



Town of Winchester

WinPower

November 14, 2024

The Town of Winchester is pleased to announce that our electricity supply program, WinPower, has been renewed! WinPower is a group purchasing program, operated by the Town since 2017, which provides electricity supply options to help residents and businesses manage costs and increase renewable energy use. You currently receive one of Winchester's supply options. This letter explains upcoming changes to the products and your options.

WinPower's new pricing takes effect starting on your December 2024 meter read.

All WinPower prices will be lower than Eversource's current residential Basic Service prices.

No action is needed to receive the new pricing.

Our current pricing has been fixed since December 2022, providing multiple years of price stability. During this time, the Program has collectively saved over \$3 million for the community, or \$500 per average residential customer, compared to Eversource's supply cost. The Program has also provided cleaner electricity. These voluntary purchases of clean energy by WinPower participants now amount to 13,000 megawatt hours (MWh) annually, avoiding 10 million pounds of carbon pollution each year.

WINPOWER'S NEW SUPPLY OPTIONS AND PRICING

PRICE STABILITY: New prices for all WinPower products will remain fixed for **36 months, beginning December 2024 through December 2027**. The table below shows the current and new prices based on which supply option you are enrolled in. Unless you have affirmatively selected another option in the past, you are enrolled in the WinPower Standard supply option.

MORE RENEWABLES: All options are required by the State to include at least 62% Renewable Energy. The Town has increased the amount of renewable energy in our most popular option, **WinPower Standard**. It will now include **25% more renewable energy** than required by the State (87% total). We estimate that this will increase the annual voluntary renewable energy purchases by the WinPower program to a total of 16,000 MWh, *avoiding 12 million pounds of carbon pollution each year!* **WinPower Standard** will still cost less than Eversource's Basic Service residential supply when the new prices go into effect. **WinPower 100** adds an additional 38% Renewable Energy to the State-required 62% for a total of **100% renewable electricity**. In addition, **WinPower 100** will cost less than one cent more than WinPower Standard.

	Winchester Basic		WinPower Standard		WinPower 100	
	Current	New	Current	New	Current	New
Price	14.931 ¢/kWh	13.120 ¢/kWh	15.671 ¢/kWh	14.151 ¢/kWh	16.611 ¢/kWh	14.403 ¢/kWh
Voluntary Renewable Energy (MA Class I sources)	None	None	20%	25%	38%	38%
Total Renewable Energy	62% (required)	62% (required)	82%	87%	100%	100%

The Eversource Basic Service residential price is 15.772 ¢/kilowatt-hour (kWh) from Aug 1, 2024 to Jan 31 2025 and contains only the required minimum renewable energy. As Eversource prices change frequently and future rates are unknown, future savings cannot be guaranteed.

IMPORTANT DETAILS

- The **first bill to show the new pricing** will be the bill you receive showing usage from your December to January meter read. Most customers can expect to receive this bill in Mid-January 2024.
- Eversource will continue to set the charges on the **Delivery** portion of your electric bill and will repair outages and manage all billing. Delivery charges may increase separately from **Supply** charges.
- **Direct Energy** remains our Supplier for this contract, noted on your Eversource bill as “Direct Energy for the Town of Winchester” in the Supply portion of your bill.
- You may switch to another WinPower supply option at any time OR you may leave the Program at any time, without penalty, and return to Basic Service with Eversource. To switch options, submit a request at www.WinPowerMA.com, or call **our program’s electricity supplier, Direct Energy, (866) 968-8065**.
- WinPower has no impact on any solar benefits, low-income discounts, or budget billing plans.
- At the end of the pricing term (Dec. 2027), you will be automatically renewed in your current product which may have a higher or lower price and a different percentage of voluntary renewable energy as negotiated by the Town. The Town will announce price changes at least 30 days before any such change takes effect. Product details will always be available on the Town’s website for the Program: www.WinPowerMA.com.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **Tax-exempt small business customers** participating in the Program must provide a copy of their Tax-Exemption Certificate directly to Direct Energy via email at usn.taxexemption@directenergy.com, or mail at Direct Energy, Attn: USN Tax Exemption Dept, PO Box 180, Tulsa OK 74101-0180, in order to maintain their tax-exempt status.
- **If you have been receiving electricity supply from a competitive supplier and you received this letter**, you may have signed up after this mailing list was created. To ensure that you continue to receive your electricity from that competitive supplier and prevent any possible early termination fees, **you must contact WinPower’s supplier, Direct Energy (866-968-8065)**, to opt out of the WinPower Program and return to the competitive supplier.
- Wind, solar, and low-impact hydropower are the most common sources that qualify for Class I renewable energy. For more details on Class I sources and the required minimum renewable energy, see www.mass.gov/service-details/program-summaries.

QUESTIONS & SUPPORT

- For questions or troubleshooting, please contact the town’s consultant that manages the Program, **Good Energy**, by using the online form at **WinPowerMA.com**, or by calling (800) 672-5481.
- You may also reach out to Winchester’s Sustainability Director, Ken Pruitt at KPruitt@winchester.us