



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 22, 2024

CONTACT: Jeremy Stull,
Town Administrator
508-478-8863
Mark Cappadona
508-485-5858 ext. 3

MENDON ENERGY PROGRAM ANNOUNCES START DATE

MENDON, MA – The Town of Mendon is pleased to announce that it’s launching its Community Choice Power Supply Program this fall in an effort to provide an energy program that is stable, affordable and incorporates additional renewable energy. Mendon signed a 24-month contract with Direct Energy Services. National Grid Basic Rate customers will automatically receive an electricity rate at a price lower than the National Grid Basic Rate, it will include more renewable energy and customers can opt out at any time. Those with third party electric suppliers can choose to opt in. Details are below.

Beginning with the September 2024 meter reads, Mendon’s Program will offer three products with varying amounts of renewable energy content. “Our electricity program allows us to reduce our dependence on non-renewable energy sources and decrease our carbon emissions, while also stabilizing electricity bill prices at a competitive rate,” said Brendan Chenelle, Mendon Select Board Vice-Chair. See chart below.

The Mendon 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 that is vetted by professionals to ensure residents this is not a scam. Approximately 170 Massachusetts communities, to date, have chosen to develop community choice electricity programs to benefit their residents and small business owners.

Product	Renewable Energy Content with Direct Energy	Program Rate (per kWh) with Direct Energy	National Grid's Basic Rate* (per kWh)	% Savings** with Direct Energy	Est Monthly Savings** with Direct Energy
Standard (default)	10% MA Class I RECs above minimum state requirements	\$0.14450		10%	\$10
Optional Basic	Meets MA renewable energy requirements	\$0.14020	\$0.16055	13%	\$12
Optional Renewable	25% MA Class I RECs above minimum state requirements	\$0.15080		6%	\$6

*National Grid's Residential Basic Service meets MA renewable energy requirements and is in effect from August 1, 2024 thru January 31, 2025. Assuming usage of 600-kilowatt hours of electricity per month, residents can expect to see an average savings for that period.

**Values for savings with Direct Energy are a comparison to the basic National Grid's Basic Rate. The Direct Energy Standard (default) and Optional Renewable products both include more green energy than what is being offered by the National Grid's Basic Rate program.

Alejna Brugos, Mendon Select Board Chair noted, "We have heard from community members that they hoped that Mendon would offer a program like this, both for the savings and for the cleaner energy options. We are thrilled that Mendon is now able to participate."

Residents will not notice any change in their electricity service. The only discernible difference will be that Direct Energy Services of Houston, Texas, will be printed under "Supply Services" on National Grid's 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.

"No action is required by ratepayers receiving their electricity from National Grid to participate in this cost-saving, greener program. However, if you have chosen third party electric supplier, you will continue with that supplier, unless you decide you want to opt in to this program," Anne Mazar, Mendon Land/Energy Use Committee Chair explained.

The Program will be operated on an opt-out basis, meaning that all Mendon residential and business customers currently on National Grid's Basic Service will be automatically enrolled into the Program unless they choose to opt-out. Residents who wish to opt-down to the optional basic product or opt-up to the optional renewable product can make that selection accordingly.

There are no enrollment, early termination, or cancellation fees attached to the Mendon electricity program. Residents who choose to opt-out can also opt-in at a later date if they so choose at no

cost. 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.

National Grid's 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's Basic Service. However, such savings and future savings cannot be guaranteed.

Residents or business owners with a supplier block on their account must contact their National Grid to request that the block be removed if they want to participate in Mendon's electricity program.

National Grid has several programs to help income-eligible families and customers needing special assistance meet their energy needs. To learn more visit nationalgridus.com/MA-Home/Bill-Help/Payment-Assistance-Programs.

Sessions to answer any questions regarding Mendon's Community Choice Power Supply Program will be held by representatives of the Town of Mendon and Colonial Power Group as follows:

- **July 30th at 7:00 PM** at the Mendon Town Hall, 20 Main Street and remotely
- **August 13th at 1:30 PM** at the Mendon Senior Center, 62 Providence Street
- **August 21st at 6:30 PM** at the Mendon Town Hall, 20 Main Street and remotely
- **Remote access to meetings** can be found at the town website: www.mendonma.gov

Carolyn Barthel, Land/Energy Use Committee member said, "There are many places to get information on the program. Residents can visit colonialpowergroup.com/mendon or call (866) 485-5858 ext. 1 to learn more about Mendon's Community Choice Power Supply Program, to opt-in or opt-out, or to change your product selection. Questions can also be emailed to landusecomm@mendonma.gov – the Mendon Land/Energy Use Committee."



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.