

ARTICLE 21: COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATION (CCA)

Sponsored by the Medfield Energy Committee

Q: What is Community Choice Aggregation (CCA)?

A: CCA is a program that allows local governments to procure electricity on behalf of its residents and businesses from an alternative supplier while still receiving delivery, transmission and distribution service from the existing utility (Eversource in Medfield). Nearly half of Massachusetts cities and towns have engaged with CCA programs.

Q: Why is CCA a good idea?

A: CCA is attractive for any community that wants more renewable energy generation than is offered by default, more electricity supply options, and/or lower electricity prices. By aggregating, a community gains leverage to negotiate better rates with competitive suppliers and to choose greener power sources. While CCA programs have been successful in delivering savings in the past, the Department of Public Utilities requires that we inform you that future savings cannot be guaranteed because future Eversource rates are unknown.

Q: What does approving this Article commit Medfield to?

A: With approval at Town Meeting, Medfield will be allowed to develop the program with public input and apply for the required regulatory approval to launch the program. This is a necessary step for the Town to pursue and evaluate options. The Selectmen, for any reason, can choose to accept or to not move forward after receiving bids.

Q: What makes this a good choice for Medfield Residents?

A: This program can provide Medfielders more choice for electrical energy supply. Residents will have a well-vetted supplier without having to research individually. Residents may opt-out, reverting to the Eversource Basic Service at any time, without penalty.

Q: What are the downsides of CCA?

A: This is a win-win program for the residents and businesses of Medfield. There are no anticipated costs beyond minimal Town staff support. There are built in check points and controls for this regulated program which will provide Medfield consumers with choices, including the ability to opt out and return to Eversource’s Basic Service at any time, without penalty. In addition, since the program is vetted by both the Department of Energy Resources and the Department of Public Utilities, price transparency and consumer benefits are built in.

Q: What will be different for me?

A: Not much: Eversource will still bring electricity to your home/business, service the lines as before and send you a paper or electronic bill. Only the supplier and rate listed on the bill will change.

Q: Can you share an example of an existing program?

A: Below are the current options offered to a Community Aggregation program (masscea.com/dedham/). Unless residents choose otherwise, they are enrolled in the Local Green (default) product. You can see the Eversource Basic Service rate at the bottom for comparison. These Dedham CCA program rates are in effect from January 2021 through December 2023. Eversource’s residential rates change every six months.

Dedham Community Electricity Aggregation Rates January 2021 - December 2023

Dedham CCA Program	% Renewable Energy Certificates (MA Class I)	Rate
Local Green (default program)	10% more than required, 28% total in 2021	10.793 cents/kwh
Local Green 50 (Opt-up)	50% more than required, 68% total in 2021	12.083 cents/kwh
Local Green 100 (Opt-up)	100%	13.695 cents/kwh
Dedham Basic (Opt-down)	18% is required in 2021	10.470 cents/kwh
Eversource Basic Service (Residential)	18% is required in 2021	11.795 cents/kwh

Disclaimer: A goal of the program is to produce savings for customers, but savings cannot be guaranteed compared to the utility’s basic service rate which changes every six months for Residential and Commercial customers, and every three months for Industrial customers. The aggregation program seeks to provide price stability and average savings over the full term of the program, but because future basic service rates are not known, there is no guarantee of savings. Note: Customers can opt-in and opt out at any time.