



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **HEATH ENERGY PROGRAM WILL ALLOW RATEPAYERS TO SAVE \$47,000 IN ELECTRICITY COSTS**

HEATH, MA – Heath residents and business owners will save more than \$47,000 over the next year thanks to the newly created Heath Community Choice Power Supply program.

The Town of Heath, with the assistance of Colonial Power Group, Inc., is pleased to announce it has entered into a 12-month agreement to bring energy cost-savings to the town's residents and small businesses through this initiative.

“This program will allow our residents and small business owners to benefit from lower energy costs over this next 12 months through the power of bulk purchasing,” said Town Coordinator Kara Leistyna. “We’re pleased to work with Colonial Power Group to provide a more stable and lower cost energy option.”

The new energy program will help residents and business owners achieve stability and savings on electricity costs. Participating residents and businesses in Heath will see an annual savings of approximately 7.00 percent in their monthly energy bills during the first year and the program will provide a town-wide combined average savings of more than \$3,900 per month for the town's homes and businesses during the contract's term.

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

Under the Heath Community Choice Power Supply program, residents will not notice any change in their electricity service. The only discernible difference will be that Verde Energy

USA, of Norwalk, Conn., the selected electricity supplier for the Community Choice program, will be printed under the “Supply Services” section on monthly bills. Residents and small business owners 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.

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 Heath. Verde Energy USA was selected through a competitive process. The cost savings for Heath residents and businesses will begin with the December 2017 meter reads (January 2018 billings).

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 Heath residential and business customers currently on National Grid’s basic service will be automatically enrolled into the program unless they choose to opt out. National Grid’s basic service customers in Heath will receive a mailing with details including an opt-out card.

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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.*