

Buckland Energy Committee

Meeting Minutes: 26 April 2023, 7:00 p.m. (held via Zoom)

Present: Committee Members: Michael Novack, Penny Novack, Margaret Olin, Brian Summer;
Guests: none

Facilitator: Penny Novack

Scribe: Margaret Olin

1. *Open the meeting.*
2. *Review and approve minutes from 15 March 2023 meeting.*
 - Approved unanimously as written.
3. *Discussion of solarize programs – past, present, & future – including state/federal incentives for residents, businesses, and municipalities, community solar initiatives; possibility of follow-up on pre-pandemic META Grant for Community Shared Solar feasibility study/ Northeast Solar*
 - Discussion of Nexamp community solar mailings: (Michael) they do medium-scale solar farms, and individuals can have shares a farm (which is a way that the company finances the project; then they give shareholders a fraction of the resulting “income”). This affects us, they say, because utilities try to take up share of allotted units. For more information about Nexamp:
 - <https://www.nexamp.com/>
 - <https://www.mitsubishicorp.com/jp/en/bg/power-solution-group/project/nexamp/>
4. *Discussion of local and regional energy-related issues (plus links shared at prior meetings), possibly including:*
 - Rail transport of fossil and other fuels; concerns about derailments, remaining railroad ties and debris along tracks
 - State-proposed energy legislation, including any “woodlands partnership” updates; response to Northern Pass; PACE Program & Green Works; Brian’s paper
 - Alternative electric power suppliers; municipal electricity aggregation program & any updates from Colonial Power Group
 - MassSave program updates
 - New Massachusetts programs: (through Mass CEC and DOER; Center for EcoTechnology --CET)
 - Municipal lighting/streetlights; Lighting Advisory Committee
 - Recycle-able/biodegradable plastic bags; single-use plastics
 - PFAS Testing Program updates
 - (Text and chart below quoted from 25 April email from Heather, sent to Margaret):

We executed aggregate pricing for another 24 months, keeping Dynegy as our supplier. You’ll note the pricing isn’t as favorable as it was but it’s still cheaper than Eversource / National Grid. I also opted to add a third option for those who might want the Class 1 RECs option. There was a 25% and 100 % option but I went with the middle ground. Please pass this along to the rest of the Energy Committee.

Consumer Choice	Current (1/1/21 - 1/1/24) Aggregation Pricing	New (1/1/24 - 1/1/26) Aggregation Pricing	Percent Change	NGRID / WCMA 11/1/23-4/30/24	WMECo / WCMA 1/1/24 – 6/30/24
Standard Electric – Default	0.09345	0.14159	51.51%	0.19	0.15800
National Wind RECS - +38%	0.09433	0.14302	51.62%		
MA Class I RECS - +50%	n/a	0.16112			

° Discussed programs described on following websites & urge residents to refer to them, as some valuable programs ending in at beginning of 2024

MassSave website: <https://www.masssave.com/en/residential>

<https://www.masssave.com/residential/rebates-and-incentives#heating-and-cooling>

5. *Update on past Green Communities Grant applications; planning for 2023-24*

- *continue discussion on potential projects to include in future applications, especially those that will bring us closer to the 20% reduction in energy use marker*
- *DOER updates?*

- None

6. *Continue discussion of future public events, including:*

- *Future winserts workshop? Public forum on energy issues?*
- *Summer & Fall '23 film series and/or discussion groups;*
- *Budget for events*

- None

7. *Updates on MVP Grant current and future; Hazard Mitigation Plan Updates*

- None

8. *Report back about other meetings/ activities in which committee members participate.*

- none

9. *Other items not reasonably anticipated*

- None

10. *Choose facilitator and scribe for next meeting.*

- Next meeting tentatively Wednesday 24 May at 7:00 over Zoom

11. *Adjourn meeting. 8:14p.m.*