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## CHARLEMONT ANNOUNCES NEW SUPPLIER AND RATES FOR POWER SUPPLY PROGRAM

CHARLEMONT, MA – The Town of Charlemont has signed a thirty-four month contract with a new supplier, First Point Power. The Charlemont Community Choice Power Supply Program, tailored to meet the specific needs of the Town's electricity ratepayers, will continue to offer the same options but at new rates:

- A standard product that meets Massachusetts Renewable Energy Requirement (MA Req) of 69.1% at a rate of \$0.12952 per kWh.
- An optional product that meets MA Req plus uses an additional 31% National Wind Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs), at a rate of \$0.13045 per kWh.
- A second optional product that meets MA Req plus uses an additional 50% Massachusetts Class I RECs at a rate of \$0.14752 per kWh.

For Charlemont residents and businesses who are enrolled in the Town's standard product, the current rate of \$0.14159 per kWh will expire and the new rate of \$0.12952 per kWh will take effect with the January 2026 meter reads. This represents a decrease of \$7 per month on the supply side of the bill given average usage of 600 kWh. In addition, this new rate is 16 percent lower than National Grid's Residential Basic Service rate of \$0.15484 per kWh. Residents can expect to see an average savings of \$15 per month for the month of January 2026. National Grid's Basic Service rates will change on February 1, 2026 and should be known in late December.

Charlemont launched its electricity program in August 2020 in an effort to develop an energy program that would be stable, affordable and incorporate renewable energy. From inception through June 2025, the Program has saved residents and small businesses over \$899,000 in electricity costs as compared to National Grid Basic Service.

It is important to note that <u>no action is required</u> by current participants. This change will be seen on the February 2026 bills. All accounts currently enrolled in the Program will remain with their current product offering and see the new rate and First Point Power printed under the "Supply Services" section of their monthly bill.

The Charlemont 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 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 <u>nationalgridus.com/MA-Home/Bill-Help/Payment-Assistance-Programs</u>.

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



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.