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## BERLIN ANNOUNCES NEW RATES AND SUPPLIER FOR ENERGY PROGRAM

BERLIN, MA – The Town of Berlin has signed a thirty-six month contract with a new supplier, First Point Power. Beginning with the November 2024 meter reads, the Berlin Community Choice Power Supply Program will have a new rate of \$0.13500 per kWh for a 100 percent green product derived from National Wind Renewable Energy Certificates.

For Berlin residents and businesses who are enrolled in the Town's Program, the current rate of \$0.12167 per kWh will expire and the new rate of \$0.13500 per kWh will take effect with the November 2024 meter reads. This represents an increase of \$8 per month on the supply side of the bill given average usage of 600 kWh. However, this new rate is 15.9 percent lower than National Grid's Residential Basic Service rate of \$0.16055 per kWh. Residents can expect to see an average savings of \$15 per month for the months of November 2024 through January 2025.

"Although electricity prices have risen over the years since the previous contract was signed, we are pleased to be able to provide meaningful cost savings to our residents on their electricity bills this winter," said Berlin Town Administrator Kristen Rubin. "The goal of the Program is to lock in a competitive price that can offer savings now and provide stability for the next three years."

Berlin launched its electricity program in January 2017 in an effort to develop an energy program that would be stable and affordable. From inception through June 2024, the Program has saved residents and small businesses over \$2.1 million in electricity costs as compared to Basic Service.

It is important to note that <u>no action is required</u> by current participants. This change will be seen on the December 2024 bills. All accounts currently enrolled in the Program will see the new rate and First Point Power under the "Supply Services" section of their monthly bill.

The Berlin Community Choice Power Supply Program has no fees or charges. 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.

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, future savings cannot be guaranteed.

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

Residents may also visit <u>colonialpowergroup.com/berlin</u> or call (866) 485-5858 ext. 1 to learn more about Berlin's Community Choice Power Supply Program or to opt-in or opt-out.



ABOUT COLONIAL POWER GROUP: Based in Berlin, 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.