



# CITY OF NEWTON

## CITY ELECTRICITY AGGREGATION PROGRAM NOTIFICATION LETTER

April 28, 2023

Dear Newton Electricity Service Customer,

I am writing to tell you about the City's electricity supply program: Newton Power Choice. In this program, Eversource remains your electricity distribution utility, but you will buy your electricity supply through Newton Power Choice, and you will buy renewable energy from premium renewable energy sources in New England to match 84% of your electricity use. You may also choose other amounts of renewable electricity, including 100%.

**If you received this letter and you do nothing, you will be AUTOMATICALLY enrolled in the Newton Power Choice program.**

**Your opt-out request must be postmarked by May 31, 2023, to avoid automatic enrollment in the program.**

**If you do not opt out, you will be enrolled in the Standard Offering (84% renewable) at a price of 13.452 ¢/kWh.**

Newton Power Choice is a form of group electricity purchasing, also known as electricity aggregation, in which the City chooses an electricity supplier for the entire community and determines the standard amount of renewable energy included in the program.

Newton has signed a contract with Direct Energy to match 84% of your electricity use with premium renewable electricity from New England as the Standard Offering. You may also choose to match 100% of your electricity use with premium renewable electricity from New England or to buy no additional renewable electricity beyond the state-required minimum. Please see the back of this letter for options and pricing information.

The program price is fixed until January 2024. This price stability makes the program different from Eversource's Basic Service. With Eversource's Basic Service, the price used to calculate the Supply portion of your Eversource bill changes every 6 months (for residential and small business accounts) or every 3 months (for large business accounts). Price stability also makes the program different from many commercial offers that you may receive by mail or by phone. There is no guarantee of savings relative to Basic Service over the full term of the Direct Energy contract.

### Your Relationship with Eversource

- If you participate in Newton Power Choice, Eversource will remain your electric utility. You will continue to receive your electric bill from them and call them if the power goes out. But you will see Direct Energy listed on the Supply portion of your Eversource bill, and the Newton Power Choice price will be used to calculate the Supply charge on your bill.
- If you do not participate in Newton Power Choice, the Supply charge on your Eversource bill will continue to be calculated using Eversource's Basic Service price.

If you are eligible for a low-income delivery rate or fuel assistance, you will continue to receive those benefits as a participant in the Newton Power Choice program.



An electricity program from the City of Newton that matches

**84% of your electricity use with premium renewable electricity from New England**

and gives you the option to match 100% of your electricity use with premium renewable electricity from New England.

### Opt Out at Any Time

**Participation is not required. There is no penalty or fee to opt out of the program.** You may opt out before being enrolled, or you may try the program and opt out at any time in the future.

**If you wish to opt out before being automatically enrolled, you must submit or postmark your opt-out request by May 31, 2023.** To submit your opt-out request, do any one of the following.

- ▶ Sign & return the enclosed reply card
- ▶ Opt out online at [NewtonPowerChoice.com](https://www.NewtonPowerChoice.com)
- ▶ Call customer support at **1-833-272-9592**

### Customer Support


**1-833-272-9592**

[service@NewtonPowerChoice.com](mailto:service@NewtonPowerChoice.com)

[NewtonPowerChoice.com](https://www.NewtonPowerChoice.com)

## Program Options & Pricing

If you do nothing, you will be enrolled in the Standard Offering. The 100% Green and Basic options are available by request. If you wish to change your program option, visit [NewtonPowerChoice.com](http://NewtonPowerChoice.com) or call customer support at **1-833-272-9592**. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts requires that all electricity supply products include a minimum of 59.2% from renewable energy resources in 2023. Basic meets the minimum requirement. Standard and 100% Green exceed this requirement.

 <b>Newton POWERCHOICE</b> Program options and prices	You will be enrolled here ▼			Eversource's current 6-month price ▼
	<b>Standard Offering</b> 84% premium renewable energy from New England <i>(default)</i>	<b>100% Green**</b> 100% premium renewable energy from New England <i>(option)</i>	<b>Basic</b> <i>(option)</i>	<b>Eversource's Basic Service</b> <i>(if you opt out)</i>
<b>Renewable Energy Content</b> From premium renewable sources in the New England region (MA Class I RECs), <b>added by Newton</b>	62%	78%	-	-
From premium renewable sources in the New England region (MA Class I RECs), required by state law	22%	22%	22%	22%
From additional renewable or clean energy sources, required by state law	37.2%	37.2%	37.2%	37.2%
<b>Price</b>	<b>13.452 ¢/kWh*</b>	<b>14.357 ¢/kWh*</b>	<b>10.646 ¢/kWh*</b>	25.776 ¢/kWh - Residential 26.176 ¢/kWh - Sm. business 13.318 ¢/kWh - Lg. business
<b>Price Period</b>	Enrollment – January 2024 meter read	Enrollment – January 2024 meter read	Enrollment – January 2024 meter read	January 1, 2023 – June 30, 2023, for residential and small business accounts. April 1, 2023 – June 30, 2023, for large business accounts.
<b>Exit Terms</b>	Leave any time. No exit charge.	Leave any time. No exit charge.	Leave any time. No exit charge.	Leave any time. No exit charge. However, large C&I (rates G-3, T-2, and WR) and street lighting customers on the fixed-price Basic Service option may receive a billing adjustment, which may be either a credit or a charge.

\* Newton Power Choice program prices 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.

\*\* Newton's 100% Green option includes the minimum amount of MA Class I RECs required by law each year plus the additional amount needed to reach 100%. Newton's electricity supplier must also purchase other renewable energy to meet state requirements. As a result, the total of the renewable amount for Newton 100% Green exceeds 100%.

## Frequently Asked Questions

**I have received this letter, and also I have recently signed a contract with an electricity supplier. What should I do?** You may have signed your contract after this mailing list was created. In that case, you must opt out if you wish to retain your current contract. If you do not opt out, your account will be enrolled in the program, which may trigger early termination fees from your electricity supplier.

**I have solar panels on my property or I participate in a community solar program. Will I continue to receive the credits or payments that I receive now?** Yes. You will continue to receive solar credits and/or solar incentive payments with no change.

**I have a tax-exempt account. How can I retain my account's tax-exempt status?** Taxes will be billed as part of the Newton Power Choice 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 Direct Energy. Visit the FAQ page at [NewtonPowerChoice.com](http://NewtonPowerChoice.com) for information on where to submit your documentation.

If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to visit [NewtonPowerChoice.com](http://NewtonPowerChoice.com) or contact customer support at [service@NewtonPowerChoice.com](mailto:service@NewtonPowerChoice.com) or **1-833-272-9592**. Our City consultants will be happy to help you.

Ruthanne Fuller, Mayor

# OPT-OUT REPLY CARD



X \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date

## Opt-Out Instructions

You do not need to take any action to participate in Newton Power Choice.

**If you DO NOT wish to participate, you MUST opt out.**

To opt out by mail:

1. Sign and date this card.
2. Place the card in the enclosed envelope.
3. Drop the envelope in the mail.

This card must be signed by the Customer of Record whose name appears in the address on this card. The envelope must be postmarked no later than **May 31, 2023**, to opt out of the program before being enrolled automatically. You may also opt out anytime after enrollment by phone at **1-833-272-9592** or online at **[NewtonPowerChoice.com](https://www.NewtonPowerChoice.com)**. There is no fee to opt out.