



Portsmouth Community Power Annual Report for 2024

Portsmouth joined the Community Power Coalition of NH in 2022 and in February 2023, the City Council voted in favor of the Mayor’s Blue Ribbon Portsmouth Energy Advisory Committee’s recommendation to adopt Portsmouth Community Power as the default electric power supplier to Portsmouth customers previously served by Eversource (with the exception of those with solar net-metering arrangements in place).

Portsmouth Community Power program launched service in April 2023 and has saved Portsmouth electric customers money while also offering expanded energy choices. As of September 30, 2024, Portsmouth Community Power had provided 129,000 megawatt-hours of electricity, saving electric customers in Portsmouth \$2.91 million. Portsmouth Community Power currently serves approximately 11,592 electric accounts in the city. Of these accounts, 236 (2 percent) have chosen to “opt-up” to products with higher levels of renewable energy. To learn more and view all of the rate options for opting up to more renewable choices or out of Portsmouth Community Power, residents and businesses can visit <https://CommunityPowerNH.gov/portsmouth>

Portsmouth is part of the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire (CPCNH), a statewide non-profit power agency serving over 50 Community Power programs statewide (as of October 2024). The Coalition has created \$20 million in savings for customers in Community Power programs statewide. This local control model empowers Portsmouth Community Power to collaborate regionally and statewide to develop beneficial local energy programs and projects. There are approximately 230 residents and businesses in Portsmouth who generate their own renewable electricity and utilize net metering. Customers who installed solar before 2017 are now able to partake of the benefits of Portsmouth Community Power and receive their net-metering credits while problems with utility regulations are currently preventing those who adopted solar after 2017 from choosing to join the Portsmouth Community Power network. The Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire is working to resolve those issues to enable more local power options.

CPCNH is governed by its municipal members who elect its Board of Directors. Portsmouth Energy Advisory Committee member Tom Rooney and City of Portsmouth Planning & Sustainability Director Peter Britz are the respective CPCNH Member Representative and Alternate from Portsmouth.

For the most recent rate period, August 1, 2024 to January 31, 2025, Portsmouth joined a friendly Seacoast Energy Challenge competition with the CPCNH member city of Dover and member towns of Newmarket, Durham and Exeter. The challenge was to see which municipality could persuade their customers to opt-up to levels of renewable power beyond Granite Basic. As of the end of December, Portsmouth and Durham were in a close contest for the honor.

The success of Portsmouth Community Power has encouraged its oversight body, the Portsmouth Energy Advisory Committee to champion other initiatives that support the City's Climate Action Plan (Portsmouth's Climate Future), sustainability goals and Eco-Municipality commitments. For more information, visit: <https://portsnh.co/commpower>