledge (Michael Brown is on the steering committee)
- Members of The Climate Registry

II. SUSTAINABILITY AT SOKOL BLOSSER IN 2009

We continue to see a great deal of attention given to the idea of sustainability. It has been a particular challenge during our current economic climate to stay focused on our monetary goals and simultaneously remain cognizant of the environment and social equity. We have remained diligent to our commitment to The Natural Step (TNS) network and the tools they provide us to analyze our efforts. The dominant issue in 2009 was our progress