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Dear Newton electricity customer:

Your electricity account is currently enrolled in Newton Power Choice (NPC),
our City's municipal aggregation program, which is a group electricity buying program.

By State law, all aggregation programs, including Newton Power Choice, use an automatic enrollment model, although you are free to leave the program at any time with no fee or penalty.

Your electricity supply price will decrease in January 2026.

In January 2026, the program's current electricity supply contract with Direct Energy will end, and a new 24-month contract with Direct Energy will take effect. **The new contract will bring a lower electricity supply price for you and two years of price stability.**

Your current NPC electricity supply price is:	14.360 ¢/kWh
Your new NPC electricity supply price will be:	13.990 ¢/kWh
Compare with Eversource's current Basic Service prices, which are in effect through January 31: <i>(Because Eversource's prices change and their future prices are unknown, future savings cannot be guaranteed.)</i>	Residential: 14.884 ¢/kWh Small Business: 15.150 ¢/kWh Large Business: 18.127 ¢/kWh

If you take no action, you will automatically be enrolled in the new price with your **January 2026 meter read**, and you will first see the new price on your **February 2026** Eversource electric bill. Your new price will be fixed from **January 2026 – January 2028**.

The goals of Newton Power Choice

In the past, NPC has had three goals: (1) lowering the price of electricity for participants compared with Eversource's Basic Service; (2) providing a stable, predictable electricity price; and (3) supporting the development of renewable power.

NPC and electricity prices: Although the City has never promised a lower price than Eversource's Basic Service, on average over the seven years of NPC contracts, NPC prices have been nearly 8% lower than Basic Service prices. In total, the program has provided cumulative savings of more than \$18.3 million to residents and businesses in Newton.

NPC and predictability: NPC provides stable supply prices. NPC contracts provide a more predictable price than Eversource's Basic Service because Newton is able to sign long-term contracts. The new NPC electricity supply contract is a two-year contract, and previous contracts have similarly been for a term of two or three years. In contrast, Eversource's prices change every six months or less because Eversource is required by State law to buy electricity every six months.

NPC and renewables—the effect of the federal government's policies: In the past, NPC has purposefully supported the development of renewable power by purchasing more Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) than is required by State law. The money generated from RECs provided an additional revenue stream for renewable energy project developers. By purchasing more RECs than was required and contributing to that revenue stream, Newton was helping renewable energy developers build more renewable projects in the New England region.

However, this year the federal government has substantially slowed the addition of new renewable energy projects by sunsetting tax credits, ending funding programs, slowing new permits, and seeking to revoke existing permits. As a result, there is now a shortage of RECs, and buying the RECs that are available does not result in the development of new renewable energy projects. (You can read about this issue in greater detail here: newtonma.gov/recs.)

For that reason, the new NPC contract does not include the purchase of additional RECs above the State requirement. Accordingly, the program structure has changed from three options in the past to a single option that meets minimum state renewable energy requirements. To be clear, the new NPC contract for the next two years does not include additional voluntary RECs because, at this time, such additional RECs do not facilitate the development of renewables.

Nonetheless, the City of Newton wants to support renewables. To that end, NPC is exploring two initiatives:

- A community solar project that would enable an even lower price for NPC participants that are eligible for Eversource's low-income rate. This would not affect the price for non-low-income electricity customers.
- Direct support for the development of new renewable energy projects. The new NPC price does not include the cost of any such project as we are still exploring possibilities.

The City will provide more information as both initiatives evolve.

More information about Newton Power Choice is available at NewtonPowerChoice.com or by calling customer support to speak with the City's program consultants at 833-272-9592.

Sincerely,



Mayor Ruthanne Fuller