



ATTENDEES

Coalition Organizing Group Members

1. Clifton Below, Lebanon Assistant Mayor (Clifton.Below@lebanonnh.gov)
2. Everett Hammond, Lebanon Assist. Public Works Director (ehammond@lebanonnh.gov)
3. Julia Griffin, Hanover Town Manager (julia.griffin@hanovernh.org)
4. April Salas, Hanover Sustainability Director (april.salas@hanovernh.org)
5. Doria Brown, Nashua Energy Manager (brownd@nashuanh.gov)
6. Dori Drachman, Monadnock Sustainability Hub (dori.drachman@gmail.com)
7. Ned Hulbert, Harrisville Electric Aggregation Committee (nhmonadnock@gmail.com)
8. Rod Bouchard, Cheshire County Assist. Administrator (rbouchard@co.cheshire.nh.us)

Coalition Consultants

1. Samuel Golding, Community Choice Partners (golding@communitychoicepartners.com)
2. Henry Herndon, independent consultant (henry@cpcnh.org)

“Meet & Greet” Guests

1. Lew Hitzrot, Exeter Energy Committee (lhitzrot@exeter.edu)
2. Peter Nelson, Newmarket Electric Aggregation Committee (peter@full-nelson.net)
3. Cliff Lazenby, Portsmouth City Council (LazenbyforPortsmouth@gmail.com)
4. John Tabor, Portsmouth City Council (johnktabor@gmail.com)
5. Peter Britz, Portsmouth Sustainability Planner (plbritz@cityofportsmouth.com)
6. Peter Vandermark, Portsmouth Sustainability Committee (pvdmark@bu.edu)

MEETING NOTES

- The Coalition has a goal of 5-12 towns, cities and counties voting affirmatively to adopt Coalition Joint Powers Agreement & designate representatives to serve on Coalition Board of Directors by 8/1/21:
 1. Exeter Select Board affirmatively voted 5/10/21 (unanimous);
 2. Nashua Board of Alderman affirmatively voted 5/11/21 (unanimous);
 3. Lebanon City Council affirmatively voted 2/3/21 (unanimous).
 4. Hanover Select Board affirmatively voted in 1/24/21 (unanimous).
- Exeter Energy Committee made a recommendation to the Select Board in advance of the vote to join the Coalition. Exeter Town Manager Russ Dean and Hanover Town Manager Julia Griffin has a constructive conversation about the Joint Powers Agreement and the Coalition prior to the Select Board vote. Members of the Coalition “Organizing Group” are available to support education with leaders, staff, officials in other communities.



- Exeter Select Board also voted to establish an Electric Aggregation Committee, which is in process of being populated.
- Newmarket established an Electric Aggregation Committee last year, which Peter Nelson chairs. The Newmarket Energy Committee made a unanimous recommendation to Town Council to join the Coalition. Newmarket Town Council may act on the recommendation during a June meeting.
- Peter Nelson is developing a data sharing platform which communities can opt-into and populate with aggregate electric load data, master plans and electric aggregation plans, committee members and contact information, documentation of renewable energy assets within their communities, etc., etc. There are opportunities to integrate the database work with the Coalition's efforts to support Community Power.
- Portsmouth has been exploring Community Power and there is strong interest from the Sustainability Committee. On June 7, the Committee will present to City Council (potentially in partnership with Coalition members) and propose scheduling of a more in-depth Work Session in July. From there, Portsmouth may pursue recommendations to join the Coalition and form an Electric Aggregation Committee.

Keys Points for Successful Gov Body Vote to Join Coalition

- **No risk, no downside to joining the Coalition.** By joining the Coalition, a community gains access to the statewide network of peers and experts to support Community Power program planning. If/when a community then moves forward with adopting a plan, that community can then **benefit from the Coalition's shared services and economy of scale.**
- **No cost to join Coalition. A community may withdraw at any time. All costs will be recovered through revenues from electricity sales.** A community must enter into a subsequent "Cost-Sharing Agreement" after adopting the Joint Powers Agreement, if it wishes to take services through the Coalition, which costs will be recovered through electric rates.
- **Significant due diligence, work, and expertise** went into the drafting of the Joint Powers Agreement, based on national best practices. Member **communities are shielded from liability**, because the agreement **creates a new legal entity, a governmental instrumentality, that holds the liabilities.** The Joint Powers Agreement was drafted in partnership with legal firm Duncan Weinberg Genzer Pembroke, who has 50 years of expertise in public power. The JPA has been **approved by the NH Attorney General** as compliant with New Hampshire law.
- The **potential up-side for Community Power and the Coalition is large.** Through the Coalition Model, communities pool resources, gain access to a higher class of national vendors who will want to provide services to the agency. The Coalition model achieves a **greater economy of scale than a community could achieve** on its own. By joining the Coalition, **communities build the body of strength of the Coalition, and contribute to its potential success**, which can include lowering costs, building new local renewables, and collaborating on public advocacy to improve NH energy market / policies.

FOLLOW-UPS

1. **Exeter:** Coalition & Exeter will communicate about if/when/how best to integrate Exeter into Organizing Group, and who appropriate points of contact will be as Electric Aggregation Committee forms



2. **Newmarket:** Coalition & Newmarket will collaborate in advance of June Town Council vote as needed.
 3. **Portsmouth:** Coalition will support Portsmouth in June City Council presentation and subsequent Work Session.
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Example Governing Body Motion to Join the Coalition

Municipalities that adopt the [Coalition Joint Powers Agreement](#) will subsequently execute the agreement together, incorporate the agency, and appoint primary and alternate representatives to serve on the Coalition’s Board of Directors.

(The Joint Powers Agreement includes the nonprofit’s Bylaws and Articles of Agreement, and details the common purpose, authorities, structure, Board of Directors, committees, cost sharing principals, liability protections, and other aspects of the organization.)

For reference, below is [Lebanon’s unanimous motion](#) authorizing the City to (1) enter into the Coalition Joint Powers Agreement and (2) appoint primary and alternative representatives to serve on the Coalition’s Board of Directors:

Councilor Bronner MOVED, that the Lebanon City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to enter into an intermunicipal agreement known as the “Joint Powers Agreement” under the provisions of New Hampshire RSA 53-A to create the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire (CPCNH) for the purpose of supporting member municipalities and counties in developing and implementing electric aggregation plans, pursuant to RSA 53-E, as well as related statutory authorities.

BE IT FURTHER MOVED, that the Mayor, in consultation with the City Manager, is authorized to appoint a City representative and an alternate to the CPCNH Membership and Board of Directors.

Nashua Board of Aldermen Motion: “Authorizing the City of Nashua to enter into a Joint Powers Agreement of Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire.”

Exeter Select Board Motion: “Ms. Gilman moved that Exeter join the newly formed Community Power Coalition and further authorize the Town Manager to sign the Joint Powers Agreement.”



**COMMUNITY
POWER COALITION
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**
For communities, by communities.

<https://www.cpcnh.org>
info@cpcnh.org