



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 15, 2020

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ENERGY PROGRAM WILL SAVE CHARLEMONT RATEPAYERS \$235,000 IN ELECTRICITY COSTS

Affordable green energy program option offered

CHARLEMONT, MA – The Town of Charlemont is pleased to announce it has entered into a 41-month agreement to bring energy cost savings and a green energy option to the town’s residents. The initiative is being implemented with the assistance of Colonial Power Group, Inc., and Dynegy Energy Services.

Local ratepayers collectively will be able to save more than \$235,000 during the life of the agreement, thanks to the newly created Charlemont Community Choice Power Supply Program. The combined savings for ratepayers will be approximately \$7,000 per month.

Charlemont, along with 11 other Franklin County communities and the Town of Huntington, joined together to maximize the potential savings for their residents. Each community is providing at least one optional plan tailored to the concerns of their residents.

Green Energy Option

The Town is excited to provide a green energy program option for residents interested in utilizing 100% renewable wind power for their electricity. The green energy option will help residents further reduce carbon emissions that are harmful to the environment.

“We are pleased to implement an energy program that will not only provide price stability and affordability, but also offers a 100% renewable energy option,” said Marguerite Willis, of Charlemont’s Select Board. “Our goal with the program was to lock in competitive pricing, provide stability, and offer a green-energy option that will help reduce the impact of climate change.”

The Charlemont Community Choice Power Supply Program is a municipal aggregation program which, in accordance with Massachusetts law (M.G.L. c. 164, § 134), enables local government

to combine the purchasing power of its residents and businesses so that it can provide them with a town-vetted alternative electricity supply.

Affordability

The cost savings provided by the Charlemont Community Choice Power Supply Program for residents and businesses will begin with the August 2020 meter reads (September 2020 billings). Basic Service rates change twice a year or more, depending on rate class. As a result, the aggregation rate may not always be lower than the Basic Service rate. The goal of the aggregation is to deliver savings over the life of the program against National Grid Basic Service. However, such savings and future savings cannot be guaranteed.

Residential and businesses ratepayers will not notice any change in their electricity service. The only discernible difference will be that Dynegy Energy Services, the selected electricity supplier for the Community Choice Program, will be printed under “Supply Services” on National Grid’s monthly bills. Ratepayers will continue to receive one bill from National Grid and to send payments to National Grid for processing. There will be no interruption in billing, power, or customer service.

No action is required by ratepayers currently on National Grid’s Basic Service to participate in this cost-saving program. The program will be operated on an opt-out basis, meaning that all Charlemont residential and business customers currently on National Grid’s Basic Service will be automatically enrolled into the program unless they choose to opt-out.

Ratepayers who have a supplier block on their account must call National Grid to request that the block be removed to be enrolled in this program.

No Fees

The Charlemont Community Choice Power Supply Program has no fees or charges whether you are opting out of the program altogether or opting in to the standard or optional plan. Ratepayers can join and leave the program as they choose.

However, anyone switching from a contract with a third-party supplier may be subject to penalties or early termination fees charged by that supplier. Ratepayers should verify terms before switching.

Residents may visit www.colonialpowergroup.com/charlemont or call (866) 485-5858 ext. 1 to learn more about Charlemont’s Community Choice Power Supply Program.

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ABOUT COLONIAL POWER GROUP: Based in Marlborough, Mass., Colonial Power Group is the leading aggregation-consulting firm in Massachusetts. Colonial Power has been working with local governments since 2002 in the design, implementation and management of municipal aggregation programs.