

Rye Community Power



What is Community Power?

Community Power, authorized by [NH RSA 53-E](#), allows local governments to procure electric power on behalf of their residents, businesses, and municipal accounts. Providing electricity supply involves being responsible for procuring electric generation (supply) to match customer loads (consumption) in real time – putting power into the grid to match what customers take out.

Community Power is also referred to as "Community Power Aggregation" (CPA) and as "Community Choice Aggregation" (CCA).

Community Power empowers towns, cities, and counties to choose where their electricity supply comes from. In several states across the country, municipalities and counties have launched regional Community Power programs as a means of taking control of their combined electricity purchases, both to reduce the cost to consumers and to push for production of more renewable energy.

Community Power programs can help provide all members of the community access to renewables and energy-saving innovations.

Community Power Benefits

- Local Control - Democratizing energy procurement to the community level
- Lower Costs - MA, NY, CA and other markets have demonstrated lower rates than regulated utilities
- Renewables - Build and buy clean energy; support more local renewables
- Resilience and Innovation - New technologies, market competition, customer engagement

Who else is working on Community Power?

There are a number of communities in NH that are exploring and developing Community Power Plans. Hanover and Nashua, with goals of going 100% renewable by 2030 and 2050 respectively, are developing plans while Harrisville with just under 1000 residents has already approved a warrant article. Portsmouth, Dover, and Exeter are all exploring Community Power and are hoping to implement programs in the coming year.

Do you have to join Community Power?

No. Just as it is possible today for a customer to choose a different energy supplier, any customer will be able to opt-out of the program and stay with the utility for default supply or choose another competitive energy supplier. Any customer already on competitive supply will need to opt-in to switch to Rye Community Power.

What will my bill look like?

Your bill will look just like it does now with one exception. The charges will be broken into Supply and Delivery. Under the Supply, there will be a dollar amount and it will say “Cost of electricity *from Rye Community Power.*” For Delivery, there will be a dollar amount and it will say “Cost to deliver electricity from Eversource.”

Are taxpayers at risk if we join CPCNH or launch Rye Community Power?

No. Joining CPCNH doesn't cost anything and doesn't commit a city or town or its residents to the programs of the CPCNH. Municipalities are under no financial obligation until they execute a cost-sharing agreement. Municipalities may withdraw from the Coalition prior to entering into a cost-sharing agreement without any financial obligation and withdraw at any time thereafter subject to the terms, conditions and continuing obligations specified in the cost-sharing agreement.

Community Power programs are to be self-funded from the revenue received from participating customers:

- Members will be able to launch Community Power programs at no upfront expense through the CPCNH.
- Program implementation and ongoing operating costs for each Member will be recovered post-launch through revenues from electricity sales.
- All operating costs will be recovered in the customer rates set by each Member. There are no taxpayer funds required for a community to take power supply services through CPCNH. The cost to operate programs will be recovered through revenues associated with electricity sales (i.e., a small portion of the energy supply rate paid by each participating electric customer).

CPCNH

The Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire (CPCNH) is a non-profit Joint Powers Agency in development — governed “by communities, for communities” — that will empower towns, cities and counties across New Hampshire to:

1. Streamline the process for authorizing a Community Power program locally.
2. Share services and staff support across member cities, towns and counties.
3. Participate in joint power solicitations and local project development opportunities.
4. Share knowledge and collaborate regionally on clean energy and resilient infrastructure development.
5. Speak with one voice at the Legislature and Public Utilities Commission on public advocacy issues related to energy and Community Power.

For more information: <https://www.cpcnh.org>