



**COHASSET**  
MASSACHUSETTS

## **COMMUNITY ELECTRICITY AGGREGATION UPDATE**

The economic and environmental goals of community electricity aggregation:

- Offer more competitive choice to residents and businesses;
- Offer longer term electricity price stability;
- Lower electricity prices, although savings cannot be guaranteed;
- Offer more local renewable energy options;
- Lower greenhouse gas emissions and the carbon footprint.

At the Annual Town Meeting on April 29, 2019, the residents of the Town of Cohasset voted for Warrant Article 16 that authorized the Board of Selectmen and Town Manager, or their designees, to study electrical aggregation and develop a plan which would meet the plan standards described in M.G. L chapter 164 section 134 to provide for the aggregation of the Town's total electric power load, municipal and private, commercial and residential, either alone as a Town or in concert with a group of other municipalities.

The Board of Selectmen selected Good Energy, LP, the national and Massachusetts leader in the development, implementation and management of municipal aggregation plans, to develop a Community Electricity Aggregation Plan. With the guidance of Cohasset municipal officials, Good Energy developed a Plan that is available for review by residents in municipal offices and on the Town website. The Plan was submitted to the Department of Energy Resources (DOER) for their review and consultation. After DOER completes their consultation, the Plan will be submitted to the Department of Public Utilities (DPU) for their approval.

At the 2020 Annual Town Meeting, residents will be presented with a warrant article to implement the Plan. After a successful vote by the residents to implement the Plan and the approval of the Plan by DPU, Good Energy can conduct a competitive bid for electricity supply for the residents and businesses in the Town who are on the Basic Service of National Grid.

For a time before the competitive bid and during the 30-day customer notification period, there will be extensive public outreach and education to inform residents and businesses about the details of the Plan and the options for participating or opting-out. Participants can opt-out of the Plan at any time without penalties or termination fees.

## **COMMUNITY ELECTRICITY AGGREGATION BENEFITS**

### ***No out-of-pocket costs to the municipality***

There are no out-of-pocket costs to the municipality for implementing a Community Electricity Aggregation. Good Energy, LP bears the cost of development, implementation and management of the aggregation program.

### ***No additional work required of municipal officials and staff***

Municipal officials contribute decision-making and review time. Good Energy does all the heavy lifting and grunt work. The Department of Energy Resources (DOER) and the Department of Public Utilities (DPU) review and approve the aggregation plan.

### ***Minimal political risk for municipal officials***

Good Energy Community Electricity Aggregation plans are designed to minimize political risk for municipal officials by providing choices within the aggregation to suit all residents and an opt-out at any time without penalty for those residents not interested in participating.

### ***Can have a substantial environmental impact through the inclusion of MA Class I RECs***

A primary objective of Community Electricity Aggregation is the inclusion of MA Class I Renewal Energy Certificates (RECs) to support the development of additional renewal energy generation facilities in Massachusetts.

### ***Can help the municipality reduce its carbon footprint and greenhouse gas emissions***

The inclusion of MA Class I Renewal Energy Certificates (RECs) also assists the municipality to reduce its carbon footprint and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

### ***Gives residents and businesses more competitive choices to purchase electricity***

A primary objective of Community Electricity Aggregation is to give residents and businesses more competitive choices by conducting a competitive bid with qualified electricity suppliers.

### ***Provides longer term price stability with continued single billing from the local utility***

Residents will have increased budget certainty with longer term electricity price stability, and continued infrastructure service and single billing from the local utility.

### ***Can save money for residents and businesses, although savings are not guaranteed***

A primary objective of Community Electricity Aggregation is to reduce the cost of electricity to residents and businesses on average over the term of the electric supply contract.

### ***Savings can be a local economic stimulus, although savings are not guaranteed***

Economic studies have shown that savings from Community Electricity Aggregation can have an economic impact or stimulus equal to 1.25 to 2.0 times those savings in the local economy.

### ***Discourages unscrupulous direct marketers of electricity***

Community Electricity Aggregation will discourage unscrupulous telephone, mail and door-to-door marketers of electricity from preying on residents and businesses.

### ***Residents and businesses can opt-out at any time without termination fees***

Good Energy Community Electricity Aggregation plans have perpetual opt-out without penalty or termination fees.