



February 15, 2024

Background:

On Tuesday February 13, NH Consumer Advocate Don Kreis filed a complaint with the Public Utilities Commission calling for a "time-out" in advance of the launch of Community Power in three towns which are unaffiliated with the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire (CPCNH). The complaint charges that these three unaffiliated programs will increase rates and costs to customers at the time of program launch, counter to authorizing documents approved at local town meetings and by the Public Utilities Commission.

The Consumer Advocate's statement is available here: <https://www.oca.nh.gov/news-and-media/consumer-advocate-calls-time-out-three-towns-community-power-aggregation-programs>

Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire (CPCNH) Statement:

CPCNH applauds any town that works to create a Community Power Aggregation. While the towns listed in the Consumer Advocate's statement are not members of the Coalition, they have taken the important step to empower their community with choice for their energy needs. Customer choice and local control are cornerstones to Community Power Aggregations.

Communities that join CPCNH will not launch service unless there are savings for customers. CPCNH has consistently, for three consecutive utility rate periods, offered the option of lower supply rates relative to each of the three investor-owned utilities. The result has been over \$9 million in electric savings for customers in less than a year of operations.

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Community Power, authorized under NH RSA 53-E, empowers towns, cities, and counties to choose where their electricity comes from.

Community Power enables municipalities and counties to become the default electricity provider for their communities. Under Community Power, electric distribution utilities continue to own, operate and maintain the power lines and infrastructure while local communities gain control over the cost of their energy and where it is sourced from. Many more New Hampshire towns and cities have begun the process to launch their own programs in the coming months and years. More than 50 communities have already joined [the Community Power Coalition](#) and are currently in the process of launching their own Community Power programs.

CPCNH electricity rates are currently the lowest in New Hampshire. Please refer to communitypowernh.gov for rate comparison tables.