



Village of New Paltz

Hudson Valley Community Power



Dear Village of New Paltz,

November 8, 2021

The Village of New Paltz is a participant in Hudson Valley Community Power, a Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) program¹ that allows us to pool local electricity demand with other Hudson Valley municipalities to provide low cost, **fixed-rate renewable electricity supply**. Each participating community has selected Joule Community Power² as Program Administrator. Joule works on behalf of the municipalities to secure clean energy supply at the most favorable terms and ensures there are **no contract or exit fees** for consumers.

Supply Options

There are two fixed-rate electricity supply options under our program: **(1) 100% Renewable** and **(2) Standard**. You may choose between these supply options or opt-out of the program. The Village of New Paltz has chosen the 100% Renewable option as the default electricity supply. **You will automatically be enrolled in the 100% Renewable Option unless you choose the Standard Option or to opt-out of the program.**

- **100% Renewable Option:** 100% of your electricity supply is matched by Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) provided by New York State renewable power plants (hydropower, wind, solar).
- **Standard Option:** Your electricity supply is a mixture of fossil fuels, nuclear, and some renewable energy. To switch to the Standard Option, please call (845) 859-9099 x2 or visit hudsonvalleycommunitypower.com and submit your information through the Enrollment/Change form on the homepage.

***¡Se habla español,
también!***

For translation services, please call our office at (845) 859-9099, Option 3.

Para acceder a nuestros servicios de traducción, llamea nuestras oficinas, al (845) 859-9099 Opcion 3.

**Join the Hudson Valley
Community Power team at an
information session and Q&A to
learn more about the Program.
We want to hear your questions!**

Wed. Nov 17th, 2021

7 PM

On Zoom

Join at:

www.tinyurl.com/HVCP17Nov

**If you are unable to make it to the
info session, the event recording will
be available at:
hudsonvalleycommunitypower.com/events**

OR by calling (845) 859-9099 x2

To opt-out, you may:

- Return the enclosed "Opt-Out Reply Card" by December 8, **OR**
- Call the Hudson Valley Community Power program helpline at (845) 859-9099 x2, **OR**
- Go to www.hudsonvalleycommunitypower.com and submit your information (name on utility account, service address, and Pre Enrollment ID number from the opt-out card included in this letter) through the Enrollment/Change Form on the homepage.

Note: This mailing was not paid for by taxpayer dollars. All funding was provided by the electricity supplier chosen by the municipality.

¹ Municipal authority enabled by NY State regulation.

² A division of Joule Assets, Inc.

Hudson Valley Community Power Rates

Hudson Valley Community Power has secured a rate for electricity supply through a competitive bidding process that will remain stable for 30 months and enables you to power your home or business with 100% renewable electricity.

- Columbia Utilities Power, LLC will be your new supplier, beginning on your first meter-read after January 1, 2022.
- The new rate will remain fixed for a 30-month period through June 2024.

Rates (\$/kWh)*

Service Class	12-month Central Hudson Price to Compare**	Default 100% Renewable Fixed Rate	Standard Fixed Rate
Residential	\$0.06218	\$0.06573	\$0.05968
Small Commercial	\$0.06404	\$0.07112	\$0.06215

* Rates do not include Gross Receipt Tax (GRT). If GRT is collected in your municipality, it will be added to your rate.

** Calculated average price paid per kWh for Central Hudson electricity supply service, October 2020 – September 2021.

Since July 2021 the CCA 100% default rate for residential customers has been **cheaper** than the Central Hudson rate. Since August 2021 the CCA 100% default rate for small commercial customers has been **cheaper** than the Central Hudson rate.

Central Hudson will continue to be responsible for the power lines that deliver your electricity and will continue to bill you. Please contact Central Hudson in the event of any service interruption.

If you are a tax-exempt organization, please fill out a ST-119 form and email it to info@hudsonvalleycommunitypower.com to avoid being charged taxes. If you have any questions, contact the team at (845) 859-9099 x2.

Answering Your Questions

It is important to us that before you make your decision you can ask any questions you may have. The Team has a helpline which you are encouraged to call at (845) 859-9099 x2 or they may be contacted via email at info@hudsonvalleycommunitypower.com. We have also included an FAQ in this letter.

Enrollment and your right to opt-out of this program

If you wish to opt-out of the program, please let Hudson Valley Community Power know by December 8th. If they do not hear from you, you will be enrolled automatically in the 100% Renewable Option, and your account information (including energy usage and utility assistance program participant status) will be shared with Columbia Utilities Power, LLC. However, you may leave the program at any time without any fee or penalty. If you choose to remain in the program, your new rate will take effect in January.

Sincerely,



Tim Rogers, Village Mayor



Hudson Valley Community Power

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



1. What is Hudson Valley Community Power?

Hudson Valley Community Power is a Community Choice program serving municipalities in the region. The participating communities have banded together to pool local electricity demand to leverage the collective buying power of residents and small businesses. Community Choice is a powerful means to secure fixed rates, support the generation of clean energy in New York State, and protect consumers.

2. Who manages the Hudson Valley Community Power Program?

Joule Assets has been selected as Program Administrator by each participating municipality. Joule Assets has been authorized by the New York State Public Service Commission to serve in this role. Joule Assets has partnered with Hudson Valley Energy, a regional nonprofit, to spearhead community outreach and education, and to provide program support.

3. Does Hudson Valley Community Power replace my utility?

No. Central Hudson will continue to deliver reliable power, maintain power lines, and respond to service outages. As required by law, Central Hudson will provide the same service to all customers regardless of whether they are in the program. Customers will still receive one bill each month from the utility, reflecting a change in the cost of the electricity and the name of the supplier.

4. What is the 100% Renewable Option?

The program's 100% renewable energy option consists of power matched with 100% Renewable Energy Certificates ("RECs") generated by hydropower, solar or wind energy registered in New York State. Using renewable energy dramatically reduces greenhouse gas emissions. However, customers may opt-out at any time.

5. Does Hudson Valley Community Power replace a current energy service company (ESCO) agreement?

No. If you are a resident or small business currently under contract with an energy service company (ESCO), you should not have received this letter. If you have received this letter, you should confirm an agreement is still in effect. If you are not under contract with an ESCO and would like to join the Hudson Valley Community Power program, please contact us at (845) 859-9099 x2 or visit the website hudsonvalleycommunitypower.com and fill out the Enrollment/Change Form on the homepage.

6. How was the energy supplier chosen?

Joule Assets administered a competitive bidding process, soliciting responses from qualified New York registered suppliers. As a result of the process, Columbia Utilities Power LLC was selected by the participating municipalities as the supplier for the current contract ending in June 2024.

7. How can I be sure that Hudson Valley Community Power will provide energy reliably?

This program designates sources of electricity supply, but does not interrupt or change existing energy delivery systems. Electricity is a highly regulated industry that has many safeguards against service and supply interruption. The grid operator monitors the grid to ensure that sufficient power is always flowing. The utility must continue to deliver electricity to all customers regardless of supplier.

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8. Will I save money by participating in Hudson Valley Community Power?

Hudson Valley Community Power rates are fixed for the term of the contract. While our large customer base assures competitive bids from suppliers, fixed-price contracts do not guarantee that rates will be lower in any given month or save money throughout the contract period. The renewable supply rate may be slightly higher than a standard rate. You are free to exit the Program at any time with no fees or penalties.

9. How does Hudson Valley Community Power affect me?

Unless they opt-out, all eligible homeowners and small businesses are automatically enrolled. The only thing that changes on your electricity bill is your rate and supplier. Central Hudson continues to be responsible for delivery, billing, and repair services. Should service be interrupted, call Central Hudson. You may opt-out at any time without any fee or penalty. If you change your mind after opting out, you will be able to opt-in again online or by phone. There are no fees to opt-in or opt-out of the program.

10. What if I don't want to participate?

Any household or small business receiving electricity supply from Central Hudson may opt-out before the program starts with no penalty by any of the following means:

- (1) returning the opt-out reply card included in this mailing by December 8, **OR**
- (2) filling out the Enrollment/Change Form found on the homepage of hudsonvalleycommunitypower.com, **OR**
- (3) calling (845) 859-9099 x2

Please be ready to provide the name and service address on your utility bill and the Pre Enrollment ID number from the opt-out card included in this letter. If you participate in the Program and later change your mind, you may exit the program at any time with no fees or penalties.

11. Is there a fee for opting out of Hudson Valley Community Power?

There are no fees or penalties for opting out at any time.

12. If I exit the program after it launches, how will that affect my service?

Your service will not be interrupted and you'll be switched back to Central Hudson supply service for the following billing cycle.

13. Am I eligible to participate if I'm on a budget or level billing program with Central Hudson?

Yes, customers may participate in the program and remain on budget billing.

14. I have my own solar panels on my property or I participate in community solar. Can I still participate in the Hudson Valley Community Power Program?

Yes. Solar customers and community solar subscribers still need an energy supplier to provide excess power beyond the production of their solar system or their community solar allocation. If you do not opt-out, you will be enrolled in the Program like any other customer and will pay a fixed rate for that excess power.

For additional information,
Email info@hudsonvalleycommunitypower.com
Call (845) 859-9099 x2
or visit hudsonvalleycommunitypower.com