

Plainfield Community Power



January 27, 2022

What is Community Power?

New Hampshire cities, towns, and counties join together to procure electric power supply on behalf of their residents and businesses and provide related customer services (local programs, Net Energy Metering supply rates, etc.)

- Pooled Purchasing Power For **Energy Supply**, providing a large customer base to achieve better pricing and to share the administrative cost.
- Utility Company **Delivers** Power – still responsible for poles and wires
- Communities Benefit from **Value Added Programs & Services**



Benefits of Community Power

- **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
- **Resilience & Innovation**
 - New Technologies – microgrids to provide resilience, storage systems, time of use rates.
 - Market Competition – maintain power portfolio that seeks best prices at all times
 - Price Signals – respond to changing market conditions rapidly
 - Customer Empowerment – customers select how much green power in their supply

Plainfield Community Power

- Provides **electricity supply service** for the Town's residents, businesses, and other types of customers.
- Serve as the default electricity supplier for all customers on a default "**opt-out**" basis
- **Price of electricity** supplied by Plainfield Community Power **competitive** with the Utilities and with Competitive Electric Power Suppliers (third party suppliers)
- Electric Utilities **continue to own and operate the distribution grid** (poles and wires) and be **responsible for delivering power** to all customers within Plainfield.
- Customers may choose to switch between Plainfield Community Power, service provided by Competitive Electric Power Suppliers, and utility-provided default service
- Customers may select a higher percentage of green sources at slightly higher premiums.
- **Self-funded through revenues** generated by participating customers (Town will not use taxes to cover program expenses).

Example of Utility Bill

ACCOUNT ACTIVITY	
Voltage Delivery Level	0 - 2.2 kv
Previous Balance:	151.71
Payments Received:	151.71 CR
Balance Forward:	0.00
Current Charges:	
Customer Chg	14.74
Distribution Chg 1208.00 units @ 0.06102	73.72
Energy Service 1208.00 units @ 0.08396	101.42
Stranded Cost Chg 1208.00 units @ -0.00080	0.97 CR
Sys Benefits Chg 1208.00 units @ 0.00678	8.20
Transmission Chg 1208.00 units @ 0.03703	44.73
Miscellaneous Credits/Charges:	
Bill Adjustment	0.02 CR

Plainfield Community
Power provides the
Energy Service
component shown
here in a sample bill

How Can Plainfield Run Plainfield Community Power?

- Plainfield is a small town of about 2400 people.
- Plainfield does not have the resources to administer a community power program by itself.
- Plainfield, by itself, does not have the market power to command cheaper rates for electricity.
- **Essential that Plainfield form a coalition** with other towns, cities and counties in the state to leverage the power of a larger customer base.
- The **Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire** was created for this very reason.
- Joining the Coalition is an important aspect of the Plainfield Community Power Plan.

COMMUNITY POWER COALITION OF NH (CPCNH)

VISION

NH cities, towns and counties are empowered to realize their individual energy goals including local control, cost reduction, renewable energy, competitive markets and resiliency.

Plainfield became a founding member of the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire when it was incorporated on October 1, 2021

What is CPCNH?

Community Power Coalition of NH

- Statewide public non-profit
- Governed by member communities
- Provides pooled procurement and shared services for Community Power programs

Status

- 17 municipalities + 1 county have joined by the vote of their governing body to adopt the Joint Powers Agreement (as of 1/13/22)
- Together CPCNH communities buy ~1.6 million megawatt-hours and spend ~\$113 million on energy supply annually

Joint Powers Agreement

- Intermunicipal agreement establishing CPCNH as a public nonprofit

All NH cities, towns, and counties are invited to join CPCNH

CPCNH Member Communities

1. Town of Hanover, 2. City of Lebanon, 3. Town of Exeter,
4. City of Nashua, 5. Town of Harrisville, 6. Town of Rye,
7. City of Dover, 8. Town of Warner, 9. Town of Walpole,
10. Town of Newmarket, 11. Town of Plainfield, 12. Town
of Enfield, 13. Town of Durham, 14. Town of Pembroke,
15. Town of Webster, 16. Town of Hudson, 17. Town of
New London, 18. Cheshire County

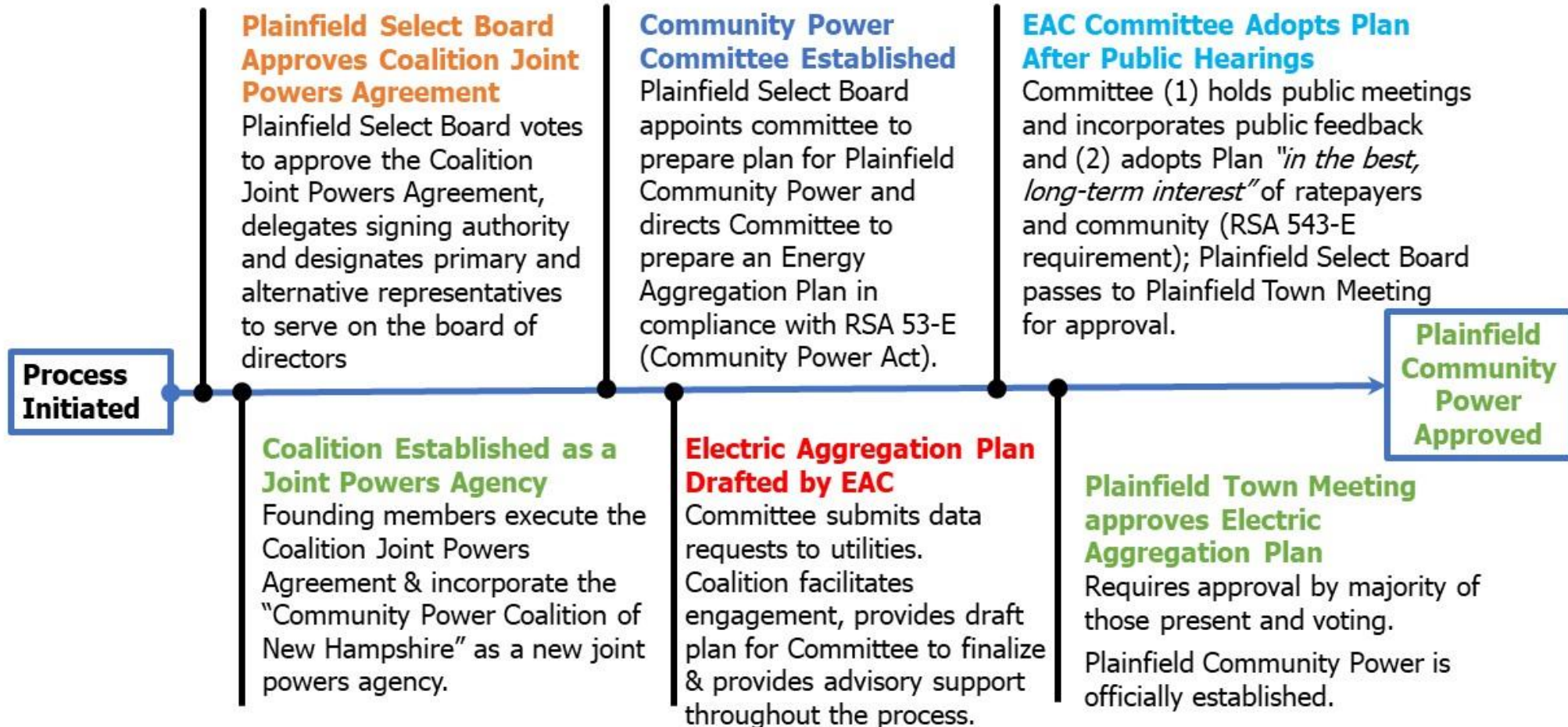
Plainfield Community Power Electric Aggregation Plan

- Plainfield Community Power Electric Aggregation Plan (EAP) describes how Plainfield Community Power (PCP) would operate
- Required by Law - RSA 53-E
- Created by the Plainfield Energy Aggregation Committee in Consultation with EAP experts

Electric Aggregation Plan - Purpose

- Sets the Town's policy goals for its Community Power program
- Summarizes Plainfield Community Power's governance and implementation processes
- Commits Plainfield Community Power to comply with applicable statutes and regulations in terms of:
 - Providing universal access, reliability, and equitable treatment of all classes of customers subject to any differences arising from varying opportunities, tariffs, and arrangements in the incumbent utilities' distribution franchise territories.
 - Meeting, at a minimum, the basic environmental and service standards established by the NH PUC and other applicable agencies and laws concerning the provision of service under Community Power.
- This plan does not otherwise commit Plainfield Community Power to any defined course of action and does not impose any financial commitment on the Town of Plainfield.

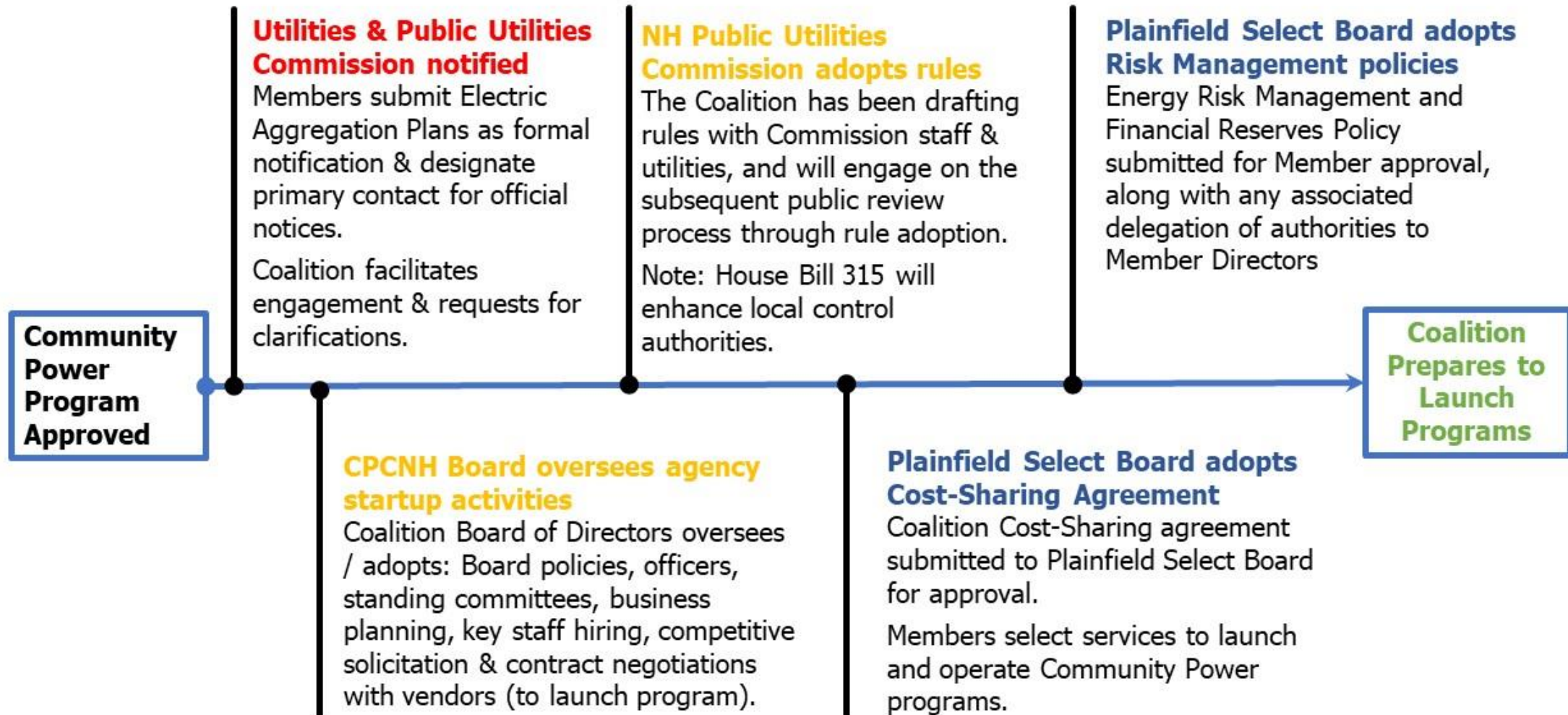
Approval Process for Coalition & Plainfield Community Power



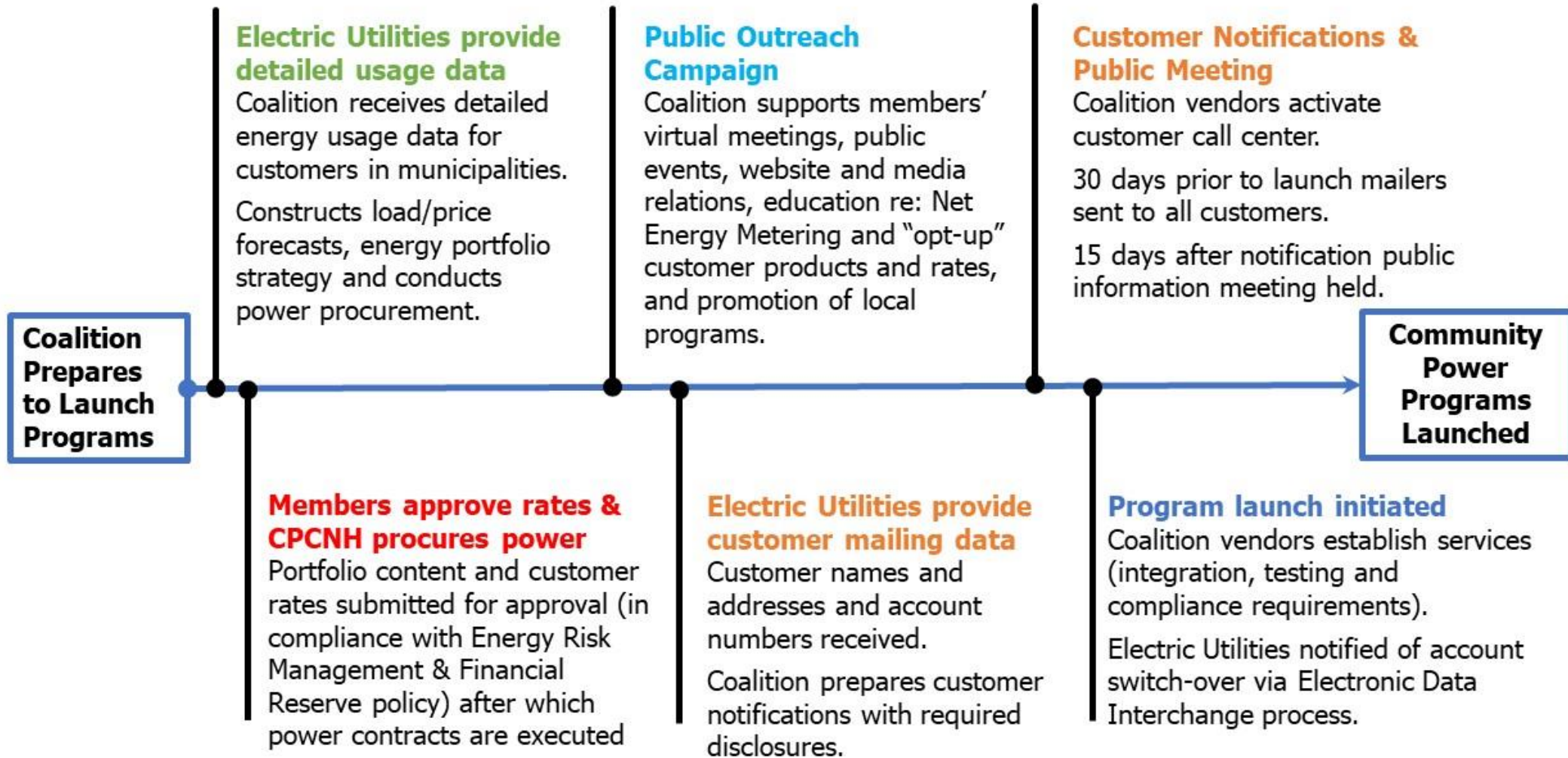
Electric Aggregation Plan – Approval and Next Steps

- Electric Aggregation Plan must be approved by:
 1. Plainfield Energy Committee
 2. Plainfield Select Board
 3. Plainfield Town Meeting
 4. New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
- The Plainfield Select Board appointed a primary and alternate representative to the CPCNH Board of Directors.
- CPCNH Board meetings conducted in accordance with NH Right-to-Know Law (RSA 91-A).
- Future Select Board decisions regarding Plainfield Community Power, such as the execution of a Cost Sharing Agreement with the Coalition will be made at duly noticed public meetings.

Coalition Startup, Rule Making and Risk Management Policy Approval Process



Plainfield Community Power Launch Process



Customer Rates and Products

The table below provides an illustrative example of a default service product and optional rates that could be offered to customers:

	DEFAULT SERVICE (automatic enrollment)	OPTIONAL PRODUCTS		
		Basic Service	Green Start	Prime
Attributes	5-10% above Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS)	Meets RPS	~50% Renewable	100% Renewable
Price	Meet or beat default utility rate at launch	Below default utility rates	Higher or competitive w/ default utility rate	Exceeds default utility rate

Lower Rates than Default Utility Rate - How is this possible?

- Plainfield Community Power plans to meet or beat default utility rate at launch - is this possible?
- Utilities purchase power a set times (typically twice a year) and bid for the best price **at that time**
- If the price at that time is high, the default service rate offered for the next period **will be high**.
- Plainfield Community Power gets its power from CPCNH, which procures power using a **portfolio approach**.
- CPCNH enters purchase contracts at different times in the year, and the contracts are for different time periods and from different energy producers
- This spreads the risk of high prices over many contracts and allows CPCNH to purchase power when prices are low.

Default Supply Customers vs Competitive Supply Customers

- Two broad classes of customers,
 - **Utility Default Supply Customers**
 - **Competitive Supply Customers** (third party supplier customers)
- Treated differently when Plainfield Community Power launches
 - **Utility Default Supply Customers** - Eligible for Opt-Out Notifications & Automatic Enrollment
 - **Competitive Supply Customers** - Eligible for Opt-In Notifications & Voluntary Enrollment

NH Renewable Portfolio Standard

- New Hampshire's Electric Renewable Portfolio Standard ("RPS") statute **requires** each electricity provider, including the Utilities and **Plainfield Community Power**, to meet a certain percentage of customer load by purchasing, generating or otherwise acquiring Renewable Energy Certificates ("RECs")
- One REC represents the renewable attributes of one megawatt-hour of electricity, or the equivalent amount of useful thermal energy.
- RECs are generated by certified renewable energy facilities for power that is physically delivered into the New England wholesale electricity market operated by ISO-New England (which means the power can come from within New England, New York or eastern Canada).

Net Metered Customers

- Plainfield Community Power (PCP) intends to offer a Net Energy Metering generation rate and terms to customers with onsite renewable generation eligible for net metering from the Utilities.
- The intention is to offer:
 - Net Metered 1.0 customers a kWh credit for every kWh exported to the grid
 - Net Metered 2.0 customers could be credited in the same way that Net Metered 1.0 customers are credited (i.e., using kWh credits to track surplus generation on the supply portion of the bill). These customers would receive a bill from PCP.
- Offering NEM 2.0 customers a kWh credit tracked as an offset to supply, would harmonize the accounting treatment of NEM 1.0 and 2.0 surplus generation for the purpose of program RPS compliance reporting. This would help lower program rates and is an option that the program may therefore find cost-effective to implement.
- **This is not a commitment at this time** but will depend on final PUC rules and consultation between all CPCNH members.

Plainfield Community Power

Questions?

References: Plainfield Community Power Energy Aggregation Plan-
[https://www.plainfieldnh.org/energy/WebDocs/CPC EAP Draft.pdf](https://www.plainfieldnh.org/energy/WebDocs/CPC_EAP_Draft.pdf)

Frequently Asked Questions: https://www.plainfieldnh.org/energy/WebDocs/CPC_FAQs.pdf