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September 29, 2023 Mayor

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**NEWBURYPORT ENERGY PROGRAM ANNOUNCES NEW SUPPLIER**

NEWBURYPORT, MA – The City of Newburyport has signed a twenty-four month contract with a new electricity supplier, Constellation New Energy. Beginning with the November 2023 meter reads, the Newburyport Community Choice Power Supply Program will have a new rate of $0.14809 per kWh.

For Newburyport residents and businesses who are enrolled in the City’s Program, the current rate of $0.13320 per kWh will expire with the November 2023 meter reads and the new rate of $0.14809 per kWh will take effect. This represents an increase of $9 per month on the supply side of the bill given average usage of 600 kWh. However, this new rate is 19 percent lower than National Grid’s recently announced Residential Basic Service rate of $0.18213 per kWh. Residents can expect to see an average savings of $20 per month for the months of November 2023 July 2024\*.

“I’m glad to see that the Program is able to provide meaningful cost savings to our residents on their electric bills this winter,” said Mayor Sean Reardon. “The goal of the Program is to lock in a competitive price that provides savings now and that will provide stability for the next two years.”

Newburyport launched its electricity program in January 2023 in an effort to develop an energy program that would be stable and affordable. From inception through May 2023, the Program has saved residents and small businesses over $2.2 million in electricity costs as compared to National Grid Basic Service.

It is important to note that no action will be required by individual consumers. This change will be seen on the December 2023 bills. All accounts currently enrolled in the Program will see the new rate and Constellation NewEnergy printed under the “Supply Services” section of their monthly bill.

The Newburyport 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, such savings and 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 [nationalgridus.com/MA-Home/Bill-Help/Payment-Assistance-Programs](https://www.nationalgridus.com/MA-Home/Bill-Help/Payment-Assistance-Programs).

Residents may also visit [colonialpowergroup.com/newburyport](https://colonialpowergroup.com/newburyport/) or call (866) 485-5858 ext. 1 to learn more about Newburyport’s Community Choice Power Supply Program or to opt-in or opt-out.

*\*Normally, the term would be through April 2024 but this is a transition term. The Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities issued an Order on September 1, 2023 that requires National Grid change its residential and small business Basic Service periods to February through July and August through January. This is expected to mitigate large seasonal changes in Basic Service electricity supply prices and differences across electric distribution companies. [See* [*mass.gov/news/dpu-orders-schedule-changes-to-basic-service-rates*](https://www.mass.gov/news/dpu-orders-schedule-changes-to-basic-service-rates)*.]*

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