



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT: Mark Cappadona
508-485-5858
David Gagne
508-894-1269

**WEST BRIDGEWATER GREEN ENERGY PROGRAM WILL
ALLOW RATE PAYERS TO SAVE \$109,000 IN ELECTRICITY COSTS**

WEST BRIDGEWATER, MA – West Bridgewater residents and business owners will save approximately \$109,000 annually thanks to the newly created West Bridgewater Community Choice Power Supply program.

The Town of West Bridgewater, with the assistance of Colonial Power Group, Inc., is pleased to announce it has entered into a one-year agreement to bring energy cost-savings to the town's residents and small businesses through this initiative. The town will be using 100 percent green energy derived from National Wind renewable energy certificates.

“We’ve seen how the spikes in the cost of electricity can be burdensome for West Bridgewater residents, and we wanted to offer the opportunity to have a more stable and lower cost energy option while also utilizing a renewable energy source which is beneficial for our environment,” said Chairman of the Board of Selectmen Jerry Lawrence. Added Town Administrator David Gagne, “It was a pleasure working with Colonial Power Group throughout this process.”

The new program will help residents and business owners achieve stability and substantial savings on electricity costs. Participating residents and businesses in West Bridgewater will see an annual savings of approximately 4.17 percent in their monthly energy bills during the year compared to the distributor's least expensive green energy option. The program will provide a combined savings of nearly \$9,100 per month for the town's homes and businesses in the first year.

“The West Bridgewater Community Choice program provides price stability, local control, and competition while also lowering the burden of energy costs for West Bridgewater's residents and business community,” said Mark Cappadona, President of Colonial Power Group, Inc. “We commend West Bridgewater's Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator Gagne for their forward-thinking approach to energy purchasing. By taking this action, not only are they helping to save residents and business owners money on their electricity costs, they are also helping the environment.”

Under the West Bridgewater Community Choice Power Supply program, residents will not notice any change in their electricity service. The only discernable difference will be that NextEra Energy Services of Houston, Texas, the selected electricity supplier for the Community Choice program, will be printed under the “Supplier Services” of 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 West Bridgewater. NextEra Energy Services was selected through a competitive process. The cost savings for West Bridgewater residents and businesses will begin with the November 2017 meter reads (December 2017 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 West Bridgewater residential and business customers currently on National Grid’s basic service will be automatically enrolled into the program unless they choose to opt out.

The Town and representatives of Colonial Power Group will hold an informational session on Wednesday, October 11, 2017 at 7 p.m. at the Council on Aging, 97 West Center Street, to discuss the West Bridgewater 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. 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.