

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 14, 2025

CONTACT: Board of Selectmen, 413-738-5225 ext. 1 Mark Cappadona, Colonial Power Group 508-485-5858 ext. 3

HANCOCK ANNOUNCES ENERGY PROGRAM START DATE

Notifications mail in mid-February. Program will lower and stabilize electricity costs.

HANCOCK, MA – The Town of Hancock is pleased to announce that it's launching its Community Choice Power Supply Program this spring to provide an energy program that is stable and affordable. Hancock signed a 7-month contract with Direct Energy Services.

Beginning with the April 2025 meter reads, Hancock's Program will offer a single product as follows (depending on if your electricity account is with National Grid or Eversource):

Utility	Renewable Energy Content	Program Rate (per kWh)	Utility Rate* (per kWh)	% Savings	Est Monthly Savings
National Grid	Meets MA renewable energy requirements	\$0.11080	\$0.14672	24%	\$22
Eversource		\$0.10470	\$0.11719	11%	\$7

^{*}National Grid's and Eversource's Residential Basic Service meet MA renewable energy requirements and are in effect from February 1-July 31, 2025. Assuming usage of 600-kilowatt hours of electricity per month, residents can expect to see an average savings for that period.

"The Town's overall goal is to offer our residents the opportunity to save money on their electricity costs this spring," said Sherman Derby, Sr., Hancock Board of Selectmen Chair. "The objective of the Program is to lock in a competitive price that provides savings now and will provide stability moving forward."

The Town's product offering meets the state-mandated minimum for renewable energy which is 63 percent in 2025. The Town will then negotiate new contract terms for November 2025 with the goal of locking in a long-term, stable rate.

The Hancock 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. Approximately 190 Massachusetts communities, to date, have chosen to develop community choice electricity programs to benefit their residents and small business owners.

Residents will not notice any change in their electricity service. The only discernible difference will be that Direct Energy will be printed under "Supply/Supplier Services" on National Grid's and Eversource's monthly bills starting in May 2025. Residents and small business owners will continue to receive one bill from National Grid or Eversource, and to send payments to National Grid or Eversource for processing. There will be no interruption in billing, power, or customer service.

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 Hancock residential and business customers currently on National Grid's or Eversource's Basic Service will be automatically enrolled into the Program unless they choose to opt-out.

There are no enrollment, early termination, or cancellation fees attached to the Hancock 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.

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 or Eversource's Basic Service. However, future savings cannot be guaranteed.

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

Both National Grid and Eversource have 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
- ⇒ eversource.com/content/residential/account-billing/payment-assistance/discount-rate

An information session to answer questions about Hancock's Community Choice Power Supply Program will be held by the Town and representatives of Colonial Power Group as follows:

• Thursday, February 27, 2025 at 6 pm at Hancock School, 3080 Hancock Road, Hancock, MA

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



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.