

MUNICIPAL ELECTRICITY AGGREGATION PROGRAM

The Hampshire Council of Governments has been working on aggregating residential electricity in order to form a group power purchasing program. The end result is to lower electricity prices for Hadley residents.

Here is a brief program description:

Customers of National Grid and WMECO are paying for both Delivery Services (from the big power lines all the way to the actual home or commercial building), and Supply Services (which is the actual electricity itself). They are listed separately on the bill. In the Municipal Aggregation program, the Hampshire Council will arrange the Supply Services only, while National Grid and WMECO continue all of the Delivery Services. Customers have a legal right to opt-out of the program. All costs of the program are paid by the Hampshire Council; it has no impact on municipal budgets.

The program includes **43 communities**, encompasses over **170,000 people**. That's Buying Power!

The following towns and cities have completed all of the approvals required to participate in our Municipal Aggregation program:

- **Berkshire County:** Great Barrington, Washington
- **Franklin County:** Charlemont, Conway, Deerfield, Gill, Heath, Leverett, Montague, Northfield, Rowe, Warwick, Wendell, and Whately
- **Hampden County:** Blandford, Hampden, Holland, Monson, and Montgomery
- **Hampshire County:** Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Granby, Hadley, Hatfield, Huntington, Middlefield, Northampton, Pelham, Plainfield, Westhampton, and Williamsburg
- **Worcester County:** Barre, Brookfield, East Brookfield, Hardwick, Leicester, Mendon, Millville, New Braintree, North Brookfield, Upton, and West Brookfield

More information may be found at

<http://www.hampshirecog.org/programs-and-services/electricity-services/municipal-aggregation>

The HCOG application to the state government was expected to be decided in January 2015, yet no word of a decision has been heard. The Select Board is asked to sign a letter asking for a speedy decision on the HCOG application.

Please take a vote.

David Nixon

From: Kenneth Elstein <kelstein@hampshirecog.org>
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2015 1:55 PM
To: David Nixon
Subject: Please sign the attached letter to DPU for Electricity Aggregation in Hadley
Attachments: DPU Letter from Hadley.docx

David,

Our March 2014 Electricity Aggregation petitions for 35 towns and cities are now over 12 months old. More specifically, all of the hearings, questions, and briefs were completed in December. In spite of this, the Department of Public Utilities still has not ruled on our petitions. Though there may have been delays because of the appointment of a new DPU following the election, we should not have to wait any longer.

Our attorney asks that you copy the attached letter onto Town letterhead, sign the letter, and return it to me, either by email or FAX [(413) 584-1465]. [For legal reasons, he is required to send out copies of the letters to all of the people on the Service List.]

Thank you!

Ken

Kenneth E. Elstein
Community Choice Aggregation Specialist
Electricity Department

Hampshire Council of Governments
99 Main Street
Northampton, MA 01060
Phone: (413) 584-1300 x151 office
Fax: (413) 584-1465

<http://www.hampshirecog.org> | [twitter @hampshirecog](https://twitter.com/hampshirecog) | facebook.com/HCOG

March 31, 2015

BY FIRST CLASS MAIL and E-FILE

Mark D. Marini, Secretary
Department of Public Utilities
One South Station, 5th Floor
Boston, Massachusetts 02110

Re: The Town of Hadley - D.P.U. 14-36

Dear Secretary Marini:

I am writing on behalf of the Town of Hadley. We and thirty-four other communities have been working with the Hampshire Council of Governments to establish municipal electricity aggregation programs. After seeking to address various concerns, the Town submitted an updated petition more than one year ago on March 6, 2014. Our evidentiary hearing was nearly six months ago on November 14, 2014, with briefs submitted by all parties on December 1, 2014 and by the towns on December 8, 2014. Other communities with approved municipal aggregation plans have been able to respond to high prices and the current volatile energy market.

This letter is not intended to comment on the substance of our petition. Rather, we are writing to urge the Department to simply complete its review. We understand that time is short for any order to come out that would enable our Town to effectively enter the market for the coming summer season. Quite frankly, all Town energy-related planning is dependent upon your findings. We appreciate that the Department has many important responsibilities, but we believe that there has been more than adequate time to review our petition. We urge you to complete your review soon and issue an order by April 15, 2015.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

For the Town of Hadley

Enclosure

cc: Daniel P. Collins, Chief of Staff
Yvette Begue, Esq., Acting General Counsel
Jonathan Goldberg, Esq., Hearing Officer
Nathan Forster, Esq., Assistant Attorney General
Service List
Senator Stanley C. Rosenberg
Representative John W. Scibak