



HUNTERDON AREA ENERGY COOPERATIVE

January 6, 2020

Dear Mendham Township Resident,

We are proud to write to you today to share the good news about the Hunterdon Area Energy Cooperative. Mendham Township has opted to participate in this state-authorized "Community Aggregation Program" designed to offer you and your neighbors reduced rates on your electric bills.

The bottom line is that when we all purchase energy together as a community, we are able to access lower, more stable rates.

Community Aggregation is very different than other third party supply contracts and offers protections to you that individual contracts may not offer:

The rate is a flat rate that will be the same from month to month.

The ability to leave the program at ANY TIME.

NO penalties or fees to leave the program.

The following pages contain important information explaining the Community Aggregation Program established by Mendham Township to provide lower electric generation rates than you would currently pay with JCP&L. We are pleased to offer this program for your electric supply!

We have scheduled public information sessions about the program so that everyone can learn more and get their questions answered:

Monday, January 13, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.
Mendham Township Town Hall
2 West Main Street, Brookside, NJ 07926

Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 11:00 a.m.
Barn at Highlands Bridge
100 North Road, Chester, NJ 07930

Tuesday, January 21, 2020, at 1:00 p.m.
Mendham Township Town Hall
2 West Main Street, Brookside, NJ 07926

Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.
Chester Township Municipal Building
1 Parker Road, Chester, NJ 07930

Wednesday, January 29, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
Barn at Highlands Bridge
100 North Road, Chester, NJ 07930

We hope to see you at one of these information sessions. You can visit www.njaggregation.us/HAEC to view an informational video about the program, and you can also call our energy consultants at Commercial Utility Consultants at (866) 688-5197 with your questions or if you received this letter in error.

Sincerely,

Township Committee



THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT COMMUNITY ENERGY AGGREGATION

All current services such as delivery, meter readings, billing, payments, emergency services, etc., are serviced through JCP&L, just as they are today.

This program offers the reduced rate versus JCP&L's current Price to Compare on the supply portion of your electric bill. You will still be billed for consumption (delivery) charges from JCP&L, just as you are today.

The rate offered is a flat rate that will be the same from month to month.

Budget billing will be offered. If you are currently enrolled in a budget bill plan with JCP&L, the program's supplier will start a budget bill plan for you. In addition, anyone wishing to enroll in a budget plan through the program may also elect to do so. Please see the budget bill page included in this packet for more information.

There are no fees for participation in the program. You may choose to join or leave the program at any time, as often as you wish, for the duration of the program at no cost. You will never be charged fees or incur penalties, even after the initial 30-day response period.

You will continue to call JCP&L for service-related questions and outages. For outages, you will still call JCP&L at (888) 544-4877, and for billing-related questions, you can call JCP&L at (888) 544-4877 or IDT Energy, Inc. at (855) 823-9309.

No one will be calling or knocking on your door regarding this program. All information regarding this program is mailed through the US Postal Service and will be posted on the program's website at www.njaggregation.us/HAEC. Please be wary of anyone trying to obtain or discuss your account information otherwise.

We're all in this together. We know municipal energy issues like this can sometimes be a bit technical and perhaps even boring. Please keep in mind that this is something your neighbors and people across Hunterdon and Morris Counties have done as well.

Please contact a Commercial Utility Consultants customer care agent at (866) 688-5197 with questions.



BUDGET BILL INFORMATION

For those residents who are on a **budget bill program** through JCP&L, please review the information provided on this page.

- If you are currently on Budget Billing with JCP&L, you will **automatically** be offered a budget bill with this program through IDT Energy, Inc.
- Prior to entering the program, you will receive a reconciliation or “true up” bill from JCP&L. This is to bring your account to zero prior to entering the energy aggregation program.
- The reconciliation amount may be substantial, depending on how much you are over or under on the budgeted amount, and this reconciliation may come as a charge or a credit on your bill.
- This new budget amount will be based on your most current usage history for the last 12 months. Every six (6) months in the program, IDT Energy will conduct an adjustment to your monthly budget amount to ensure your budget amount is in line with your actual usage.
- After 12 months with the program, IDT Energy will conduct a reconciliation or “true up” to bring your account to a \$0 balance. This may result in a credit or charges, depending on your usage and budget bill amount.
- **If you choose to leave the program**, you will be provided another reconciliation or “true up” which will bring your account to \$0 prior to leaving the program.
- If a new rate is not offered at the end of this initial contract term for the program participants, you will receive a reconciliation or “true up” bill on the last bill. Just as above, this will zero out your account prior to returning to JCP&L. The resulting credit or charges *may* be substantial if your usage is significantly lower or higher than the prior year.
- Any resulting reconciliation charge or “true up” amount represents your usage over and above the amount you were budgeted for and is not for “extra charges”. **We encourage you to track your usage vs. your budgeted amount so you can stay current on your usage and charges.**
- If you have a credit against your budgeted amount, meaning you used less energy than budgeted for, your credit will be applied to any future charges on your bill.

Please contact a Commercial Utility Consultants customer care agent at (866) 688-5197 with questions.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the Hunterdon Area Energy Cooperative? Municipalities have the ability to pool the usage of all their residents to obtain a lower energy supply rate than you are currently being charged.

Who supervises the Hunterdon Area Energy Cooperative process? The NJ Board of Public Utilities has enforcement authority over Aggregation programs in New Jersey. The program's Energy Agents, Commercial Utility Consultants, Inc., and Concord Energy Services, Inc., must follow strict statutory guidelines implemented by the state agency. Key documents are provided to the NJ Board of Public Utilities and the Division of Rate Counsel staff for review and comment during the process.

Is my municipality the only one in the Energy Aggregation Program? No, your municipality chose to participate in this program along with four others in order to maximize buying power to obtain better rates for their residents.

What information will I receive about the program? Aside from public meetings, you will receive at least two letters: one is your official opt-out letter (attached in this packet) which provides details such as the program rate, term, chosen supplier and the deadline for opting out; and the second is a confirmation letter from JCP&L stating that you have elected to remain in the program and the date your account will be switched over. This second letter is a form letter stating you have chosen to switch as part of the energy aggregation program your municipality established for its residents.

Are Commercial Utility Consultants and Concord Energy Services energy suppliers? No. They are independent consultants that work with all of the energy suppliers licensed by the Board of Public Utilities to do business in New Jersey. Commercial Utility Consultants and Concord Energy Services obtain the energy contract and work through the process to put the energy aggregation program in place for your municipality.

Do I have to be enrolled in this program? No. You can choose not to participate by going to www.njaggregation.us/HAEC, by calling (877) 292-3904, or by returning the enclosed response card.

Will I be penalized if I do not become a part of the program? No. There will never be a fee or penalty associated with participation or non-participation in this program. If you do not want to be a part of our program, you are free to stay with your current utility or choose your own Third Party Supplier.

Am I going to have to pay more than one bill if I am a part of this program? No. You will continue to pay one bill each month directly to JCP&L, just as you always have.

If I have solar panels, can I be a part of this program? At this time, suppliers are not able to process the net metering portion of solar credits, and we recommend that you opt-out of the program to avoid losing your credits.

If I am currently in a contract with a Third Party Supplier, can I be a part of this program? If you are currently under contract with a Third Party Supplier, you will **not** be automatically enrolled in the Energy Aggregation Program. We recommend that you wait for your current contract term to expire and then enroll in the Energy Aggregation Program by calling our energy consultants at (866) 688-5197.

Who will read my meter now? JCP&L will still be reading your meter.

Can my information be sold to advertisers or energy companies? No. Your information, including your account number, is confidential and can only be used to set up the municipality's program.

Please contact a Commercial Utility Consultants customer care agent at (866) 688-5197 with questions.



HUNTERDON AREA ENERGY COOPERATIVE

January 6, 2020

Dear Mendham Township Resident:

Recently Mendham Township took advantage of a state law that allows us to establish a Community Energy Aggregation Program. For municipalities that choose to participate, this program permits the aggregation of all residential customers within participating municipalities for the purpose of competitively purchasing electricity at rates lower than are currently available from your electric utility. Mendham Township combined the electricity consumption of all residential customers in conjunction with four other municipalities and received competitive bids from the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities licensed suppliers to provide this electricity supply service and secure better rates for our residents.

How the Program Works: We obtained a rate that is lower than what JCP&L currently charges for the energy supply portion of your bill.¹ This program offers a flat rate and is designed to offer a reduced rate without the risk of rate increases, unlike other variable Third Party Supply (TPS) contracts. This means the rate will remain the same for the term of the contract.

Electricity Auction Results: The auction results are **\$0.0863/kWh** offered by IDT Energy, Inc. (as compared to JCP&L's prevailing Price to Compare rate at the time of auction of \$0.105331/kWh). This rate will go into effect on your **March 2020** meter read date and will continue through your **October 2020** meter read date. By way of example, if your monthly electric usage is 700/kWh, your bill under this program will be \$60.41 for the supply portion versus \$73.73 that you would have paid with JCP&L. You will see your first charges at the program rate on the electric bill you receive in **April 2020**.

JCP&L will continue to deliver your electricity, and you will be billed at the regulated delivery rate. JCP&L will continue to provide all emergency and safety services. JCP&L will also continue to provide customer services such as meter reading, billing² and service restoration. You will continue to receive one bill each month from JCP&L, and you will continue sending your payments to JCP&L.

In accordance with the State's program requirements, as a Mendham Township resident you will be automatically enrolled in the program unless you opt-out by **2/7/2020**. Once enrolled, **you may leave at any time and you will never have to pay any fees associated with joining or leaving the program.**³

As a residential electric customer who has not chosen a Third Party Supplier (TPS) for your electric supply, you will be automatically enrolled in this program and receive the anticipated energy savings over the term of the program **unless you indicate your desire not to participate** by completing and mailing the enclosed response card by **2/7/2020** (the date shall not be less than 30 calendar days after the date on this notice). **You may also call (877) 292-3904 toll free to opt-out** (please have your bill handy) **or visit www.njaggregation.us/HAEC**. **For all other questions and more detailed information, or if you received this letter in error, call toll free at (866) 688-5197.**

1 JCP&L rates may increase or decrease during the course of this program, which would affect the anticipated level of customer savings. Savings cannot be guaranteed over the term of the agreement. JCP&L charges can change quarterly and are posted on the web.

2 Other billing arrangements may apply for customers who do not remain current with their bills.

3 Leaving the program is subject to the timing of meter readings and typically takes 1-2 full meter read cycles.