

2023 Annual Report for Southborough Community Power Choice

For calendar year 2023, the Town of Southborough submitted the following Annual Report to the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (DPU) for Southborough Community Power Choice.

The content of the Annual Report is stipulated by the DPU and is comprised of the following attachments:

- **Attachment III.C: Public Access** - Illustrates how the Town of Southborough provided access to program information during the year.
- **Attachment IV.A: Organizational Structure** - Shows how program administration responsibilities are divided between the Town, the Town's aggregation consultant, and the program's electricity supplier.
- **Attachment IV.B.1.c: Equitable Treatment of Customer Classes** - Describes any variances in treatment between customer classes.
- **Attachment IV.B.2: Procurement of Supply** - Presents the timeline of any electricity supply procurement undertaken during the year.
- **Attachment IV.B.6.a: Representative Opt-Out Notification** - Provides a representative Opt-Out Notification (automatic enrollment notification) from the calendar year. The Opt-Out Notification is sent by mail to new electricity account holders in Southborough to notify them of their eligibility for automatic enrollment in the program.
- **Attachment IV.B.6.b: Representative Notice of Product Change** - Provides a representative notice of a product change, if such a notice was issued during the year.
- **Attachment IV.B.7.b.i: Annual Product Information** - For each program option, provides details around price components, renewable energy content, and average number of accounts enrolled. Also provides the electricity supplier name and electricity supply contract price term.
- **Attachment IV.B.7.b.ii: Annual Product Rate Component Information** - Includes the total revenue for each rate component for the year.

Town of Southborough
2023 Municipal Aggregation Annual Report
November 1, 2024

Attachment III.C Public Access

Table III.C - Public Access to Plan/Ongoing Program Information	
Location	Description
Municipal website	Access to the Plan and detailed program information was provided through a link to the program website. Program announcements were posted on the home page.
Program website	The program website (SouthboroughCommunityPowerChoice.com) provided access to the Plan and other program documents, detailed product information, and contact information for both the program supplier and the consultant, MassPowerChoice, which was responsible for customer support. The site also featured easily accessible options for prospective customers to enroll and for current participants to change their program options or opt out of the program if desired.
Communication vehicles/ Outreach activities	
Mailings	Throughout the year, new utility Basic Service customers were sent Opt-Out Notices informing them of the program, their upcoming automatic enrollment, and the methods for opting out or selecting an optional product.

Attachment IV.A Organizational Structure

Table IV.A – Organizational Structure			
Core Functions	Performing Entity		
	Municipality	Consultant	Supplier
Liaisons/Representatives/Agents			
Municipal Representative/Agent before Department		X	
Liaison with DOER		X	
Liaison with Electric Distribution Companies		X	
Plan Elements			
Procurement of Supply		X	
Product Determination	X		
Other Funding/Costs	X		
Customer Enrollment			X
Customer Notifications/Outreach/ Education	X	X	
Ongoing Program Information	X	X	
Program Termination	X		
Annual Reports		X	
Customer Service		X	

Municipal contact for Department correspondence:

Mark Purple
(508) 485-0710
mpurple@southboroughma.com

Customer Service:

Municipality:

Melanie Otsuka
(508)485-0710
motsuka@southboroughma.com

Consultant:

MassPowerChoice
833-272-9591
southborough@masspowerchoice.com

Supplier:

First Point Power
888-875-1711

Attachment IV.B.1.c Equitable Treatment of Customer Classes

Table IV.B.1.c Equitable Treatment of Customer Classes					
Plan Element					
Procurement of Supply (§ IV.B.2)	Product Rate Setting/Renewable Energy Content (§ IV.B.3)	Other Funding Sources/Costs (§ IV.B.4)	Customer Enrollment (§ IV.B.5)	Customer Notification (§ IV.B.6)	Ongoing Program Information (§ IV.B.7)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Table IV.B.1.c identifies the Plan elements for which there may be variances in the treatment between customer classes or subclasses. Those variances in treatment are described below.

Medium/Large commercial and industrial customers enrolling in the Program after Program launch may be offered a market-based price rather than the contract price. Such differential treatment is equitable because these customers have more choices in the marketplace and impose greater costs on the Program than other customers when they join after Program launch.

Customers that previously opted out and later wish to re-enroll in the Program may be offered a market-based price. This differential treatment is equitable because these customers previously made a choice not to participate in the Program and as a result their load was no longer planned for by the electricity supplier.

Attachment IV.B.2 Procurement of Supply

Table IV.B.2 - Procurement of Supply	
Procurement Steps	Timeline
Issue RFQs/RFPs	N/A
Evaluate/Select Bids	N/A
Negotiate/Execute Contracts	N/A

Attachment IV.B.6.a Representative Opt-Out Notification



TOWN ELECTRICITY PROGRAM NOTIFICATION LETTER

October 30, 2023

Dear Southborough Electricity Service Customer,

Currently, you are a National Grid Basic Service customer. This means National Grid delivers your electricity and also is your electricity supplier (they buy electricity for you). However, the Town of Southborough has an electricity aggregation program called **Southborough Community Power Choice**. With this program, National Grid continues to deliver your electricity, but the Town selects its own electricity supplier. Southborough signed a contract with First Point Power to supply electricity through December 2024.

▶ **If you received this letter, you will be AUTOMATICALLY enrolled in Southborough Community Power Choice. State law requires this automatic enrollment model. However, you do NOT have to participate. You must make or postmark your opt-out request by December 2, 2023, to avoid automatic enrollment. You can also try the program and opt out any time in the future with no penalty.**

- **If you participate:** National Grid will remain your electric utility, and you will see two changes on your National Grid electric bill: First Point Power will appear as your electricity supplier, and National Grid will use a Southborough price to calculate the Supply Services portion of your bill. Otherwise, National Grid will continue to deliver your electricity, send your bill, and fix power outages. If you are on a budget plan or eligible for a low-income rate or fuel assistance, you will continue to receive those benefits. National Grid's delivery charges will not be affected.
- **If you do not participate:** National Grid will continue to calculate the Supply Services portion of your bill using its own Basic Service price, as it does now, and your bill will continue to show National Grid as your electricity supplier.

Program Benefits

Choice - Southborough Community Power Choice provides two Town alternatives to National Grid's Basic Service prices and to other electricity supply offers in the marketplace:

- **Power Choice Standard** is the default program offering and provides the minimum amount of renewable electricity required by state law.
- **Power Choice Green** is a program option that provides 100% renewable electricity.

You will be automatically enrolled in Power Choice Standard, but you may choose Power Choice Green for a small premium. (Details on back.)

Potential savings - The program offers the potential to save when compared with National Grid. However, National Grid's prices change seasonally, and future prices are not known. As a result, the program price is likely to be higher than National Grid's price at times, and savings cannot be guaranteed. The program goal is to provide savings when compared with the average of National Grid's changing prices.

Price stability & consumer protections - Your electricity supply price will not change before December 2024. There are no hidden charges or fees, and you may leave at any time.

Southborough Community Power Choice

Your New Electricity
Supply Price

10.999 ¢/kWh

This price is fixed until your December 2024 meter read. Compare with National Grid's Basic Service prices on the back. ▶

Customer Support

1-833-272-9591

southborough@masspowerchoice.com
MassPowerChoice.com/Southborough

Don't Want to Participate?

You don't have to. There is no penalty or fee to opt out of Southborough Community Power Choice, and you may opt out at any time.

If you choose not to participate, you will remain on National Grid's Basic Service price.

To opt out, do one of the following at any time. To avoid automatic enrollment, submit or postmark your opt-out request no later than **December 2, 2023**:

- ▶ Sign and return the enclosed reply card
- ▶ Opt out online at MassPowerChoice.com/Southborough
- ▶ Call customer support at 1-833-272-9591

Program Options & Pricing

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts requires that all electricity supply products include a minimum of 59.2% from renewable energy resources in 2023, including 22% from premium renewable energy projects in the New England region (MA Class I RECs). Power Choice Standard meets the minimum requirement. Power Choice Green exceeds it.

1. If you do nothing, you will be automatically enrolled in POWER CHOICE STANDARD:		10.999 ¢/kWh* for residential, commercial, and industrial accounts
Renewable energy content	59.2% renewable energy in accordance with minimum Massachusetts renewable energy requirements.	
Price period	Enrollment - December 2024 meter read.	
Exit terms	Leave any time. No exit charge.	
2. If you want 100% renewable electricity, you may choose POWER CHOICE GREEN:		13.724 ¢/kWh* for residential, commercial, and industrial accounts
▶ To choose Power Choice Green, visit MassPowerChoice.com/Southborough and click "Options & Pricing," or call customer support at 1-833-272-9591.		
Renewable energy content	100% renewable energy from premium renewable energy projects in New England (MA Class I RECs).	
Price period	Enrollment - December 2024 meter read.	
Exit terms	Leave any time. No exit charge.	
3. If you choose to opt out, you will remain on NATIONAL GRID'S BASIC SERVICE:		18.213 ¢/kWh residential 17.262 ¢/kWh commercial 21.015 ¢/kWh industrial
▶ National Grid's prices are not long-term prices. Prices are for National Grid's current price period only, and future prices are not known.		
Renewable energy content	59.2% renewable energy in accordance with minimum Massachusetts renewable energy requirements.	
Price period	November 1, 2023 - July 31, 2024, for residential and commercial accounts. November 1, 2023 - January 31, 2024, for industrial accounts. National Grid's fixed Basic Service prices change seasonally.	
Exit terms	Leave any time. No exit charge. However, industrial customers only (rates G-2 and G-3) on the fixed-price Basic Service option may receive a billing adjustment, which may be either a credit or a charge.	

* The Power Choice Standard price and the Power Choice Green price both include a \$0.001/kWh administrative fee. Program prices could increase as a result of a change in law that results in a direct, material increase in costs during the term of the electricity supply agreement.

Frequently Asked Questions

Are savings guaranteed? No. National Grid's fixed Basic Service prices change seasonally, and future prices are not known. Savings in one price period do not guarantee savings in subsequent price periods. National Grid's prices will next change on August 1, 2024, for residential and commercial accounts and February 1, 2024, for industrial accounts.

I have signed my own contract with an electricity supplier. Will I be automatically enrolled? If you received this letter and also you have a contract with an electricity supplier that you would like to keep, **you must opt out** of Southborough Community Power Choice. If you do not opt out, your account will be enrolled, and that may trigger early termination fees from your existing electricity supplier.

I have a tax-exempt account. How can I retain my account's tax-exempt status? Taxes will be billed as part of the program's power supply charge. Customers are responsible for identifying and requesting an exemption from the collection of any tax by providing appropriate tax-exemption documentation to First Point Power. Visit MassPowerChoice.com/Southborough for information on where to submit your documentation.

Please do not hesitate to contact customer support with any questions at southborough@masspowerchoice.com or 1-833-272-9591. Our Town consultants will be happy to help you. You can also find more information at MassPowerChoice.com/Southborough.

Mark J. Purple
Town Administrator

Attachment IV.B.6.b Representative Notification of Product Change

There was price or product change in the year 2023.

Attachment IV.B.7.b.i Annual Product Information

Table IV.B.7.b.i Annual Product Information – All customer classes			
2023		Standard (Default)	Green (Opt-In)
Rate Components (in \$/kWh)			
Supply and Renewable Energy Content			
		0.10899	0.13624
Consultant Services			
		0.00100	0.00100
TOTAL			
		0.10999	0.13724
Renewable Energy Content (in % of total)			
Required			
		59.17	59.17
Voluntary	MA Class I	0.00	78.00
TOTAL			
		59.17	137.17
Supplier Name			
		First Point Power, LLC	First Point Power, LLC
Effective Dates			
		February 2022 – December 2024	February 2022 – December 2024

Table IV.B.7.b.i Annual Product Information – All customer classes				
2023	Standard (Default)		Green (Opt-In)	
Participants	#	kWh	#	kWh
Residential	2,893	30,263,412	36	350,991
Low-Income	56	483,585	0	0
Small Commercial & Industrial	270	6,123,088	2	78,975
Large Commercial & Industrial	27	6,619,862	0	0
TOTAL	3,246	43,489,947	38	429,966

Attachment IV.B.7.b.ii Annual Product Rate Component Information

Table IV.B.7.b.ii – Annual Product Rate Component Information	
Rate Component	Revenue (in \$)
Supply and Renewable Content	4,798,548
Consultant Services	43,920

Descriptions:

Supply and Renewable Content

The Supply and Renewable Content rate component covers the cost of the products and services necessary to provide firm power supply to program participants, including:

- electrical energy;
- capacity;
- reserves;
- ancillary services;
- transmission services;
- the cost of distribution system losses; and
- congestion management.

This rate component also covers the cost of Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs), including:

- RECs needed to meet the requirements of state law; and
- additional RECs above state requirements as specified by the Town.

Consultant Services

The Consultant Services rate component covers the costs of administering the program, including:

- representing the Town before the Department of Public Utilities, including securing regulatory approvals and maintaining regulatory compliance;
- conducting procurements for electricity supply as needed;
- providing customer support by telephone and email;
- providing public education, including through in-person events, printed communications (signs, banners, brochures), electronic communications (video, slides), and social media;
- developing and maintaining a comprehensive, branded program website, including ongoing updates to ensure regulatory compliance;

- receiving customer requests to enroll, change program options, or opt-out; forwarding those requests to the electricity supplier; and monitoring implementation;
- overseeing periodic automatic-enrollment mailings to new customers;
- monitoring electricity supplier performance;
- monitoring electricity market and regulatory developments; and
- preparing reports to the Department of Public Utilities and the Town.

Attachment IV.B.7.b.iii Annual Voluntary Renewable Energy Content Information

Table IV.B.7.b.iii – Voluntary Annual Renewable Energy Information	
Category of Renewable Energy	MWh/Certificates
MA Class I	335

Mechanism by which the purchases/retirements were tracked:

MA Class I

NEPOOL Generation Information System.