

# Hudson Community Power

## *Electric Aggregation Plan Update*

*April 11, 2023*



**Presented by: Hudson Electric Aggregation Committee**

**Presented to: Hudson Board of Selectmen**

Hudson Community Power will allow the Town to provide electricity supply and related services on behalf of Hudson's residents and businesses.

Community Power programs create an economy of scale that can result in more affordable electricity and expanded options for renewables and innovative energy technologies.

# Agenda

1. Review Current State of Affairs
  - a) Warrant Article
  - b) Next Steps
  - c) Decisions, decisions...
2. Questions & Discussion

# Warrant Article 20 (Community Power Plan)

- ⚡ The warrant article passed by greater than a 4:1 margin (Yes: 2427, No: 542)
- ⚡ This allows the process of preparing to stand up Hudson Community Power (HCP) to continue

# Next Steps

- ⚡ The next major activities for the HEAC are to:
  - ⚡ Interview potential partner organizations, and
  - ⚡ Make a recommendation to the BOS as to which organization is recommended (and why)
- ⚡ This process has already started:
  - ⚡ Colonial Power Group / Freedom Energy Logistics presented to the Sustainability Committee / HEAC on March 27<sup>th</sup>
  - ⚡ Standard Power / Good Energy (April 24<sup>th</sup>)
  - ⚡ CPCNH (May 22<sup>nd</sup>)

# Next Steps (cont.)

- ⚡ The HEAC will deliberate on the presented materials (and may call the companies back for additional meetings)
- ⚡ In parallel, we can observe how things are going with the communities launching Community Power Agencies this spring (10 with CPCNH; 4 with brokers)
- ⚡ There are two financially advantageous times during the year for launching a CPA – late spring and late fall. Of the two, late spring is better, so that's what we are targeting – spring of 2024.
- ⚡ As a result, we don't need to be in a rush to make any major decisions, but we should plan to have the biggest one made by mid to late fall at the latest

# Decisions, decisions...

- ⚡ **Major Decision: Should HCP partner with CPCNH (non-profit) or use one of the brokers (for-profit)?**
- ⚡ If we choose to partner with CPCNH:
  - ⚡ CPCNH-specific policies will need to be adopted,
  - ⚡ A cost-sharing agreement with CPCNH needs to be signed (to pay a portion of CPCNH's G&A costs), and
  - ⚡ A contract must be signed to have CPCNH purchase power as well as provide related services such as call center support.
- ⚡ **Important Note: Even having signed the cost-sharing agreement, CPCNH services remain cost-free until HCP has an actual revenue stream.**

# Decisions, decisions...(cont.)

- ⚡ If we choose to partner with a broker, HCP will need to decide whether to continue to be a member of CPCNH after launch:
  - ⚡ If membership continues, then HCP will need to have signed the cost-sharing agreement. Those additional costs would need to be baked into the rate customers pay.
  - ⚡ If membership is discontinued, there are no additional costs.
  - ⚡ As noted, CPCNH services remain cost-free until HCP has an actual revenue stream – so this decision can be deferred up to that point.

# Decisions, decisions...(cont.)

- ⚡ **The final major decision – for HCP to go live or not – rests with the BOS**
- ⚡ This decision can be made quite late in the process if partnering with CPCNH (~ 2 months before launch)
- ⚡ It is TBD how late in the process it can be if partnering with one of the brokers



# More Next Steps...

- ⚡ There are many other things that also need to be done (even ahead of the CPCNH vs. broker decision):
  - ⚡ Finalize the Electric Aggregation Plan (EAP)
  - ⚡ Send the EAP to the Public Utilities Commission (and others) for approval
  - ⚡ Request customer datasets from Eversource
  - ⚡ Set up a web site for HCP; organize / deliver other public engagement activities
  - ⚡ Plan the launch sequence and related activities
- ⚡ CPCNH has been and will continue to be of great help in helping us to manage / negotiate these activities



# Questions & Discussion

