

*******PUBLIC NOTICE*******

**THE TOWN OF WINCHENDON'S
COMMUNITY CHOICE POWER SUPPLY PROGRAM
RATE INCREASE NOTIFICATION**

IMPORTANT UPDATE: As the result of a change in law, the Town of Winchendon's current aggregation rate **will increase by \$0.00086 per kWh effective with the February 2023 meter reads**. The new rate (increasing from \$0.23481 per kWh to \$0.23567 per kWh) will be fixed through the remainder of the term, ending December 2023.

WHAT IS A CHANGE IN LAW AND HOW CAN IT RESULT IN A RATE INCREASE? A change in law is a regulatory event that results in a direct, material increase in costs during the term of an electric power supply contract. In October 2022, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection finalized several changes to the state's Clean Energy Standard. In part, these changes increase the amount of clean energy that utilities and suppliers need to purchase and also increases certain compliance payments that suppliers are required to make to the state. This revision resulted in unexpected supplier costs, which in turn resulted in a rate increase effective with the February 2023 meter reads. [For more information on the Massachusetts Clean Energy Standard, please visit mass.gov/guides/clean-energy-standard-310-cmr-775].

WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF THE RATE INCREASE? Given average usage of 600 kWh per month, the new aggregation rate represents an increase of \$0.52 per month versus the current rate. [For a per kWh comparison against National Grid's Basic Service rates effective November 1, 2022, please see the **NEW RATES AND TERMS** chart below.]

For questions about the rate increase or your options, please call Colonial Power Group at (866) 485-5858 ext. 1.

The Town of Winchendon is announcing that **Constellation NewEnergy, Inc.** ("Constellation") has been selected as the supplier for its Community Choice Power Supply Program ("Program"). Constellation will provide electric power supply for all consumers participating in Winchendon's Program. This notice is intended to tell you about this Program for electric power supply. In accordance with state law, it also informs you of your rights and options if you choose not to participate in the Program.

YOU WILL NOT NOTICE ANY CHANGE IN YOUR ELECTRICITY SERVICE. You will continue to see Constellation printed under the "Supply Services" section of your monthly bill. You will continue to receive one bill from National Grid. You will continue to send your payments to National Grid for processing. National Grid will continue to respond to emergencies, read meters and maintain the distribution and transmission lines. Reliability and quality of service will remain the same. Furthermore, you will continue to have all existing consumer rights and protections.

NEW RATES AND TERMS

	Winchendon's Program* (Supply Services Only)	National Grid Basic Service (Supply Services Only)
Rate Residential Commercial/Streetlight Industrial	\$0.23567 per kWh \$0.23567 per kWh \$0.23567 per kWh	* \$0.33891 per kWh \$0.32287 per kWh \$0.27387 per kWh
Renewable Energy Content	Meets Massachusetts renewable energy requirements	Meets Massachusetts renewable energy requirements
Duration	February 2023 – December 2023 <i>[Rates apply to service beginning and ending on the days of the month that your meter is read in your service area.]</i>	November 1, 2022 – April 30, 2023 <i>[Residential and Small Commercial rates change every 6 months. Large Commercial and Industrial rates change every 3 months.]</i>
Exit Terms	NO CHARGE	May receive a reconciliation charge or credit <i>[Industrial G-2 & G-3 only]</i>

*Rate includes Consultant Fee of \$0.001 per kWh to facilitate Winchendon's Community Choice Power Supply Program.

*Rate may increase as a result of a change in law that results in a direct, material increase in costs during the term of the contract.

PARTICIPATING CONSUMERS will start benefiting from the aggregation rate beginning on the day of the month in February 2023 that their meter is read. This date varies by service area. Your meter reading date is shown on your bill.

IF YOU ARE A BASIC SERVICE CONSUMER WHO HAS BEEN MAILED A NOTIFICATION you do not need to take any action to participate. You will be automatically enrolled. If you do not wish to participate, please follow the instructions specified.

BUDGET PLAN OR ELIGIBLE LOW-INCOME RATE CONSUMERS will continue to receive those benefits from National Grid.

SOLAR PANEL AND COMMUNITY SOLAR CONSUMERS will continue to receive net metering or on-bill credits while receiving electricity supply under the Program and the value of these credits will not be altered by participating in the Program.

ANY APPLICABLE TAXES WILL BE BILLED as part of the Program's power supply charge. You will be responsible for identifying and requesting an exemption from the collection of taxes by providing appropriate documentation.

TAX EXEMPT SMALL BUSINESS CONSUMERS must email or fax a copy of their Energy Exemption Certificate directly to Constellation at CNETaxForms@constellation.com or (877) 243-4968 (fax) in order to maintain their tax exempt status.

IF YOU WISH TO JOIN THIS PROGRAM you may OPT-IN at colonialpowergroup.com/winchendon **OR** call Constellation at (833) 859-0458 and ask to be enrolled. If you are currently contracted with your own competitive supplier, you should confirm with them that you will not incur any early termination fees or penalties for leaving their supply.

IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO PARTICIPATE you must OPT-OUT at colonialpowergroup.com/winchendon, click the OPT-OUT button and follow the instructions specified **OR** call Constellation at (833) 859-0458.

TO ACCESS NATIONAL GRID'S BASIC SERVICE RATES please visit:

- Residential Rates – nationalgridus.com/media/pdfs/billing-payments/electric-rates/ma/resitable.pdf.
- Commercial Rates – nationalgridus.com/media/pdfs/billing-payments/electric-rates/ma/commtable.pdf.
- Industrial Rates – nationalgridus.com/media/pdfs/billing-payments/electric-rates/ma/indtable.pdf.

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 Basic Service. However, such savings and future savings cannot be guaranteed.

Colonial Power Group, Inc. is an energy consulting company chosen on a competitive basis by the Town of Winchendon to facilitate the Community Choice Power Supply Program. For more detailed information, call us toll-free at (866) 485-5858 ext. 1.

