

D.P.U. Municipal Aggregation Annual Report Town of Orange

2017

Date	Residential Meters	Residential Usage	Commercial Meters	Commercial Usage	Industrial Meters	Industrial Usage	Total Meters	Total Usage	Competitive Supplier	Term	Renewable Supply Options
Sep-17							-	-			
Aug-17							-	-			
Jul-17							-	-			
Jun-17							-	-			
May-17							-	-			
Apr-17							-	-			
Mar-17							-	-			
Feb-17							-	-			
Jan-17							-	-			
Dec-16							-	-			
Nov-16							-	-			
Oct-16							-	-			

Website:

[Orange Community Choice Power Supply Program](#)



Orange Town Site Info Session Screenshot 10.2017.JPG

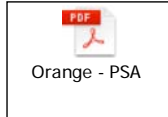


Orange Town Site Screenshot.10.2017.JPG

Education:



Orange - Frequently Asked Questions



Orange - PSA



Orange - Public Notice



Orange - Social Media



Orange Screenshot of Information Session 10.2017.PNG



Orange Town Site FAQ Screenshot 10.2017.JPG

Renewable Energy Supply Options:

STANDARD Competitive Supplier shall include Renewable Energy in the All Requirements Power Supply mix in an amount equal to the DPU's Renewable Portfolio Standards and Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards. Participants in the Municipality's Aggregation will not have a choice but to have the power procured per the contract.

100% RECS The Municipality has procured Renewable Energy Credit's (REC's) for 100% of the its Municipal Aggregation. It is Standard power covered by RECs. Participants in the Municipality's Aggregation will not have a choice but to have the power procured per the contract.

Alternative Information Disclosure:

Colonial posts updated disclosure labels on each Municipality's page of the Colonial website as they become available.

NO ESA

D.P.U. Municipal Aggregation Annual Report Town of Orange

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Date	RESIDENTIAL			COMMERCIAL			INDUSTRIAL			TOTAL	AVERAGE RESIDENTIAL USAGE/METER
	Basic Svc Rate	Agg Rate	Savings	Basic Svc Rate	Agg Rate	Savings	Basic Svc Rate WCMA	Agg Rate	Savings	Savings	
Sep-17			-			-			-	-	-
Aug-17			-			-			-	-	-
Jul-17			-			-			-	-	-
Jun-17			-			-			-	-	-
May-17			-			-			-	-	-
Apr-17			-			-			-	-	-
Mar-17			-			-			-	-	-
Feb-17			-			-			-	-	-
Jan-17			-			-			-	-	-
Dec-16			-			-			-	-	-
Nov-16			-			-			-	-	-
Oct-16			-			-			-	-	-

TOWN OF ORANGE
COMMUNITY CHOICE POWER SUPPLY PROGRAM
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. WHAT IS THE “COMMUNITY CHOICE POWER SUPPLY PROGRAM”?

The Community Choice Power Supply Program is a Municipal Aggregation Program which allows local government to combine the purchasing power of its residents to achieve savings on electricity costs. In doing so, it creates competition among Competitive Suppliers which helps ensure aggressive rates. Consumers are no longer “stuck” with the cost and fluctuation of Basic Service rates because the Program offers them another option.

2. WHAT IS A "COMPETITIVE SUPPLIER"?

A Competitive Supplier is a power supplier other than your Local Utility. Competitive Suppliers provide power supply to consumers either through a Municipal Aggregation Program or through a Competitive Supplier Program. Your electricity is currently being supplied by your Local Utility unless you have switched to a Competitive Supplier Program on your own. Your electric bill is divided into two parts: **Delivery and Supply**. The supply is no longer regulated and therefore can be provided by a Competitive Supplier. Delivery is still regulated and can only be provided by your Local Utility. Your Local Utility will continue to deliver your power supply over the wires. However, the power running through those wires can be provided by a Competitive Supplier.

3. WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PROGRAMS ADVERTISED TO “LOWER YOUR ELECTRIC BILL” AND MUNICIPAL AGGREGATION PROGRAMS?

Programs you see advertised are Competitive Supplier Programs in which the Competitive Supplier contracts directly with the individual consumer. While both Programs seek to lower your electric bill, they are run very differently. Competitive Supplier Programs set their own terms and conditions. Once signed up, it is up to the consumer to monitor the rates. Competitive Supplier Programs usually have a clause in the terms and conditions that states the consumer remains in the Program after the original rate and term have ended unless specific action is taken to cancel the contract. In many cases, there may be an exit fee. Municipal Aggregation Programs are run by cities or towns. Once signed up, it is up to the city or town to monitor the rates. Having knowledge of the electricity market, the city or town continually looks out for their citizens’ best interests. Their goals are to provide low, stable rates and possibly green options to their citizens. Municipal Aggregation Programs have no entrance or exit fees.

BEWARE OF OTHER ENERGY OFFERS claiming to be associated with your community or Local Utility. You may receive direct mail, phone calls or even visits to your door from energy marketers for the Competitive Supplier Programs mentioned above. These marketers are NOT associated with the Community Choice Power Supply Program or with your Local Utility. The Community Choice Power Supply Program will notify you of the Program ONLY through mail direct from your community (look for your Town’s seal).

4. WHY HAVE I RECEIVED A CONSUMER NOTIFICATION LETTER?

Your Town has signed a contract with a Competitive Supplier on behalf of your community as part of their Community Choice Power Supply Program.

5. WHY HAVEN'T I RECEIVED A CONSUMER NOTIFICATION LETTER?

You will not receive a Consumer Notification Letter if your Local Utility has your account listed as being contracted with a Competitive Supplier or if you have requested the Local Utility put a "Supplier Block" on your account so that it is removed from all supplier marketing lists. However, there is a lag between the date the utility provides the account data and the date the Consumer Notification Letters are mailed so there may be some accounts that are categorized wrong at the time of the mailing.

6. HOW WILL BEING A PART OF THIS PROGRAM AFFECT ME?

You will receive the benefit of potentially lower rates on your electricity and therefore a lower electric bill. Otherwise, YOU WILL NOT NOTICE ANY CHANGE. The only difference you will see is that the name of the chosen Competitive Supplier will be printed under the "Supply/Generation Services Charge" section of your monthly bill. You will continue to receive one bill from your Local Utility. You will continue to send your payments to your Local Utility for processing. Your Local Utility will continue to read meters and maintain the distribution and transmission lines. Reliability and quality of service will remain the same. Furthermore, you will continue to have all existing consumer rights and protections.

7. WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM?

If you have received a Consumer Notification Letter AND you have not opted out AND your account is not listed with the Local Utility as having a "Supplier Block" (a request to have your account removed from all supplier marketing lists), you will not need to do anything to participate. You will be automatically enrolled in the Program.

8. WHY HAVE I NOT BEEN ENROLLED, I THOUGHT IT WAS AUTOMATIC?

Enrollment is automatic ONLY IF you have received a Consumer Notification Letter and have not opted out. Enrollment is NOT AUTOMATIC if you have not received a Consumer Notification Letter OR if your Local Utility has your account listed as being contracted with a Competitive Supplier at the time of the enrollment. Also, you will not receive a Consumer Notification Letter, and therefore will not be enrolled, if you have requested the Local Utility put a "Supplier Block" on your account so that it is removed from all supplier marketing lists. If that is the case, consumers may have to call their Local Utility to be enrolled in the Program.

9. CAN I PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM IF I DID NOT RECEIVE A CONSUMER NOTIFICATION LETTER?

Yes, as long as your community has a DPU approved aggregation working with Colonial Power Group. You may OPT-IN AT ANY TIME by filling out the online Opt-In Form on your community's page at www.colonialpowergroup.com OR by calling the Competitive Supplier chosen by your community (listed on your community's page) OR by calling Colonial Power Group at (508) 485-5858 ext. 1. To

avoid delays in your enrollment, before opting in, please make sure that if you have a “Supplier Block” on your account that it is removed. Also, if you have previously contracted with your own Competitive Supplier, you should confirm with them that you will not incur any fees for leaving their supply.

10. WHEN WILL MY ENROLLMENT TAKE EFFECT?

Your enrollment will start on the meter read date stated on the Consumer Notification Letter. You will see the new rate on your bill the following month. For example, if your meter read enrollment date is January 1, your usage from January 1 - January 31 will be charged the new rate and billed on February 1. If you opt-in at any other time, enrollment may take up to two billing cycles before taking effect.

11. WHAT IF I DO NOT WANT POWER FROM THIS SUPPLIER?

Each consumer has the right to choose his/her supplier. Enclosed in the Consumer Notification mailing is an Opt-Out Return Card. If you do not want to participate in the Community Choice Power Supply Program, you can sign and date the card, place it in the envelope provided and drop it in the mail OR fill out the Opt-Out Form on your community's page at www.colonialpowergroup.com OR call the Competitive Supplier chosen by your community (listed on your community's page) OR call Colonial Power Group at (508) 485-5858 ext. 1. You will then be removed from the list of participating consumers. The initial opt-out period is thirty (30) days from the mailing date of the Consumer Notification Letter.

12. WHAT IF I DECIDE I WANT TO OPT-OUT AFTER THE 30-DAY INITIAL OPT-OUT PERIOD?

Participation is designed to be as flexible as possible. You may leave the Community Choice Power Supply Program at no charge and be placed on your Local Utility's Basic Service or choose another Competitive Supplier on your own. Opting out of the Community Choice Power Supply Program is easy. You may fill out the online Opt-Out Form on your community's page at www.colonialpowergroup.com OR call the Competitive Supplier chosen by your community (listed on your community's page) OR call Colonial Power Group at (508) 485-5858 ext. 1. It may take a couple of billing cycles before you are back on your Local Utility's Basic Service. There is NO PENALTY CHARGE to opt-out.

Commercial consumers (G2, G3), if you participate initially and then choose to leave the Community Choice Power Supply Program, you may return only if accepted by the Competitive Supplier and at prevailing market rates.

13. WHAT IF I HAVE ALREADY CHOSEN A COMPETITIVE SUPPLIER?

The Local Utility records should indicate that you already have a Competitive Supplier. If so, you will not be enrolled in the Community Choice Power Supply Program. However, there is a lag between the date the utility provides the account data and the date the Consumer Notification Letters are mailed so there may be some accounts that are categorized wrong at the time of the mailing. This is why we recommend that you opt-out if you have received a Consumer Notification Letter but have contracted with a Competitive Supplier or have chosen a Green Power Supply Option.

14. WHAT IF I AM ON A BUDGET PLAN OR ELIGIBLE LOW-INCOME DELIVERY RATE?

You will continue to receive those benefits from your Local Utility.

15. WHAT IF I OPERATE A BUSINESS AND HAVE A "TAX EXEMPT" STATUS, WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO MAINTAIN MY STATUS UNDER THIS PROGRAM?

According to Massachusetts law, in order to maintain your tax exempt status for your electric bill, you must send a copy of your tax exempt certificate directly to the Competitive Supplier chosen by your community. (The Competitive Supplier's name is listed on your community's page at www.colonialpowergroup.com.)

16. WHAT IF I HAVE SOLAR PANELS ON MY RESIDENCE OR BUSINESS?

Net Metering will work the same way with the Community Choice Power Supply Program. You will continue to receive your net metering credits while benefiting from the aggregation rate on your electricity. The Local Utility will continue to post your net meter credits to your electric bill at your Local Utility's Basic Service rate.

17. HOW LONG DOES THE COMMUNITY CHOICE POWER SUPPLY PROGRAM LAST?

The Community Choice Power Supply Program is in effect until the local government terminates the Program. Throughout the life of the Program, each subsequent contract will vary by rate, term and possibly Competitive Supplier. The latest rates, terms and contracted Competitive Supplier can be found on your community's page at www.colonialpowergroup.com or by calling Colonial Power Group at (508) 485-5858 ext. 1.

TOWN OF ORANGE

COMMUNITY CHOICE POWER SUPPLY PROGRAM

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

The Town of Orange is pleased to announce that **Verde Energy USA** (“Verde”) has been selected as the supplier for its Community Choice Power Supply Program. Verde will provide electric power supply for all consumers currently on Basic Service in Orange.

Check your mailbox for an envelope with the Town Seal on it. It contains information about the Program including a Consumer Notification Letter and Opt-Out Reply Card.

BASIC SERVICE CONSUMERS do not need to take any action to participate. You will be AUTOMATICALLY enrolled.

IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO PARTICIPATE you must OPT-OUT by signing and returning the Opt-Out Reply Card **OR** visit www.colonialpowergroup.com/orange/, click the OPT-OUT button and follow the instructions specified **OR** call Verde at (800) 241-0295.

IF YOU WISH TO JOIN THIS PROGRAM you may OPT-IN at www.colonialpowergroup.com/orange/ **OR** call Verde at (800) 241-0295 and ask to be enrolled.

Colonial Power Group, Inc. is an energy consulting company chosen on a competitive basis by the Town of Orange to facilitate the Community Choice Power Supply Program. For more detailed information, call us toll-free at (866) 485-5858 ext. 1.

*******PUBLIC NOTICE*******

**THE TOWN OF ORANGE’S
COMMUNITY CHOICE POWER SUPPLY PROGRAM
CONSUMER NOTIFICATION**

The Town of Orange is pleased to announce that **Verde Energy USA** has been selected as the supplier for its Community Choice Power Supply Program (“Program”). Verde Energy USA will provide electric power supply for all consumers currently on Basic Service in Orange. This notice is intended to tell you about this Program for electric power supply. In accordance with state law, it also informs you of your rights and options if you choose not to participate in the Program.

YOU WILL NOT NOTICE ANY CHANGE IN YOUR ELECTRICITY SERVICE. The only difference you will see is that Verde Energy USA will be printed under the “Supply Services” section of your monthly bill. You will continue to receive one bill from National Grid. You will continue to send your payments to National Grid for processing. National Grid will continue to respond to emergencies, read meters and maintain the distribution and transmission lines. Reliability and quality of service will remain the same. Furthermore, you will continue to have all existing consumer rights and protections.

COMPARATIVE RATES AND TERMS

	Orange’s Program* (Supply Services Only)	National Grid Basic Service (Supply Services Only)
Rate Residential Commercial/Streetlight Industrial	\$0.10372 per kWh \$0.10372 per kWh \$0.10372 per kWh	\$0.12673 per kWh \$0.11946 per kWh \$0.10753 per kWh
Duration	November 2017 – November 2019 <i>[Rates apply to service beginning and ending on the days of the month that your meter is read in your service area.]</i>	November 1, 2017 – April 30, 2018 <i>[Residential and Small Commercial rates change every 6 months. Large Commercial and Industrial rates change every 3 months.]</i>
Renewable Energy Content	100% National Wind Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs)	Meets Massachusetts renewable energy requirements
Exit Terms	NO PENALTY CHARGE	May receive a reconciliation charge or credit <i>[Industrial G-2 & G-3 only]</i>

**Rate includes Consultant Fee of \$0.001 per kWh to facilitate Orange’s Community Choice Power Supply Program.*

IF YOU ARE A BASIC SERVICE CONSUMER WHO HAS BEEN MAILED A NOTIFICATION you do not need to take any action to participate. You will be AUTOMATICALLY enrolled and start benefiting from the aggregation rate beginning on the day of the month in November 2017 that your meter is read. This date varies by service area. Your meter reading date is shown on your bill.

IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO PARTICIPATE you must OPT-OUT by signing and returning the Opt-Out Reply Card included with the mailed notification **OR** visit www.colonialpowergroup.com/orange/, click the OPT-OUT button and follow the instructions specified **OR** call Verde Energy USA at (800) 241-0295.

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TOWN OF ORANGE

COMMUNITY CHOICE POWER SUPPLY PROGRAM

SOCIAL MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT

The Town of Orange is pleased to announce that **Verde Energy USA** (“Verde”) has been selected as the supplier for its Community Choice Power Supply Program (“Program”). This Program is a municipal aggregation which enables local government to combine the purchasing power of its residents and businesses to provide them with an alternative to National Grid Basic Service (M.G.L. c. 164, § 134). This Program only affects the supply portion of your monthly bill. It will not affect the delivery portion of your monthly bill. National Grid will continue to deliver your electricity but Orange has chosen the supplier for the Program. Verde will provide electric power supply for all consumers currently on Basic Service in Orange.

Check your mailbox for an envelope with the Town Seal on it. It contains information about the Program including a Consumer Notification Letter and Opt-Out Reply Card.

BASIC SERVICE CONSUMERS do not need to take any action to participate. You will be **AUTOMATICALLY** enrolled. The aggregation rate is fixed at \$0.10372 per kWh for all rate classes for 24 months (November 2017 to November 2019). This Program supports renewable energy as 100% of the power supply is offset with National Wind Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs).

WATCH YOUR NATIONAL GRID BILL FOR FURTHER NOTIFICATION of the Program.

- Your November 2017 bill will state that you are being switched to Orange’s Program.
- Your December 2017 bill will show Orange’s supplier and aggregation rate under “Supply Services”.

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Community Choice Power Supply Program Aggregation Plan

POSTED ON: SEPTEMBER 10, 2016 - 10:57AM

Orange Officials Have Released the Town's Community Choice Power Supply Program Aggregation Plan

The Town of Orange developed the Aggregation Plan (view here) in compliance with Massachusetts law regarding public aggregation of electric consumers. It contains required information on the structure, operations, services, funding, and policies of the Town's Plan. The Plan has been developed in consultation with the Town's aggregation implementation consultant, Colonial Power Group, Inc. (CPG) and the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER).

The purpose of this Plan is to represent consumer interests in competitive markets for electricity. It seeks to aggregate consumers in the Town to negotiate rates for power supply. It brings together the buying power of about 3,500 consumers. Furthermore, the Town seeks to better manage energy prices. Participation is voluntary for each eligible consumer. Eligible consumers have the opportunity to decline service provided through the Plan and to choose any Competitive Supplier they wish. The Town has distributed this Plan for public review prior to submitting it to the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities.

Public Review and Comment Period

The Town of Orange's Aggregation Plan is available for public review and comment from Monday, September 12, 2016, at 9 a.m. through Friday, September 30, 2016, at 5:00 p.m.

Any person who desires to comment may do so in person at the Town Clerk's office or submit written comments using one of the following methods: (1) by e-mail to admin@townoforange.org; or (2) by postal mail to the address below.

Comments must be clearly marked Town of Orange's Aggregation Plan and must be received (not postmarked) by the end of the comment period in order to be addressed.

Diana M. Schindler

Town Administrator

Town of Orange

6 Prospect Street

Orange, MA 01364

ORANGE

MASSACHUSETTS
THE FRIENDLY TOWN

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TOWN OF ORANGE Commonwealth of Massachusetts Special Town Meeting Warrant Fiscal Year 2018 October 26, 2017 FRANKLIN SS:...

Community Choice Power Supply Program »

TOWN OF ORANGE COMMUNITY CHOICE POWER SUPPLY PROGRAM FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS 1. WHAT IS THE "COMMUNITY CHOICE POWER...

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E-Alerts

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ORANGE COMMUNITY CHOICE POWER SUPPLY PROGRAM

The Town and representatives of Colonial Power Group will hold an informational session on October 25, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. at Town Hall to discuss the Orange Community Choice Power Supply program.

The Orange Community Choice Power Supply Program is a municipal aggregation program. According to **Massachusetts law (M.G.L. c. 164, § 134)**, municipal aggregation enables local government to combine the purchasing power of its residents and businesses so that it can provide them with an alternative electricity supply. Once in place, the local government can monitor and set its own energy related goals for the program such as savings, stability or green options. Consumers are no longer “stuck” with the cost and fluctuation of the utility’s Basic Service rates because the program offers them another option.

Program Rate

November 2017 – November 2019

\$0.10372 / kWh

ALL RATE CLASSES

*Renewable Energy Content:
100% offset by National Wind RECs.*

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Community Choice Power Supply Program

Frequently Asked Questions

POSTED ON: OCTOBER 3, 2017 - 12:24PM

TOWN OF ORANGE

COMMUNITY CHOICE POWER SUPPLY PROGRAM

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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