



Community Power Rules Finalized

Regulators Open the Door to Revolutionary Community Electricity Programs

The New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission finalized the long-awaited rules which will govern New Hampshire's community power aggregation program. The creation of this program will help to realize the potential of market competition in New Hampshire's electricity sector which began more than two decades ago, in 1996.

New Hampshire businesses and residents already have the ability to choose who provides the electricity that is delivered to their home by their local electric utility. But while large and medium sized businesses have been taking advantage of competitive supply for years, adoption of this cost-saving practice by residential customers has lagged due to market-barriers.

"After a long process, I am delighted the PUC has finalized rules for the Community Power program," said Bart Fromuth, CEO of Freedom Energy Logistics, "With the energy markets in turmoil, these essential programs will be able to provide rate relief and renewable solutions to our residential ratepayers, at a time when they are needed the most."

An enhanced Community Power Aggregation law was passed on a bipartisan basis in 2019, and allows towns and cities to purchase electricity in bulk for all of their residents as a strategy to reduce costs, increase consumer choice, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The final rules will be voted on by the Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules (JLCAR) on August 18th.

"It's fantastic that we've proceeded through rulemaking and have made it to JLCAR," said Bob Hayden, President of Standard Power, "There has been great progress made here today and we look forward to helping communities in New Hampshire save on their electricity bills while moving toward a more renewable grid."

In today's hearing, the Commissioners were supportive of the [comments](#) made by Clean Energy New Hampshire and our coalition of supporters, in which it was argued that the utilities must modernize their business model and data systems to help consumers choose lower cost supply.

"The approval of the community power aggregation rules is a major step forward for New Hampshire, and demonstrates how smart public policy can enable market innovation at the local level," said Chris Skoglund, Clean Energy NH's Director of Energy Transition. "This program will deliver economic, health, and environmental benefits to the entire state."

Clean Energy NH (CENH) members include [Standard Power](#) and [Freedom Energy Logistics](#), which can provide community power services to towns and cities. CENH also helped launch the [Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire](#), a non-profit Joint Powers Agency composed of 18 communities which seeks to assist communities in accessing the benefits of community power aggregation.

Clean Energy NH is the state's leading clean energy advocate and educator, representing hundreds of New Hampshire businesses, municipalities, and individuals. Clean Energy NH is a non-partisan, 501(c)(3) non-profit that provides services and resources to support the Granite State's clean tech industries, policymakers, and communities.