



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**WEST BROOKFIELD ENERGY PROGRAM WILL ALLOW  
RATEPAYERS TO SAVE \$200,000 IN ELECTRICITY COSTS**

WEST BROOKFIELD, MA – West Brookfield residents and business owners will save more than \$213,000 over the next year thanks to the newly created West Brookfield Community Choice Power Supply program.

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

“We are excited that our residents and small business owners will be able to realize lower energy costs through the power of bulk purchasing,” said Executive Secretary Johanna Swain. “By implementing this energy program, we are able to achieve price stability and lower overall energy costs for our community.”

Participating residents and businesses in West Brookfield will see an annual savings of approximately 13.4 percent in their monthly energy bills during the first year and the program will provide a combined average savings of nearly \$8,400 per month for the Town's homes and businesses during the contract term.

“The West Brookfield Community Choice program provides price stability, local control, and competition while also lowering the burden of energy costs for West Brookfield's residents and business community,” said Mark Cappadona, President of Colonial Power Group, Inc. “We commend West Brookfield's Board of Selectmen and Executive Secretary Swain 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 West Brookfield Community Choice Power Supply program, residents will not notice any change in their electricity service. The only discernable 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” 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 West Brookfield. Verde Energy USA was selected through a competitive process. The cost savings for West Brookfield 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 West Brookfield 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 October 30, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at West Brookfield Council on Aging to discuss the West Brookfield 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.*