



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **PITTSFIELD ENERGY PROGRAM WILL PROVIDE SAVINGS AND STABILITY FOR RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES**

PITTSFIELD, MA – Pittsfield residents and business owners will collectively save more than \$780,000 over the next six months, thanks to the newly created Pittsfield Community Choice Power Supply program.

The City of Pittsfield, with the assistance of Colonial Power Group, Inc., is pleased to announce it has entered into a three-year agreement to bring energy stability and cost-savings to the City's residents and small businesses through this initiative.

“This program will allow our residents and small business owners to gain the benefit of lower energy costs through the power of bulk purchasing,” said Mayor Linda Tyer. “The two main goals are price stability and a lower overall cost. By implementing this energy program, with the help of Colonial Power Group, I am pleased to say we are able to achieve both goals for our community.”

The Pittsfield Community Choice Power Supply Program is a municipal aggregation program which, according to 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 an alternative electricity supply.

“The Pittsfield Community Choice program provides price stability, local control, and competition while also lowering the burden of energy costs for Pittsfield's residents and business community,” said Mark Cappadona, President of Colonial Power Group, Inc. “We commend Pittsfield's City Council and Mayor Tyer for their forward-thinking approach to energy purchasing. By taking this action, they are helping to save residents and business owner's money on their electricity costs.”

Participating residents and businesses in Pittsfield will see a combined average savings of 13 percent in their monthly energy bills during the first six months. The cost savings for the City's residents and businesses will begin with the January 2018 meter reads (February 2018 billings).

Residents will not notice any change in their electricity service. The only discernible difference will be that NextEra Energy Services of Houston, Texas, the selected electricity supplier for the Community Choice program, will be printed under “Supplier Services” on Eversource’s monthly bills. Residents and small business owners will continue to receive one bill from Eversource and to send payments to Eversource for processing. There will be no interruption in billing, power, or customer service.

Colonial Power Group is the leading aggregation consulting firm in Massachusetts. Municipal electricity aggregation allows cities and towns to pool the electrical consumption of all ratepayers in their jurisdictions and competitively procure lower cost electricity supply on behalf of the participants. The aggregation allows the municipality to obtain better pricing than individual residents and business owners could due to economies of scale. Colonial Power works with state officials, utility executives, and energy industry leaders to facilitate the purchase of electricity at a rate lower than basic service rates. Since July 2013, Colonial Power has saved households and businesses across New England a total of nearly \$11 million on their electric bills.

Colonial Power Group, which serves more than 60 municipalities in Massachusetts, was chosen to design, implement, and administer the program on behalf of Pittsfield. NextEra Energy Services was selected through a competitive process.

No action is required by ratepayers to participate in this cost-saving program. The program will be operated on an opt-out basis, meaning that all Pittsfield residential and business customers currently on Eversource’s basic service will be automatically enrolled into the program unless they choose to opt out. You may opt-out of the program at any time and there are no penalty charges.

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*ABOUT COLONIAL POWER GROUP: Based in Marlborough, Mass., Colonial Power Group is the leading aggregation-consulting firm in Massachusetts. Working with local and state government, it facilitates the purchase of electricity at a rate lower than basic service rates. Colonial Power works with state officials, utility executives, and energy industry leaders to reduce community energy costs.*