

## **CITY OF NEWTON**

#### CITY ELECTRICITY AGGREGATION PROGRAM NOTIFICATION LETTER

February 21, 2024

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.

#### 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 submitted or postmarked by March 25, 2024, to avoid automatic enrollment in the program.

#### If you do not opt out, you will be enrolled in Newton Standard (95% renewable) at a price of 17.18 ¢/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 95% of your electricity use with electricity from new renewable resources in the New England region. You may also choose to match 100% of your electricity use with new renewable resources in the New England region 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 2026. 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 seasonally. Price stability also makes the program different from many commercial electricity supply 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 discount or fuel assistance, you will continue to receive those benefits as a participant in Newton Power Choice.

# Newton POWERCH CE

An electricity program from the City of Newton that matches

95% of your electricity use with new renewable resources in the New England region

and gives you the option to match 100% of your electricity use with new renewable resources in the New England region.

#### **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 March 25, 2024. To submit your opt-out request, do any one of the following.

- Sign & return the enclosed reply card.
- Opt out online at NewtonPowerChoice.com.
- Call customer support at 1-833-272-9592.

#### **Customer Support**

1-833-272-9592 service@NewtonPowerChoice.com NewtonPowerChoice.com

## **Program Options & Pricing**

If you do nothing, you will be enrolled in Newton Standard. The Newton 100% Green and Newton Basic options are available by request. If you wish to change your program option, visit **NewtonPowerChoice.com** or call customer support at **1-833-272-9592**.

Newton Power Choice options:	You will be enrolled here 🔻									lf you do not	t wish to parti	cipate:
Newton POWERCH CE	MAC	<b>rton Stan</b> 95% fron lass I ren ergy proje	n ewable	Newton 100% Green 100% from MA Class I renewable energy projects.			<b>Newton Basic</b> Minimum renewable energy required by law.			<b>Eversource's</b> <b>Basic Service</b> If you opt out.		
Price	17	.18 ¢/kW	7 <b>h</b> *	17.36 ¢/kWh*			14.36 ¢/kWh*			17.216 ¢/kWh - Residential 17.552 ¢/kWh - Small business 19.063 ¢/kWh - Large business		
Price period	Enrollment - January 2026			Enrollment - January 2026			Enrollment- January 2026			January 1 - July 31, 2024, residential & small business. January 1 - April 30, 2024, large business.		
Renewable energy**	2024	2025	2026	2024	2025	2026	2024	2025	2026	2024	2025	2026
From new resources in the New England region (MA Class I RECs)												
Added by Newton	71%	68%	65%	76%	73%	70%	-	-	-	-	-	-
Required by state law	24%	27%	30%	24%	27%	30%	24%	27%	30%	24%	27%	30%
Total from new resources in the New England region (MA Class I RECs)	95%	95%	95%	100%	100%	100%	24%	27%	30%	24%	27%	30%
From other clean or renewable sources, required by state law	38%	36%	39%	38%	36%	39%	38%	36%	39%	38%	36%	39%
Exit terms	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 business customers may receive a billing adjustment charge or credit.		

\* 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.

\*\* The Commonwealth of Massachusetts requires that all electricity supply products include a minimum of 62% from clean or renewable energy resources in 2024, 63% in 2025, and 69% in 2026. Direct Energy must purchase electricity from MA Class I renewable energy projects and from other sources such as trash-to-energy or nuclear. The Newton Basic option meets the minimum requirement. The Newton Standard and Newton 100% Green options exceed it by purchasing additional electricity from MA Class I renewable energy projects.

## **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 NewtonPowerChoice.com for information on where to submit your documentation.

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

# Newton POWERCH ICE

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:

Sign and date this card.
 Place the card in the enclosed envelope.
 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 March 25, 2024, 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. There is no fee to opt out.