



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Pamela McCarthy,  
Economic Development Dir  
781-341-1300 x9265  
Mark Cappadona  
508-485-5858 x3

## **STOUGHTON ENERGY PROGRAM WILL SAVE \$1,584,000 IN SAVINGS FOR RESIDENTS THIS WINTER**

STOUGHTON, MA – Stoughton residents will collectively save more than \$1,584,000 this winter, thanks to the relaunch of the Stoughton Community Choice Power Supply Program.

The Town of Stoughton signed a ten-month contract with Direct Energy Services, which will provide residents and businesses with some cost relief in an elevated and volatile market.

“Given the current economic conditions and knowing there are some residents having suffered temporary and permanent job losses, we are particularly thrilled to be relaunching this Program designed to provide lower overall costs on a necessary service,” said Stoughton Interim Town Manager, Marc Tisdelle. “The Town’s overall goal is to offer our residents and small business owners an opportunity to save money on their electricity costs. By joining the Community Choice Power Supply Program, not only will residents and small business owners save money; they will have a choice between a “standard plan” or a “renewable energy option.”

The Standard Plan meets the state-mandated minimum of 54% renewable energy and the Optional Plan uses 100% renewable energy with the addition of 46% National Wind Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs).

Beginning with the January 2023 meter reads, the Program’s Standard Plan rate will be \$0.26230 per kWh which is 23% lower than National Grid’s winter Residential Basic Service price of \$0.33891 per kWh. The rate will then drop to \$0.12400 per kWh in May 2023 and will last until November 2023. The Optional Plan will be \$0.26360 per kWh to start and then drop to \$0.12530 per kWh. The Town will then negotiate new rates for November 2023.

The Stoughton 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 150 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 Services of Houston, Texas, the selected electricity supplier for the Community Choice Power Supply Program, will be printed under “Supply Services” on National Grid’s monthly bills. Residents and small business owners will continue to receive one bill from National Grid and to send payments to National Grid 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 Stoughton residential and business customers currently on National Grid’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 Stoughton 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 Basic Service. However, such savings and future savings cannot be guaranteed.

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

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](http://nationalgridus.com/MA-Home/Bill-Help/Payment-Assistance-Programs).

An information session to answer any questions regarding Stoughton’s Community Choice Power Supply Program will be held by the Town and representatives of Colonial Power Group as follows:

- December 7 from 7-9 pm at Great Hall / 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Town Hall, 10 Pearl Street, Stoughton

Residents may also visit [colonialpowergroup.com/stoughton](http://colonialpowergroup.com/stoughton) or call (866) 485-5858 ext. 1 to learn more about Stoughton’s Community Choice Power Supply Program.

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**ABOUT COLONIAL POWER GROUP:** *Based in Marlborough, Mass., Colonial Power Group is the leading aggregation-consulting firm in Massachusetts. Working with local and state government, it facilitates the purchase of electricity at a rate lower than basic service rates. Colonial Power works with state officials, utility executives, and energy industry leaders to reduce community energy costs.*