



TOWN OF NEW PALTZ

Hudson Valley Community Power



Dear Town of New Paltz Resident,

May 19th 2021

The Town of New Paltz is pleased to announce the renewal of Hudson Valley Community Power, a Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) program¹ that allows us to pool local electricity demand with other Hudson Valley municipalities to provide low cost, **fixed-rate renewable electricity supply**. Each participating community has selected Joule Community Power² as Program Administrator. Joule works on behalf of the municipalities to secure clean energy supply at the most favorable terms and ensures there are **no contract or exit fees** for consumers.

Supply Options

There are two fixed-rate electricity supply options under our program: **(1) 100% Renewable** and **(2) Standard**. You may choose between these supply options or opt-out of the program. The Town of New Paltz has chosen the 100% Renewable Option as the default. **You will automatically be enrolled in the 100% Renewable Option unless you choose the Standard Option or opt-out of the program.**

Join the Hudson Valley Community Power team at an information session and Q&A to learn more about the Program.

We want to hear your questions!

Thursday, May 27th at 7pm

Zoom

www.tinyurl.com/HVCP27May

Tuesday, June 1st at 7pm

Zoom

www.tinyurl.com/HVCPJune1

OR by calling (845) 859-9099 x2

- **100% Renewable Option:** 100% of your electricity supply is matched by Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) provided by New York State renewable power plants (hydropower, wind, solar).
- **Standard Option:** Your electricity supply is a mixture of fossil fuels, nuclear, and some renewable energy. To switch to the Standard Option, please call (845) 859-9099 x2 or visit www.hudsonvalleycommunitypower.com and submit your information (name on utility account, service address, and Pre Enrollment ID number from the opt-out card included in this letter) through the Enrollment/Change form under "CCA" in the navigation bar.

To opt-out, you may:

- Return the enclosed "Opt-Out Reply Card", OR
- Call the Hudson Valley Community Power program hotline at (845) 859-9099 x2, OR
- Go to www.hudsonvalleycommunitypower.com and submit your information (name on utility account, service address, and Pre Enrollment ID number from the opt-out card included in this letter) through the Enrollment/Change Form under "CCA" in the navigation bar.

Note: This mailing was not paid for by taxpayer dollars. All funding was provided by the electricity supplier chosen by the municipality.

¹ Municipal authority enabled by NY State regulation.

² A division of Joule Assets, Inc.

Hudson Valley Community Power Rates

Hudson Valley Community Power has secured rates for electricity through a competitive bidding process that will remain stable for 3 years and enables you to power your home or business with 100% renewable electricity.

- Columbia Utilities Power, LLC will be your new supplier, beginning on your first meter-read after July 1, 2021.
- The new rate will remain fixed for a 36-month period through June 2024.

***¡Se habla español,
también!***

For translation services, please call our office at (845) 859-9099, Option 3.

Para acceder a nuestros servicios de traducción, llame a nuestras oficinas, al (845) 859-9099 Opcion 3.

Rates (\$/kWh)*

Service Class	12-month Central Hudson Price to Compare**	Default 100% Renewable Fixed Rate	Standard Fixed Rate
Residential	\$0.0576	\$0.06573	\$0.05968
Small Commercial	\$0.0595	\$0.07112	\$0.06215

* Rates do not include Gross Receipt Tax (GRT). If GRT is collected in your municipality, it will be added to your rate.

** Calculated average price paid per kWh consumed by residents of participating municipalities for Central Hudson electricity supply service, April 2020 - March 2021.

Central Hudson will continue to be responsible for the power lines that deliver your electricity and will continue to bill you. Please contact Central Hudson in the event of any service interruption.

Enrollment

If you wish to opt-out of the program, please let us know by June 17th. If we do not hear from you, you will be enrolled automatically in the 100% Renewable Option, and your account information (including energy usage) will be shared with Columbia Utilities Power, LLC. However, you may leave the program at any time without any fee or penalty. If you choose to remain in the program, your new rate will take effect in July.

Sincerely,



Neil Bettez, Town Supervisor



Joule Community Power is a division of Joule Assets



Hudson Valley Community Power



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What is Hudson Valley Community Power?

Hudson Valley Community Power is a Community Choice program serving municipalities in the region. The participating communities have banded together to pool local electricity demand to leverage the collective buying power of residents and small businesses. Community Choice is a powerful means to secure fixed rates, support the generation of clean energy in New York State, and protect consumers.

2. Who manages the Hudson Valley Community Power Program?

Joule Assets has served as Program Administrator since the Program launched in 2019. Joule has been selected as Program Administrator by each participating municipality. Joule Assets has been authorized by the New York State Public Service Commission to serve in this role. Joule Assets has partnered with Hudson Valley Energy, a regional nonprofit, to spearhead community outreach and education, and to provide program support.

3. Does Hudson Valley Community Power replace my utility?

No. Central Hudson will continue to deliver reliable power, maintain power lines, and respond to service outages. As required by law, Central Hudson will provide the same service to all customers regardless of whether they are in the program. Customers will still receive one bill each month from the utility, reflecting a change in the cost of the electricity and the name of the supplier.

4. What is the 100% Renewable Option?

The program's 100% renewable energy option consists of power matched with 100% Renewable Energy Certificates ("RECs") generated by hydropower, solar or wind energy registered in New York State. Using renewable energy dramatically reduces greenhouse gas emissions. However, customers may freely choose the Standard Option.

5. Does Hudson Valley Community Power replace a current energy service company (ESCO) agreement?

No. If you are a resident or small business currently under contract with an energy service company (ESCO), you should not have received this letter. If you have received this letter, you should confirm an agreement is still in effect. If you are not under contract with an ESCO and would like to join the Hudson Valley Community Power program, please contact us at (845) 859-9099 x2 or visit hudsonvalleycommunitypower.com and fill out the "CCA Enrollment/Change" form.

6. How was the energy supplier chosen?

Joule Assets administered a competitive bidding process, soliciting responses from qualified registered New York suppliers. As a result of the process, Columbia Utilities Power, LLC was selected by the participating municipalities as the supplier for the current contract, beginning July 2021.

7. How can I be sure Hudson Valley Community Power will provide energy reliably?

This program designates sources of electricity supply, but does not interrupt or change existing energy delivery systems. Electricity is a highly regulated industry that has many safeguards against service and supply interruption. The grid operator monitors the grid to ensure that sufficient power is always flowing. The utility must continue to deliver electricity to all customers regardless of supplier.

Continued on back

8. Will I save money by participating in Hudson Valley Community Power?

Hudson Valley Community Power rates are fixed for the term of the contract. While our large customer base assures competitive bids from suppliers, fixed-price contracts do not guarantee that rates will be lower in any given month or save money throughout the contract period. Yet, fixed-rate municipal programs in NY and other states have provided significant customer savings. You are free to exit the Program at any time with no fees or penalties.

9. How does Hudson Valley Community Power affect me?

Unless they opt-out, all eligible homeowners and small businesses are automatically enrolled. The only thing that changes on your electricity bill is your rate and supplier. Central Hudson continues to be responsible for delivery, billing, and repair services. Should service be interrupted, call Central Hudson. You may opt-out at any time without any fee or penalty. If you change your mind after opting out, you will be able to opt-in again online. There are no fees to opt-in or opt-out of the program.

10. What if I don't want to participate?

Any household or small business receiving electricity supply from Central Hudson may opt-out before the program starts with no penalty by: returning the opt-out reply card included in this mailing, or filling out a form posted on hudsonvalleycommunitypower.com under "CCA", "Enrollment/Change Form," or calling (845) 859-9099 x2. Please be ready to provide the name and service address on your utility bill and the Pre Enrollment ID number from the opt-out card included in this letter.

11. Is there a fee for opting out of Hudson Valley Community Power?

There are no fees or penalties for opting out.

12. If I exit the program after it launches, how will that affect my service?

Your service will not be interrupted and you'll be switched back to Central Hudson supply service for the following billing cycle.

13. Am I eligible to participate if I'm on a budget or level billing program with Central Hudson?

Yes, customers may participate in the program and remain on budget billing. There should be no change to the way Central Hudson calculates the budget plan amount, except to reflect the program's fixed supply rate.

14. I have solar panels on my roof. Can I still participate?

Yes. Rooftop solar customers still need an energy supplier to provide excess power beyond what the rooftop system produces. If you do not opt-out, you will be enrolled in the program like any other customer and will pay a fixed rate for that excess power.

For additional information,
Email info@hudsonvalleycommunitypower.com,
call (845) 859-9099 x2
or visit hudsonvalleycommunitypower.com

OFFICIAL TOWN BUSINESS



Town of New Paltz
c/o Columbia Utilities
8751 18th Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11214

PRESORTED
FIRST-CLASS MAIL
US POSTAGE PAID
THURMONT MD
PERMIT #XXX

DO NOT DISCARD – IMPORTANT Notice Regarding Electricity Rates



**TOWN OF NEW PALTZ
COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATION**

OPT-OUT REPLY CARD

Service Address:

Pre Enrollment ID: 0000

If you want to participate in the Town of New Paltz 100% Renewable Electricity Community Choice Aggregation program, you do not need to take any action. You will be automatically enrolled.

Opt-Out Instructions

If you do not want to participate:

- 1) Sign and date this card;
- 2) Insert into postage pre-paid envelope; and
- 3) Mail envelope

The card must be signed by the customer of record whose name appears in the address on this card. The envelope must be returned within 30 days of the date of this letter to opt-out of the Program otherwise you will be automatically enrolled.

I DO NOT want to participate in the Town of New Paltz 100% Renewable Electricity program.

X

Signature

Date



NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES



BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 319 LAKEWOOD NJ

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

Indra Energy
200 Syracuse Ct
Lakewood, NY 08071-9911

