

**Office of the Select Board
Office of the Town Manager**



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AYER ANNOUNCES ENERGY PROGRAM START DATE
Notifications mail in mid-February. Program will lower electricity costs and offer environmental benefits.

AYER, MA – The Town of Ayer is pleased to announce that it's launching its Community Choice Power Supply Program this spring to provide an energy program that is stable, affordable and incorporates additional renewable energy. Ayer signed an 18-month contract with First Point Power.

Beginning with the April 2025 meter reads, Ayer's Program will offer three products with varying amounts of renewable energy content. "We are excited to provide a range of options in our electricity program, giving Ayer ratepayers greater control over their energy usage, along with lower and more stable pricing," said Robert Pontbriand, Ayer Town Manager.

Product	Renewable Energy Content	Program Rate (per kWh)	National Grid Rate* (per kWh)	% Savings	Est Monthly Savings
Standard (default)	10% Nuclear RECs above minimum state requirements	\$0.12936	\$0.14672	12%	\$10
Optional Basic	Meets MA renewable energy requirements	\$0.12670	\$0.14672	14%	\$12
Optional Green	100% renewable. Includes 37% National Wind RECs.	\$0.12836	\$0.14672	13%	\$11

*National Grid's Residential Basic Service meets MA renewable energy requirements and is in effect from February 1-July 31, 2025. Assuming usage of 600-kilowatt hours of electricity per month, residents can expect to see an average savings for that period.

The Ayer Community Choice Power Supply Program is a municipal aggregation program which, according to Massachusetts law (M.G.L. c. 164, § 134), enables local government to combine the purchasing power of its

residents and businesses so that it can provide them with an alternative electricity supply. Approximately 190 Massachusetts communities, to date, have chosen to develop community choice electricity programs to benefit their residents and small business owners.

Residents will not notice any change in their electricity service. The only discernible difference will be that First Point Power will be printed under “Supply Services” on National Grid’s monthly bills starting in May 2025. Residents and small business owners will continue to receive one bill from National Grid and to send payments to National Grid for processing. There will be no interruption in billing, power, or customer service.

No action is required by ratepayers to participate in this cost-saving program. The Program will be operated on an opt-out basis, meaning that all Ayer residential and business customers currently on National Grid’s Basic Service will be automatically enrolled into the Program unless they choose to opt-out.

There are no enrollment, early termination, or cancellation fees attached to the Ayer electricity program. Residents who choose to opt-out can also opt-in at a later date if they so choose at no cost. However, anyone switching from a contract with a third-party supplier may be subject to penalties or early termination fees charged by that supplier. Ratepayers should verify terms before switching.

Basic Service rates change twice a year or more, depending on rate class. As a result, the aggregation rate may not always be lower than the Basic Service rate. The goal of the aggregation is to deliver savings over the life of the program against National Grid’s Basic Service. However, future savings cannot be guaranteed.

Residents or business owners with a supplier block on their account must contact National Grid to request that the block be removed if they want to participate in Ayer’s electricity program.

National Grid has several programs to help income-eligible families and customers needing special assistance meet their energy needs. To learn more visit nationalgridus.com/MA-Home/Bill-Help/Payment-Assistance-Programs.

An information session to answer questions about Ayer’s Community Choice Power Supply Program will be held by the Town and representatives of Colonial Power Group on:

- **Wednesday March 5, 2025 at 6:00 PM in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Ayer Town Hall and via Zoom (Zoom ID# 978 772 8220)**

Residents may also visit colonialpowergroup.com/ayer or call (866) 485-5858 ext. 1 to learn more about Ayer’s Community Choice Power Supply Program, to opt-in or opt-out, or to change your product selection.



ABOUT COLONIAL POWER GROUP: *Based in Marlborough, Mass., Colonial Power Group is the leading aggregation-consulting firm in Massachusetts. Colonial Power has been working with local governments since 2002 in the design, implementation and management of municipal aggregation programs.*