

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DE 23-012

**CITY OF PORTSMOUTH
PORTSMOUTH ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
1 Junkins Avenue
Portsmouth, NH 03801**

Request for Approval of Portsmouth Community Power Electric Aggregation Plan

Commission Approval of Community Power Aggregation Plan

O R D E R N O. 26,799

April 10, 2023

In this order, the Commission approves the City of Portsmouth's (Portsmouth) Community Power Electric Aggregation Plan (Plan).

I. BACKGROUND

On February 10, 2023, Portsmouth submitted a request for approval of a community power aggregation plan to provide electric power supply and services for residents, businesses, and other entities in Portsmouth pursuant to RSA chapter 53-E. Accompanying its request, Portsmouth submitted the text of its Plan with attachments.

On February 13, 2023, the Commission issued an order of notice establishing a deadline for comments on Portsmouth's Plan.

No comments were received.

Portsmouth's request, along with all subsequent docket filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, is posted at: <https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2023/23-012.html>.

II. COMMISSION ANALYSIS

The Commission has reviewed Portsmouth's Plan pursuant to RSA 53-E:7, II, as amended, which states that

The commission shall approve any plan submitted to it unless it finds that it does not meet the requirements of this chapter and other applicable rules and shall detail in writing addressed to the governing bodies of the municipalities or counties concerned, the specific respects in which the proposed plan substantially fails to meet the requirements of this chapter and applicable rules.

RSA 53-E:7, II also provides specific direction on the process to be used for the submission of such plans, including the following requirements: 1) on the same day the plan is submitted to the Commission, copies shall be provided to the Office of the Consumer Advocate and any electric distribution utility providing service within the jurisdiction of the municipality; 2) the Commission shall accept public comments for 21 days thereafter; and 3) the Commission's review of the plan and comments shall not require a contested case. N.H. Admin R. Puc 2204.01(a) also requires notification of aggregation plan filings be made with the New Hampshire Department of Energy. Portsmouth's submission complied with these procedural requirements.

Portsmouth's Plan assumes, but does not require, that the Portsmouth will participate fully in the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire (CPCNH) to provide electric energy supply and related program services. CPCNH is a joint powers agency authorized under RSA 53-A, where members-municipalities would utilize joint resources with each other, including shared third-party services, staff support, power solicitations, local project development, information sharing, and public advocacy.

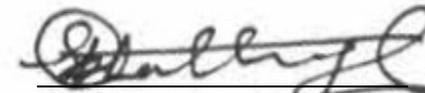
Based on our review of the Plan, we have determined that Portsmouth's Plan does not substantially fail to meet applicable requirements of RSA Chapter 53-E. Portsmouth's Plan contains an adequate level of detail of RSA 53-E:6's statutory

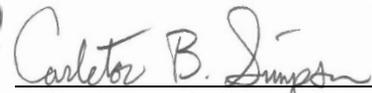
criteria, other applicable statutory requirements, and applicable rules including N.H. Admin R. ch. 2200.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby determined that the City of Portsmouth's Request for Plan Approval is GRANTED.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this tenth day of April, 2023.


Daniel C. Goldner
Chairman


Pradip K. Chattopadhyay
Commissioner


Carleton B. Simpson
Commissioner

Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 23-012

Printed: 4/10/2023

Email Addresses

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Portsmouth CPA Launch Steps

@ April 13, 2023

April 11 – NH PUC approves Portsmouth Energy Aggregation Plan

April 12 – CPCNH Risk Management Committee – Portsmouth Officer confirms moving forward w/launch

April 13 – PEAC selects default rate product, message for mailer and CPA website adjustments

April 13 – Portsmouth requests from Eversource anonymized customer load data (using template letter)

April 14 – CPCNH issues 45-day notice to launch CPA to Eversource and Regulators

April 14 – CPCNH send Portsmouth 30-day mailer printing firm

April 17 – CPCNH launches Portsmouth CPA Website with ‘check back soon for customer portal’

April 28 – CPCNH provides PEAC with CPA Informational Session draft deck

April 29 – Resident mailers sent via USPS, customer portal goes live, Portsmouth rates on DOE website

May 10 – Portsmouth requests updated customer mailing enrollment dataset from Eversource

May 11 – Portsmouth CPA Informational Session

May 30 – Portsmouth CPA launches

June 30 (approx) – Portsmouth residents start receiving Eversource billing statements (with CPA Supply)

July 1 – New default period rates (Aug – January) announced

Community and Resident Engagement – with associated dates TBD

- CPCNH provided collateral material
- Press Release(s)
- Water Bills Insert
- Other



**COMMUNITY
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For communities, by communities.



**PUBLIC NOTICE
CUSTOMER NOTIFICATION FOR THE TOWN OF RYE
COMMENCEMENT OF SERVICE OF RYE COMMUNITY POWER**

Welcome to Rye Community Power!

Rye Community Power gives our Town greater energy choices while lowering costs. In 2022, voters adopted the Rye Community Power Plan at Town Meeting. We are now putting that plan into action and launching service this spring to benefit our energy customers.

Attend our Public Information Session on Rye Community Power:
4/4/23 | 6:30-8pm | Rye Junior High School | 501 Washington Road, Rye, NH 03870

How Community Power Works

Rye Community Power aggregates, or pools, the buying power of residents and businesses so that together we have the local control to achieve competitively priced electricity.

By accessing the power market, we can offer competitive supply rates and more choices for renewable energy. This helps us control price volatility and enables us to choose which energy sources to buy or build!



Source

Rye Community Power purchases electricity from the sources you choose.

Delivery

Eversource delivers the electricity using the same power lines and billing mechanisms.

Community

Rye Energy Customers save money, access new rates & products, and choose how much renewable electricity to buy.



Electricity Supply Choices and Rates

Rye Community Power offers four electricity options with different levels of renewable energy. Eversource charges most customers 20.2¢ per kilowatt-hour (kWh). Our rates start at 15.8¢ per kWh.

Scan the QR Code or visit Rye.CommunityPowerNH.gov to choose your power option.

Do I need to take action to benefit from Rye Community Power?

If Eversource is currently the electricity 'Supplier' listed on your monthly bill, most customers will not need to take any action to participate (limited exceptions are listed on the next page). Unless you opt-out or choose a different option by calling us or visiting our website within 30 days, you will be automatically enrolled into our Granite Basic power option and start saving money beginning on the day of the month between late April and early June 2023 that your meter is read. Your meter reading date is shown on your bill.

Will I continue to receive my Electric Assistance Program discount?

Yes, Electric Assistance Program participants will continue to receive their benefits.

Will I notice any change?

No, you will not notice any change in your electricity service. Eversource will continue to be your electric distribution utility, respond to emergencies, read meters, and maintain the power lines. Reliability and quality of service will remain the same. You will continue to receive one bill and send payments to Eversource for processing. The only difference is that 'Community Power' will be listed as the 'Supplier' on your monthly bill. All other charges and existing consumer rights and protections are maintained.

I am a mid-sized commercial customer and my Eversource supply rate changes monthly. Does Community Power save me money?

Yes! The table below shows our monthly variable supply rates for Primary General Service (Class GV customers) enrolled into Granite Basic compared to Eversource's rate in ¢ per kWh:

	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY
Eversource Class GV Rate	21.612¢	17.003¢	14.779¢	18.098¢
Rye Community Power	19.451¢	15.303¢	13.301¢	16.288¢

You can also opt-up to our Granite Plus, Clean 50 or Clean 100 products for an additional 0.4¢, 1.1¢, or 3.3¢ per kWh on top of the monthly rate listed above.

What are my options? Can I choose a cleaner power option, or decline to participate?

The choice is yours. To choose a cleaner power option or to opt out of Rye Community Power scan the QR code or visit Rye.CommunityPowerNH.gov and use the portal under "Electricity Choices" OR call us at 1-866-603-POWR. Have your Eversource account number handy so we can easily process your selection.

You are always free to choose to buy power from Eversource or from a competitive supplier without penalty or fee for switching if you switch at the next available regular meter reading date. Customers requesting transfer of supply service upon dates other than on their next available regular meter reading date (if such a service is available from Eversource) may be charged an off-cycle meter reading and billing fee by the utility.

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CHOICES

Residential, General Service & Outdoor Lighting

Fixed supply rates effective through July 31, 2023

Renewable Content	Power Options	Rate ¢/kWh	Estimated Cost*
23.4%	Granite Basic (DEFAULT)	15.8¢	± \$95 / month
33%	Granite Plus	16.2¢	± \$97 / month
50%	Clean 50	16.9¢	± \$101 / month
100%	Clean 100	19.1¢	± \$115 / month
23.4%	Eversource	20.2¢	± \$121 / month

*Based on usage of 600 kWh per month

EXCEPTIONS TO AUTOMATIC ENROLLMENT

I am a large commercial or industrial customer. Can Community Power benefit me?

Large General Service, Backup Service, and Commercial & Industrial electric vehicle charging station customers (Classes LG, B, and EV-2) will NOT be automatically enrolled but may request to enroll in Rye Community Power. Contact us at 1-866-603-POWR to discuss your options.

I buy my electricity from a third-party supplier. What does this mean for me?

If Eversource is not currently your electricity 'Supplier' (as listed on your monthly bill) you will NOT be automatically enrolled — but you may enroll now or at any time in the future by scanning the QR code, or by calling 1-866-603-POWR, or visiting Rye.CommunityPowerNH.gov and using the portal under "Electricity Choices".

(Don't forget to check with your current provider to determine if there are any early termination fees or penalties for leaving their supply service.)

I am a Net Metered customer. Can I participate in Rye Community Power?

At this time, if you are a Net Metered Customer you will NOT be automatically enrolled until such time as Eversource complies with New Hampshire law and regulations to enable Rye Community Power to serve net metered customers — which we very much want to do!

When Eversource is able to provide us the necessary data (as required by law), we will offer Net Metering rates and terms to compensate or credit customers for the electricity supply component of their net metered surplus generation. Contact us at 1-866-603-POWR to discuss your options.



**COMMUNITY
POWER COALITION**
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
For communities, by communities.

Rye has joined with more than two dozen other New Hampshire cities and towns to create our own locally accountable nonprofit power agency: the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire.

The Coalition provides power supply and other services on behalf of its member cities and towns, ensuring revenues are managed in the public interest. The Town of Rye appoints representatives to the Coalition's Board of Directors to oversee the agency's governance and finances. Board and Committee meetings are open to the public.

Through the Coalition, we access the expertise to ensure the highest quality service for customers, and the collective leadership to drive important policy improvements at the state level for a stronger and cleaner New Hampshire energy economy.

How often will Rye Community Power's rates change?

Rye Community Power will set and adjust rates with the objective of saving you money, by offering you at least one supply option at a discount relative to your utility supply rate (along with 'opt up' choices). Most utility rates are set from February 1 to July 31, 2023. Our default rates will change for the next utility rate period, scheduled from August 1, 2023 through January 31, 2024.

Our rates are set through Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire, the public non-profit governed by New Hampshire cities, towns and counties, including the Town of Rye. All future default rate changes will be publicly noticed at least 30 days in advance.

ENVIRONMENTAL DISCLOSURE LABEL

Electric providers are required by the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission to provide customers with an environmental disclosure label with information to evaluate services offered by competitive suppliers and electric utilities, and to provide information about the environmental and public health impacts of electric generation. Further information can be obtained by calling your electric utility or competitive electric supplier or by contacting the Public Utilities Commission. Additional information on disclosure labels is also available at www.puc.nh.gov or on your electric provider's website.

The Coalition has contracted for electricity supply from **System Power** contracts on behalf of Rye Community Power, and will procure **Renewable Energy** (New Hampshire Renewable Portfolio Standard Renewable Energy Credits) in the following proportions depending on the product you choose.

The electricity you consume comes from the New England power grid, which receives power from a variety of power plants and transmits the power as needed to meet the requirements of all customers in New England. When you choose a power supplier, that supplier is responsible for generating and purchasing power that is added to the power grid in an amount equivalent to your electricity use.

- **“Known Resources”** include resources that are owned by, or under contract to, the supplier.
- **“System Power”** represents power purchased in the regional electricity market.
- Electric suppliers are required to obtain a certain amount of **renewable energy** in accordance with RSA 362-F, the state's renewable portfolio standard law. They may also choose to obtain amounts of renewable energy above their legal obligation.

System Power Sources and **Emissions** are reported as specified in the system mix report available from the New England Power Pool Generation Information System (NEPOOL GIS, for Q3 2021 through Q2 2022):

- Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) is a greenhouse gas, released when certain fuels are burned (e.g., coal, oil, natural gas), that contributes to climate change.
- Nitrogen Oxides (NO_x) form when certain fuels are burned at high temperatures, and contributes to acid rain, ground-level ozone (or smog), oxygen deprivation of lakes and coastal waters, and may cause respiratory illness (with frequent high level exposure).
- Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂) is formed when fuels containing sulfur are burned (e.g., coal and oil), and contributes to acid rain (which raises the acidity of lakes and streams, and accelerates the decay of buildings and monuments) and health effects (primarily asthma, respiratory illness, and cardiovascular disease).

➤ SUPPLIER RENEWABLE ENERGY

Granite Basic	23.4%
Granite Plus	33%
Clean 50	50%
Clean 100	100%

KNOWN RESOURCES	0%
SYSTEM POWER	100%
	100%

SYSTEM POWER SOURCES

Supplier / NEPOOL System Mix	
Biomass	1.61%
Coal	0.28%
Hydro	10.49%
Imports	11.85%
Landfill Gas	0.86%
Municipal Waste & Trash	2.29%
Natural Gas	36.49%
Nuclear	18.63%
Oil, Diesel & Jet Fuel	5.73%
Other Renewables	1.92%
Solar PV & Thermal	4.48%
Wind	5.35%
	100%

SYSTEM POWER EMISSIONS

Supplier / NEPOOL System Average	
Carbon Dioxide	648 lbs /MWh
Nitrogen Oxides	0.56 lbs/MWh
Sulphur Dioxides	0.34 lbs/MWh

*lbs/MWh = pounds per Megawatt-hour
1 Megawatt-hour = 1,000 kilowatt-hours*

PUBLIC ADVOCACY

Rye Community Power and the Coalition represent your interests before state policymakers and regulatory agencies, including the Public Utilities Commission (a quasi-judicial board that supervises New Hampshire's electric distribution utilities). The Coalition estimates that **building community-scale renewables and battery storage systems across New Hampshire may save up to 30%** compared with power purchased and delivered from the New England regional electricity market. Unlocking this opportunity requires the political will to put in place new market mechanisms that appropriately compensate local projects for the benefits they create for our customers and communities. **Sign up to receive the Coalition's 'Action Alerts' and join our campaigns to advance energy reforms at:** www.cpcnh.org/community-leader-sign-up



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**PUBLIC NOTICE
CUSTOMER NOTIFICATION FOR THE CITY OF LEBANON
COMMENCEMENT OF SERVICE OF LEBANON COMMUNITY POWER**

Welcome to Lebanon Community Power!

Lebanon Community Power gives our City greater energy choices while lowering costs. The City Council adopted Lebanon’s Community Power Plan in 2021. We are now putting that plan into action and launching service this spring to benefit our energy customers.

Attend our Public Information Session on Lebanon Community Power:
4/4/23 | 6:30pm | City Council Chambers | 51 North Park Street, Lebanon, NH 03766

How Community Power Works

Lebanon Community Power aggregates, or pools, the buying power of residents and businesses so that together we have the local control to achieve competitively priced electricity.

By accessing the power market, we can offer competitive supply rates and more choices for renewable energy. This helps us control price volatility and enables us to choose which energy sources to buy or build!



Source

Lebanon Community Power purchases electricity from the sources you choose.

Delivery

Liberty Utilities delivers the electricity using the same power lines and billing mechanisms.

Community

Lebanon Energy Customers save money, access new rates & products, and choose how much renewable electricity to buy.



Electricity Supply Choices and Rates

Lebanon Community Power offers four electricity options with different levels of renewable energy. Liberty Utilities charges most customers 22.007¢ per kilowatt-hour (kWh). Our rates start at 15.8¢ per kWh.

Scan the QR Code or visit Lebanon.CommunityPowerNH.gov to choose your power option.

Do I need to take action to benefit from Lebanon Community Power?

If Liberty Utilities is currently the electricity ‘Supplier’ listed on your monthly bill, most customers will not need to take any action to participate (limited exceptions are listed on the next page). Unless you opt-out or choose a different option by calling us or visiting our website within 30 days, you will be automatically enrolled into our Granite Basic power option and start saving money beginning on the date Liberty Utilities reads your meter between late April and early June 2023. (Your meter reading date is shown on your bill.)

Will I continue to receive my Electric Assistance Program discount?

Yes, Electric Assistance Program participants will continue to receive their benefits.

Will I notice any change?

No, you will not notice any change in your electricity service. Liberty Utilities will continue to be your electric distribution utility, respond to emergencies, read meters, and maintain the power lines. Reliability and quality of service will remain the same. You will continue to receive one bill and send payments to Liberty Utilities for processing. The only difference is that ‘Community Power’ will be listed as the ‘Supplier’ on your monthly bill. All other charges and existing consumer rights and protections are maintained.

I am a G1 or G2 commercial customer and my Liberty Utilities rate changes monthly. Does Community Power save me money?

Yes! The table below shows our monthly variable supply rates in cents per kilowatt-hour for Class G1 and G2 customers enrolled into Granite Basic compared to Liberty Utilities’ rate:

	MAY	JUNE	JULY
Liberty Utilities Class G1 & G2	11.830¢	11.421¢	13.380¢
Lebanon Community Power	11.047¢	10.679¢	12.442¢

You can also opt-up to our Granite Plus, Clean 50 or Clean 100 products for an additional 0.4¢, 1.1¢, or 3.3¢ per kWh on top of the monthly rate listed above.

What are my options? Can I choose a cleaner power option, or decline to participate?

The choice is yours. To choose a cleaner power option or to opt out of Lebanon Community Power scan the QR code or visit Lebanon.CommunityPowerNH.gov and use the portal under “Electricity Choices” OR call us at 1-866-603-POWR. Have your Liberty Utilities account number handy so we can easily process your selection.

You are always free to choose to buy power from Liberty Utilities or from a competitive supplier without penalty or fee for switching if you switch at the next available regular meter reading date. Customers requesting transfer of supply service upon dates other than on their next available regular meter reading date (if such a service is available from Liberty Utilities) may be charged an off-cycle meter reading and billing fee by the utility.

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CHOICES

Residential, General Service & Outdoor Lighting*

Fixed supply rates effective through July 31, 2023

Renewable Content	Power Options	Rate ¢/kWh	Estimated Cost**
23.4%	Granite Basic (DEFAULT)	15.8¢	± \$95 / month
33%	Granite Plus	16.2¢	± \$97 / month
50%	Clean 50	16.9¢	± \$101 / month
100%	Clean 100	19.1¢	± \$115 / month
23.4%	Liberty Utilities	22.007¢	± \$132 / month

*Rate classes D, D-10, G-3, M, T, and V
**Based on usage of 600 kWh per month

EXCEPTIONS TO AUTOMATIC ENROLLMENT

I buy my electricity from a third-party supplier. What does this mean for me?

If Liberty Utilities is NOT currently your electricity 'Supplier' (as listed on your monthly bill) you will NOT be automatically enrolled, but you may enroll now or at any time in the future by scanning the QR code, or by calling 1-866-603-POWR, or visiting Lebanon.CommunityPowerNH.gov and using the portal under "Electricity Choices". Check with your current provider to determine if there are any early termination fees or penalties for leaving their supply service.

I am a Net Metered customer. Can I participate in Lebanon Community Power?

At this time, if you are a Net Metered Customer you will NOT be automatically enrolled until such time as Liberty Utilities complies with New Hampshire law and regulations to enable Lebanon Community Power to serve net metered customers — which we very much want to do!

When Liberty Utilities is able to provide us the necessary data (as required by law), we will offer Net Metering rates and terms to compensate or credit customers for the electricity supply component of their net metered surplus generation. Contact us at 1-866-603-POWR to discuss your options

I am on a three-part Time-of-Use rate. How does this affect me?

If you are on a three-part Time-of-Use rate (Rate Class D11, D12, EV, EV-M and EV-L customers) you will NOT be automatically enrolled until such time as Liberty Utilities fully complies with New Hampshire law and regulation to allow you to be appropriately served by Lebanon Community Power. Contact us at 1-866-603-POWR to discuss your options.



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Our rates are set through Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire, the public non-profit governed by New Hampshire cities, towns and counties, including the City of Lebanon. All future default rate changes will be publicly noticed at least 30 days in advance.

A Message from the Lebanon Energy Advisory Committee

Lebanon has a goal of reducing its greenhouse gas emissions to leave a better world for our children. You can help! Look carefully at Community Power's four rate-plan options – Granite Basic, Granite Plus, Clean 50, and Clean 100. We encourage you to choose the cleanest plan you can afford. This is an extremely cost-effective way to help slow climate change. An average household on the Clean 100 plan will avoid approximately 1.8 tons of carbon dioxide greenhouse gas per year that otherwise will be generated by a utility or through Granite Basic. Clean 100 is like installing solar panels on your home but at a fraction of the cost! Or with Clean 50, you'll help avoid approximately 0.6 ton of carbon dioxide emissions each year. If you can, opt for a Clean plan.

ENVIRONMENTAL DISCLOSURE LABEL

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- ⚡ Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂) is formed when fuels containing sulfur are burned (e.g., coal and oil), and contributes to acid rain (which raises the acidity of lakes and streams, and accelerates the decay of buildings and monuments) and health effects (primarily asthma, respiratory illness, and cardiovascular disease).

PUBLIC ADVOCACY

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SUPPLIER RENEWABLE ENERGY

Granite Basic	23.4%
Granite Plus	33%
Clean 50	50%
Clean 100	100%

KNOWN RESOURCES	0%
SYSTEM POWER	100%
	100%

SYSTEM POWER SOURCES

Supplier / NEPOOL System Mix	
Biomass	1.61%
Coal	0.28%
Hydro	10.49%
Imports	11.85%
Landfill Gas	0.86%
Municipal Waste & Trash	2.29%
Natural Gas	36.49%
Nuclear	18.63%
Oil, Diesel & Jet Fuel	5.73%
Other Renewables	1.92%
Solar PV & Thermal	4.48%
Wind	5.35%
	100%

SYSTEM POWER EMISSIONS

Supplier / NEPOOL System Average	
Carbon Dioxide	648 lbs /MWh
Nitrogen Oxides	0.56 lbs/MWh
Sulphur Dioxides	0.34 lbs/MWh

*lbs/MWh = pounds per Megawatt-hour
1 Megawatt-hour = 1,000 kilowatt-hours*

Welcome to Portsmouth Community Power!

Portsmouth Community Power gives our city residents and businesses more energy choices while lowering costs. In March 2023, the City Council voted to approve the documentation required to implement a Community Power program for Portsmouth under RSA 53-E. We are now putting that plan into action. The Portsmouth City Council governs Portsmouth Community Power and the program is administered by the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire.

Please Attend the Public Information Session on Portsmouth Community Power!

May 11, 2023 | 6-8 pm | Portsmouth City Hall Council Chambers | One Junkins Avenue, Portsmouth NH 03801

Electricity Supply Choices and Rates

Portsmouth Community Power offers four electricity options with different levels of renewable energy. Eversource charges most customers 20.2¢ per kilowatt-hour (kWh). Our rates start at 15.8¢ per kWh.

A message from the Portsmouth Energy Advisory Committee:

Portsmouth committed ourselves to the goals of being an Eco-Municipality in 2007 on a unanimous City Council vote. As a coastal city, Portsmouth is already experiencing climate change first hand with flooding on the waterfront from storm surges and lunar high tides. Greenhouse gas emissions altering the average temperature, and may increase the potential for extreme weather. However, if we commit to minimizing our impact on the environment, for instance adopting clean energy to reduce carbon dioxide greenhouse gas emissions we can in turn minimize how much the environment impacts us. If you are able, choose an option based on more renewables – Clean 50 or Clean 100 – and the benefit is greater.

COMING SPRING 2023

YOUR POWER YOUR CHOICE

Consumer Choice

Local Control

Lower Rates

Clean Energy

PORTSMOUTH COMMUNITY POWER

PROVIDING RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES IN PORTSMOUTH WITH GREATER CHOICE OVER THEIR ENERGY FUTURE WHILE LOWERING ELECTRICITY COSTS.

AS PART OF THE STATEWIDE COMMUNITY POWER COALITION OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, WE HAVE THE TOOLS TO BUILD A MORE PROSPEROUS AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY ECONOMY.

COMMUNITY POWER WILL ENABLE PORTSMOUTH TO DEVELOP LOCAL ENERGY PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS SO WE CAN BUILD A MORE RESILIENT ENERGY FUTURE.

FOR COMMUNITIES, BY COMMUNITIES

POWERED BY:



PORTSMOUTH
COMMUNITY POWER
City of Portsmouth NH



COMMUNITY
POWER COALITION
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

CommunityPowerNH.gov/portsmouth

CPCNH.ORG

CONSUMER CHOICE

Portsmouth Community Power provides our residents and businesses more choices over their energy future.

LOWER RATES

We are lowering electricity costs for Portsmouth residents and businesses.

SCAN TO LEARN
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COMMUNITY
POWER



LOCAL CONTROL

The statewide Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire — our new nonprofit power agency — is governed by member towns, cities, and counties.

CLEAN ENERGY

Our Community Power program enables development of local energy projects so we can build a more resilient energy future.

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FOR COMMUNITIES, BY COMMUNITIES

SPRING
2023



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For Communities, By Communities

Consumer Choice

Local Control

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COMING SPRING 2023

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PORTSMOUTH COMMUNITY POWER

PROVIDING RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES IN PORTSMOUTH WITH GREATER CHOICE OVER THEIR ENERGY FUTURE WHILE LOWERING ELECTRICITY COSTS.

AS PART OF THE STATEWIDE COMMUNITY POWER COALITION OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, WE HAVE THE TOOLS TO BUILD A MORE PROSPEROUS AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY ECONOMY.

COMMUNITY POWER WILL ENABLE PORTSMOUTH TO DEVELOP LOCAL ENERGY PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS SO WE CAN BUILD A MORE RESILIENT ENERGY FUTURE.

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PORTSMOUTH COMMUNITY POWER

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Community Power Basics

What is Portsmouth Community Power?

Portsmouth Community Power is the new, locally controlled electricity provider in the City of Portsmouth! We provide the actual energy known as generation, and our charge replaces what Eversource would have charged for the same service. Although Eversource will continue to

charge you for their transmission and delivery lines, there are no duplicate charges because the charges are for different services.

How does it work?

The short answer is, we provide your electricity, and Eversource delivers it. In more detail, we supply power to homes and businesses at a higher renewable energy content as the baseline service with an opportunity to opt for up to 50% or 100% renewable energy. Eversource continues to be responsible for the billing, maintaining the power lines and handling all new service requests and emergencies.

Where do you have to live or have a business to participate in Portsmouth Community Power?

All Portsmouth Community Power customers must have a service address within the City of Portsmouth. We are sorry, but residents and businesses outside the City limits cannot receive service from Portsmouth Community Power.

When will Portsmouth Community Power begin serving customers?

We'll begin serving customers in April, 2023. Portsmouth Community Power is required to contact our customers in writing to notify them that they will be receiving Portsmouth Community Power electric service. We will do this via mail 30 days before the launch date and will also hold a public hearing to answer questions at least 15 days before launch.

What is Community Power?

Community Power is a program that enables city, City and county governments to pool (or aggregate) the electricity demand of their communities for the purpose of supplying electricity. A Community Power program buys and/or develops power on behalf of the residents, business, and government electricity users in its jurisdiction. The electricity continues to be distributed and delivered over the existing electricity lines by the incumbent utility, which is Eversource.

Community Power Governance and Funding

Who governs and administers Portsmouth Community Power?

The Portsmouth City Council governs Portsmouth Community Power. The program is administered by Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire.

What is Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire?

Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire, also known as “the Coalition,” is a public power agency, created by New Hampshire cities and towns as a non-profit on 10/1/21. The Coalition is governed by a Board of Directors of elected officials, staff, and volunteers appointed by each of our local municipal and county members, including the City of Portsmouth. The Coalition provides comprehensive services to launch and operate Community Power programs.

Does the Coalition’s Board of Directors receive a salary or other payments or benefits for overseeing Portsmouth Community Power?

No. The Coalition’s Board of Directors are volunteers appointed by their city, town or county to ensure good governance, oversight and accountability of the Coalition.

How is Portsmouth Community Power financed? Are any tax dollars used to finance or operate Portsmouth Community Power?

Portsmouth Community Power will be financed by the revenues received from our customers based on the electricity they consume. Portsmouth Community Power will be self-funded and does not use any tax dollars, which ensures that any financial benefits directly serve the community.

Role of the Electric Distribution Utility

How does Portsmouth Community Power partner with Eversource?

Portsmouth Community Power provides electric generation, which is the source of your power, but Eversource continues to provide electric delivery, billing services and maintenance of the lines, just as they always have.

Does Portsmouth Community Power replace Eversource?

No. Eversource continues to provide all electric delivery, billing, and power line maintenance. We only replace the electric generation services with your choice of energy product at competitive rates.

How do Portsmouth Community Power rates compare to Eversource?

Residential customers who elect to receive our Portsmouth Community Power “Granite Basic” product will receive a minimum of 23.4% renewable energy, and will see dollar savings when compared to Eversource generation service.

Customers can also choose to pay just a little more each month and upgrade to one of our optional products, shown below:

<u>PRODUCT</u>	<u>CONTENT</u>
Granite Basic	23.4% Renewable (minimum required by state law)
Granite Plus	33% Renewable or Carbon Free
Clean 50 (optional)	50% Renewable or Carbon Free
Clean 100 (optional)	100% Renewable or Carbon Free

Portsmouth will select either Granite Basic or Granite Plus as the default product in February 2023 when the rates become known.

Are Community Power customers still eligible to obtain rebates from Eversource and NHSaves for energy efficiency?

Yes. The Public Utilities Commission authorizes Eversource to collect fees (called Systems Benefits Charge) from all customers to fund NHSaves energy efficiency incentive programs. Eversource will still collect these fees and Portsmouth Community Power customers will remain eligible for these incentives and services.

Do I get billed separately by Portsmouth Community Power?

No. We work together with Eversource so that you will get just one bill each month. Our charges for electricity generation are included on your Eversource bill.

Portsmouth Community Power charges for generating the electricity you use. When you begin receiving our electric generation service, previous charges for generation that used to go to Eversource are replaced by charges from Portsmouth Community Power. Eversource will continue to charge for the transmission and delivery of electricity, along with a variety of other

regulatory and program charges at the same rates they always have. There are no duplicate charges for electricity generation.

A limited number of customers with special circumstances — such as customers generating their own electricity and participating in Net Energy Metering 2.0 and large energy users participating in special rate offerings — may receive a separate bill from Portsmouth Community Power in addition to their regular utility bill.

Who will send me my bill?

You will continue to get just one bill from Eversource. A few lines on the bill change since the charges for power generation will come from Portsmouth Community Power instead of Eversource.

Who do I call with questions about my bill?

If you ever have questions about the Portsmouth Community Power portion of your bill, contact us at Portsmouth.CommunityPowerNH.gov, or email us at Info@CommunityPowerNH.gov. If you have questions about the rest of your Eversource bill, contact Eversource at <https://www.eversource.com/content/nh/residential/about/contact>.

Will I be able to opt out of a Smart Meter if I join Portsmouth Community Power?

Portsmouth Community Power does not own any meters at this time. Eversource owns and maintains the energy distribution system, including the meters at your home or business. So, if you wish to opt out of a Smart Meter, please contact Eversource directly.

Will Eversource charge different delivery rates to Portsmouth Community Power customers above those of non-Portsmouth Community Power customers?

No. Eversource must provide the same rates for all customers in their service area whether or not they receive electricity from Portsmouth Community Power or another third-party energy service provider.

Product Options

How much clean and renewable energy does Portsmouth Community Power provide?

Portsmouth Community Power procures renewable and carbon-free electricity on behalf of our customers. Each electricity product has a different percentage of renewable energy. Our product options are shown in the table below:

<u>PRODUCT</u>	<u>CONTENT</u>
Granite Basic	23.4% Renewable (minimum required by state law)
Granite Plus	33% Renewable or Carbon Free
Clean 50 (optional)	50% Renewable or Carbon Free
Clean 100 (optional)	100% Renewable or Carbon Free

Portsmouth will select either Granite Basic or Granite Plus as the default product in February 2023 when the rates become known.

What are the sources of power for Portsmouth Community Power and where are they located?

Portsmouth Community Power gets its electricity from suppliers that have gone through a rigorous qualification and selection process. These suppliers get their electricity from a variety of generation sources. At a minimum, our default Granite Basic option comes from 23.4% renewable sources such as wind, solar and hydroelectricity.

How does Portsmouth Community Power procure power?

Portsmouth Community Power contracts with private firms to procure energy. Over time, we plan to steadily incorporate increasing amounts of locally generated renewable energy.

How can I be sure Portsmouth Community Power is actually procuring 50 or 100% renewable energy on my behalf?

We are required by state law and regulation to provide an annual report verifying the amount of renewable energy procured for our customers. This is the same standard and verification process used by New Hampshire utilities and competitive electricity suppliers.

What are Renewable Energy Certificates?

Renewable energy generating facilities create electricity that is delivered to a network of transmission wires, often referred to as “the grid.” The grid is segmented into regional power pools and in many cases these pools are not interconnected. To help facilitate the sale of renewable electricity nationally, a system was established that separates renewable energy generation into two parts: electrical energy produced by a renewable generator and the renewable “attributes” of that generation. The renewable attributes or “green” attributes are sold separately as renewable energy certificates, or RECs. Only one certificate may be issued for each unit of renewable energy produced. The electricity that was split from the REC is no longer considered “renewable” and cannot be counted as renewable or zero-emissions by whoever buys it.

How do I sign up for Portsmouth Community Power Granite Basic, Granite Plus, Clean 50 or Clean 100?

Signing up is easy! Simply visit our website Portsmouth.CommunityPowerNH.gov if you decide to use our website you'll want to have your Eversource bill on hand because we will need your account information to process your request.

Can I switch between the Portsmouth Community Power Granite Basic, Granite Plus, Clean 50 and Clean 100?

Yes—you can “opt up” to Portsmouth Community Power Granite Plus, Clean 50 or Clean 100 at any time, and you can “opt down” to Granite Basic. And if you want to switch back again, just call and let us know or log-on to our website Portsmouth.CommunityPowerNH.gov and make the change there.

Is there a grace period if I sign up, switch, or opt out?

Customers who opt out of Portsmouth Community Power service may return to Portsmouth Community Power at any time so long as adequate notice is given in advance of the next regular meter reading by Eversource. There are no exit fees or charges for transferring between Granite Basic and utility provided service. Customers requesting to switch on dates other than on the next available regular meter reading date may be charged an off-cycle meter reading and billing charge.

Electric Assistance Program and Net Metering

Will I continue to receive my Electric Assistance Program (EAP) discounts with Portsmouth Community Power?

Yes. Electric Assistance Program discounts continue to be available to Portsmouth Community Power customers as well as Eversource customers and provides the same discount regardless of enrollment with Portsmouth Community Power or Eversource. Customers enrolled in Portsmouth Community Power continue to receive their Electric Assistance Program discount. There is no need to reapply with Portsmouth Community Power. New Electric Assistance Program enrollments or renewals must still be done through Eversource's customer service center or website.

How does Community Power work for Net Metering Customers?

Our Community Power programs are committed to supporting the growth of local renewable energy sited at the customer level. Locally generated power can offset other costs that are part of our customers electric bills, especially if that power is generated at times of peak electricity usage.

Together, our Coalition's member communities have championed state policies that support expansion of New Hampshire's clean energy economy, and we will continue to do so on behalf of our customers.

We aim to expand opportunities for net metering and local renewable energy over time, and to empower customers with new and innovative rates — including net metering rates and time-of-use rates — along with other products and programs to support the growth of a local clean energy economy.

Are Net Metering Customers enrolled in Community Power on an opt-out or opt-in basis?

This is the first time Community Power programs have existed in New Hampshire. Implementation requires coordination and data sharing by utilities in accordance with regulatory rules and state law. As of this date, the utilities have not indicated how they are going to comply with rules and provide the data required for us to provide service to net metered customers.

Upon initial launch, Net Metering customers will only be automatically enrolled (on an opt-out basis) if utilities have fully complied with rules and provided the data necessary to enable Community Power to fully accommodate Net Metering customers.

I have Standard Net Metering 1.0 (systems installed prior to 9/1/17). Can I participate in Community Power?

Yes. Excess power your net metering system puts onto the grid is accounted for in the form of kilowatt-hour (kWh) credits towards your future electricity consumption. The same kWh crediting will be used if you participate in Community Power. Your Net Metering will continue to be based on a 1-to-1 credit for the full retail electricity rate (meaning both the energy supply and energy delivery charges).

What happens to my bank of kWh credits from excess power I've put onto the grid?

If you have accrued a bank of kWh credits, when you transition to Community Power, that bank of kWh credits may not carry over, but you may be able to cash out your credits with your utility company.

I have Alternative Net Metering 2.0 (systems installed on or after 9/1/17). Can I participate in Community Power?

Yes. You are currently compensated for excess power you put onto the grid in the form of a monthly monetary credit, meaning the utility company pays you the dollar value of your excess generation on a monthly basis. This approach to Net Metering creates taxable income which should be reported as part of your annual 1040 U.S. Individual Income Tax Return.

If you join Community Power, the monthly monetary credits you previously received for excess electricity supply may be replaced with monthly kilowatt-hour (kWh) credits which will automatically offset the cost of future electricity you draw from the grid. Your delivery changes and crediting mechanisms will remain unchanged.

If you are an Alternative Net Metering 2.0 customer, you may be dual-billed, meaning you will receive one bill from your electric distribution utility for delivery charges and credits, and one bill from your Community Power provider for your energy supply charges and credits.

Your Net Metering will continue to be based on the Alternative Net Metering 2.0 tariff. For more information see the Public Utilities Commission summary:

<https://www.puc.nh.gov/sustainable%20energy/Group%20Net%20Metering/PUC-SE-NEM-Tariff-2020.pdf>.

Rate Setting

How does Portsmouth Community Power set its rates?

Portsmouth Community Power rates are set through Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire, a public non-profit governed by its member cities, towns and counties including City of Portsmouth. The Coalition ensures you'll have a steady, predictable outlook on your rates. You'll also have the satisfaction of working with a local provider, governed by local leaders whose interests are aligned with yours.

The Coalition's Board and Committee meetings are open to the public. Customers can always know about rate changes 30 days in advance, and rates are publicly posted on the NH Department of Energy's website alongside the rates of other electricity supply options (<https://www.energy.nh.gov/engyapps/ceps/shop.aspx>).

How do I know that Portsmouth Community Power will not raise its rates?

Portsmouth Community Power energy rates are set by the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire's Board of Directors, which includes representatives from the City of Portsmouth. The Portsmouth City Council, through the Coalition, is committed to providing Portsmouth residents, businesses, and organizations with affordable energy rates. Unlike the rates of the local investor-owned utility, which are set on a by the Public Utilities Commission, Portsmouth Community Power rates are set by local officials from Portsmouth, acting alongside other local partners through our nonprofit Coalition power agency. The public is welcome to attend the rate setting meetings and participate in the process.

Enrollment

Am I – or is my business – in the Portsmouth Community Power service area?

All Portsmouth Community Power customers must have a service address within the incorporated area of the City of Portsmouth. We are sorry, but residents and businesses outside the incorporated City limits cannot receive service from Portsmouth Community Power.

How do I know when my service begins?

We'll begin serving all accounts in April, 2023. All customers will receive a notice by mail advising them of their enrollment in Portsmouth Community Power.

My neighbor received a notice but I haven't received anything. Why?

Portsmouth Community Power serves customers within the legal boundaries of the City of Portsmouth. If your address is within City limits and you have not elected to opt out and remain with Eversource generation service or choose to take service from a competitive electricity supplier, you will be automatically enrolled into Portsmouth Community Power. If you have not yet received a notice it is on the way.

I just moved to a new address and I want to establish service. How do I sign up? Can I participate now if I'm not already a customer?

Establishing service is easy. Contact Eversource one week before you will need service at your new address and schedule an appointment by contacting Eversource at <https://www.eversource.com/content/nh/residential/about/contact>. New customers who move into the Portsmouth Community Power service area are automatically enrolled into Portsmouth Community Power and will be mailed a notification with information about their options.

Do I have to participate in Portsmouth Community Power? Can I opt out?

You get to decide! Any customer may opt out of Portsmouth Community Power. If you already received an enrollment notice, you can choose to opt out now or online.

Why can't I opt out now?

The ability to opt out will begin one month prior to the anticipated launch of April, 2023.

Can I participate in Portsmouth Community Power if I am not in Portsmouth?

No. Customers can only participate if they or their businesses are located within the Portsmouth City limits.

Why was I enrolled into Portsmouth Community Power?

Historically, Eversource has been the default power provider to most customers. However, in 2019 when state legislators updated New Hampshire's Community Power law, municipalities and counties became able to provide an alternative default service option to Eversource called Community Power. You now have the power to choose who provides your energy, Portsmouth Community Power, Eversource, or a competitive electricity supplier of your choosing.

Why am I getting this letter/postcard from Portsmouth Community Power?

The letter/postcard is a notification that your account is now eligible for Portsmouth Community Power service and you can choose between Portsmouth Community Power, Eversource or a competitive electricity supplier. We're now the default provider and all customers who elect to remain with Portsmouth Community Power will begin receiving our electricity service beginning in April, 2023. State law requires that as we begin to offer our service, we must contact our customers in writing with a mailed notification before the switch to our service.

Why is Portsmouth Community Power enrollment automatic and why do I have to opt out in order to stay with Eversource?

New Hampshire's Community Power law enables Portsmouth Community Power to operate as an opt out program and become the default provider of electric generation for customers within our service area. Customer choice is very important to us. We provide written notice to our customers so that you can choose where your electricity comes from and how your dollars are spent.

How do I opt out?

If you have received an enrollment notice, you can choose to opt out now. While we don't want to lose you as a customer, you always have the choice to opt out.

If you wish to opt out right now, you may visit our website, Portsmouth.CommunityPowerNH.gov and click the Opt Out button. Have your Eversource bill on hand because we will need your account information to process your request.

Can I return to Portsmouth Community Power after I opt out?

Customers who opt out of Portsmouth Community Power service may return at any time so long as adequate notice is provided in advance of the next monthly billing period and meter read by the utility company.

Is there a fee for opting out?

Portsmouth Community Power does not charge a fee for opting out. Optional Portsmouth Community Power products are subject to their own terms and conditions.