

COMMUNITY POWER SURVEY

In 2019 NH enacted legislation empowering municipalities to purchase electrical energy directly from suppliers. This gives municipalities the ability to provide residents and businesses electricity at competitive rates while allowing the individual consumer a choice concerning the amount of renewable energy in their energy supply. Local electric distribution utilities would continue to own and operate the “poles and wires” delivering electricity to all customers in the municipality and customers enrolled in a community power program may opt out at any time to return to utility or third-party supply. Community power programs enable consumers to select a cleaner mix of energy at a rate similar to or less than that from the utility.

In August of this year, the Walpole Selectboard approved the formation of the Walpole Community Power Committee and charged it with investigating community power and drafting a community power plan for Walpole. The Committee has prepared this survey to collect information in order to prepare a Community Power Plan that meets the needs and interests of the Walpole community.

YOUR ELECTRICITY SUPPLY:

1. Who is your electricity supplier? Check your electric bill if you are unsure
 Liberty
 Don't know
 Third party supplier/other

2. If your answer to question 1 was Liberty, why did you stay with Liberty? Check all that apply
 I did not know I had a choice
 I see no need to look for a different supplier
 I tried but could not find good rates
 I heard it is too risky to switch
 Other _____

3. If your answer to question 1 was “third party supplier/other”, why did you choose a supplier other than Liberty? Check all that apply
 More renewable content
 Better rate
 Other _____

4. What would you want a Community Power Program to bring to Walpole? Check all that apply
 Choice of electricity options
 Competitive rates
 Increased local renewable energy
 Local jobs
 Increased knowledge about energy and how to reduce costs
 Other _____

5. Several NH communities have municipal energy goals. Would you be in favor of Walpole doing the same?
- Yes
 - Yes, if the cost is cheaper
 - No
6. Are you interested in adding more renewable energy to your electricity supply?
- I would like more renewable energy if I can still pay about the same as I pay today
 - I would like more renewable energy and I am willing to pay more
 - I would like all (100%) renewable energy and am willing to pay more
 - No, I would not like more renewable energy
7. Do you generate your own electricity with solar panels or another method?
- Yes, with solar panels
 - No
 - Other _____
8. I am responding for a
- Home in Walpole
 - Business in Walpole
 - Other _____
9. Does your household pay the electric utility bill?
- Yes
 - No
10. Which matches your age?
- Under 18
 - 18 - 40
 - 41 - 65
 - 65 +