



# THE CITY OF BOSTON'S COMMUNITY CHOICE ELECTRICITY PROGRAM CONSUMER NOTIFICATION

December 15, 2023

Dear Boston Basic Service Consumer:

The City of Boston is pleased to announce that **Direct Energy Services, LLC** (“Direct Energy”) has been selected as the supplier for its Community Choice Electricity Program (“Program”). This Program is a municipal aggregation which enables local government to combine the purchasing power of its residents and businesses to provide them with an alternative to Eversource Basic Service (M.G.L. c. 164, § 134). This Program only affects the supply portion of your monthly bill. It will not affect the delivery portion of your monthly bill. Eversource will continue to deliver your electricity but Boston has chosen the supplier for the Program. Direct Energy will provide electric power supply for all consumers currently on Basic Service in Boston. This letter is intended to tell you about this Program for electric power supply. In accordance with state law, it also informs you of your rights and options if you choose not to participate in the Program.

- ✓ **YOU WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY ENROLLED IN THIS PROGRAM UNLESS YOU CHOOSE NOT TO PARTICIPATE AND OPT-OUT.**
- ✓ **YOU MUST RESPOND BY JANUARY 18, 2024 IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO BE AUTOMATICALLY ENROLLED.**

**YOU WILL NOT NOTICE ANY CHANGE IN YOUR ELECTRICITY SERVICE.** The only difference you will see is that Direct Energy will be printed under the “Supplier Services” section of your monthly bill. You will continue to receive one bill from Eversource. You will continue to send your payments to Eversource for processing. Eversource will continue to respond to emergencies, read meters and maintain the distribution and transmission lines. Reliability and quality of service will remain the same. Furthermore, you will continue to have all existing consumer rights and protections.

### COMPARATIVE RATES AND TERMS

	Boston’s Program* (Supplier Services Only)			Eversource (Supplier Services Only)
	STANDARD (default)	OPTIONAL BASIC	OPTIONAL GREEN 100	BASIC SERVICE
<b>Rate</b>				
Residential	\$0.14805 per kWh	\$0.14205 per kWh	\$0.17195 per kWh	\$0.17251 per kWh
Sm C&I	\$0.14805 per kWh	\$0.14205 per kWh	\$0.17195 per kWh	\$0.17587 per kWh
Med & Lg C&I	\$0.14805 per kWh	\$0.14205 per kWh	\$0.17195 per kWh	\$0.19098 per kWh
Streetlight	\$0.14805 per kWh	\$0.14205 per kWh	\$0.17195 per kWh	\$0.17587 per kWh
<b>Renewable Energy Content</b>	15% MA Class I RECs above minimum state requirements	Meets MA renewable energy requirements	100% MA Class I RECs	Meets Massachusetts renewable energy requirements
<b>Duration</b>	<b>December 2023 – December 2025</b> <i>[Rates apply to service beginning and ending on the days of the month that your meter is read in your service area.]</i>			<b>January 1, 2024 – July 31, 2024**</b> <i>[Residential, Small C&amp;I and Streetlight rates change every 6 months. Medium &amp; Large C&amp;I rate changes every 3 months.]</i>
<b>Exit Terms</b>	<b>NO CHARGE</b>			May receive a reconciliation charge or credit <i>[Large C&amp;I only]</i>

\*Rate includes (1) Consultant Fee of \$0.0007 per kWh to facilitate Boston’s Community Choice Electricity Program and (2) Operational Adder of \$0.00011 per kWh to fund personnel costs associated with City’s Energy Manager position.

\*Rate may increase as a result of a change in law that results in a direct, material increase in costs during the term of the contract.

\*\*Per D.P.U. 23-50-A Order issued September 1, 2023 (see [mass.gov/news/dpu-orders-schedule-changes-to-basic-service-rates](https://www.mass.gov/news/dpu-orders-schedule-changes-to-basic-service-rates)).

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- At present, the aggregation rate is lower than Eversource’s Basic Service rate. The aggregation rate is fixed for 24 months (December 2023 to December 2025) while Eversource’s Basic Service rate changes twice a year, in August and February. As a result, the aggregation rate may not always be lower than Eversource’s Basic Service rate. The goal of the aggregation is to deliver savings over the life of the Program against Eversource’s Basic Service rate. However, **SUCH SAVINGS AND FUTURE SAVINGS CANNOT BE GUARANTEED.**
- There is **NO CHARGE TO OPT-OUT** of the Program and return to Eversource Basic Service.

« SEE BACK FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION »

**IF YOU HAVE BEEN MAILED THIS NOTIFICATION** you do not need to take any action to participate in the Program.

**ALL BASIC SERVICE CONSUMERS** who have been mailed this notification will be AUTOMATICALLY enrolled in the Program and start benefiting from the aggregation rate beginning on the day of the month in February 2024 that your meter is read. This date varies by service area. Your meter reading date is shown on your bill.

**WATCH YOUR EVERSOURCE BILL FOR FURTHER NOTIFICATION** of the Program.

- Your February 2024 bill will state that you are being switched to Boston’s Program.
- Your March 2024 bill will show Boston’s supplier and aggregation rate under “Supplier Services”.

**BUDGET PLAN OR ELIGIBLE LOW-INCOME RATE CONSUMERS** will continue to receive those benefits from Eversource.

**SOLAR PANEL AND COMMUNITY SOLAR CONSUMERS** will continue to receive net metering or on-bill credits while receiving electricity supply under the Program and the value of these credits will not be altered by participating in the Program.

**ANY APPLICABLE TAXES WILL BE BILLED** as part of the Program’s power supply charge. You will be responsible for identifying and requesting an exemption from the collection of taxes by providing appropriate documentation.

**TAX EXEMPT SMALL BUSINESS CONSUMERS** must send, email or fax a copy of their Energy Exemption Certificate directly to Direct Energy Attn: USN Tax Exemption at P.O. Box 180, Tulsa, OK 74101-0180 or [usn.taxexemption@directenergy.com](mailto:usn.taxexemption@directenergy.com) (email) or (800) 504-7428 (fax) in order to maintain their tax exempt status.

**IF YOU HAVE ALREADY CHOSEN A COMPETITIVE SUPPLIER ON YOUR OWN** you must opt-out of this Program. This will ensure you continue to get your electricity from that Competitive Supplier.

**IF YOU HAVE ALREADY CHOSEN A GREEN POWER SUPPLY OPTION THROUGH EVERSOURCE** your participation in this Program will not affect your participation in that Green Power Supply.

**IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROGRAM** you may: 1) Opt-out and continue paying Eversource’s Basic Service rate; or 2) Opt-out and choose your own Competitive Supplier (if one is available to you).

#### HOW TO OPT-OUT

- Sign and return the enclosed opt-out card in the postage paid envelope provided; **OR**
- Visit [boston.gov/bcce](https://boston.gov/bcce) and click the opt-out button, then fill out and submit the Opt-Out Form; **OR**
- Call Direct Energy at (855) 402-5868 and ask to remain on Eversource Basic Service.

**ANY TIME AFTER ENROLLMENT** you can still opt-out with NO CHARGE. It may take a couple of billing cycles before you are back on Eversource Basic Service. If you choose to opt-out after the initial enrollment, you may submit an Opt-Out form at [boston.gov/bcce](https://boston.gov/bcce) **OR** call Direct Energy at (855) 402-5868 and ask to be placed on Eversource Basic Service.

**TO CHOOSE A BASIC PRODUCT OR A PRODUCT WITH 100% NEW ENGLAND RENEWABLE ENERGY** visit [boston.gov/bcce](https://boston.gov/bcce) or you may call Direct Energy at (855) 402-5868 and ask to be enrolled in one of the following products:

- **Boston’s Optional Basic Product** meets Massachusetts renewable energy requirements. This product is being offered at \$0.14205 per kWh for 24 months (December 2023 to December 2025).
- **Boston’s Optional Green 100 Product** provides 100% MA Class I RECs achieved by purchasing 76% additional Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) above the state’s then-current requirement for these renewables. This product is being offered at \$0.17195 per kWh for 24 months (December 2023 to December 2025).

**FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION** regarding Boston’s Program, please visit [boston.gov/bcce](https://boston.gov/bcce) or call us toll-free at (617) 635-3850. To learn more about Direct Energy, please visit [directenergy.com/COB](https://directenergy.com/COB).

**TO ACCESS EVERSOURCE’S BASIC SERVICE RATES** please visit:

- Residential Rates – [eversource.com/content/residential/account-billing/manage-bill/about-your-bill/rates-tariffs/electric-supply-rates](https://eversource.com/content/residential/account-billing/manage-bill/about-your-bill/rates-tariffs/electric-supply-rates).
- Business Rates – [eversource.com/content/business/account-billing/manage-bill/about-your-bill/rates-tariffs/electric-supply-rates](https://eversource.com/content/business/account-billing/manage-bill/about-your-bill/rates-tariffs/electric-supply-rates).

*Colonial Power Group, Inc. is an energy consulting company chosen on a competitive basis by the City of Boston to facilitate the Community Choice Electricity Program.*