

Community Choice Power in Maine

What can Community Power
- or Community Choice
Aggregation—do for us?

Maine Community Power Alliance



Agenda

- Folks want local control
- What are **Your** Values?
- State Experience
- Community Power in CA, NH, MA
- **Next Steps**

Maine community power a



Our Values

1. Saving Customers Money
2. More Local Control
3. Non-profit management of supply
4. Increasing GHG-Free Energy Use
5. Saving \$ For Distributed Energy
6. Trust, Transparency - public oversight
7. Jobs, Expertise, and Motivation

We Can Choose Our Future



New Features With Community Choice Power

Aspects of the Electrical Grid System	Consequence for Community Power
Utilities continue to own infrastructure	No upfront capital investment
State enabling law needs to be modernized	LD 2112 has an “Opt-out” approach
Joint Powers Agency or Agencies can be set up, get licensed, with public oversight	Requires county-by-county (or municipality) vote to authorize
PUC sets Renewable Portfolio Standards	Members lead on Renewable Portfolio Standards
Community Power offers more flexible, nimble choice of suppliers	Member entities contract for energy generation, through others—can be local providers
More independence on setting rates, using the proceeds.	Members set supply rates, keep profits , choose where to invest and innovate, locally
Desire for more public transparency	Transparent reporting with full public oversight

IOU = Investor-Owned Utilities

PUC = Public Utility Commission - State entities that regulate public utilities

RPS = Renewable Portfolio Standards - Goals for putting renewable energy in place, e.g., “80% by 2030”

State Experiences



www.leanenergyus.org

Community Power has many names:

"Municipal Energy Generation"

"Municipal Aggregation"

"Government Energy Aggregation" - NJ

"Municipal Energy Aggregation" - IL

"Governmental Electricity Generation" - OH

"RI Energy Aggregation Program" - RI

"Community Choice Energy" - MD

"Community Power" - NH

So Far, Ten States Have Community Choice:

California – 218+ communities in 25 CCAs

Illinois – 379 active, 746 authorized

Maryland – Authorized in 2021 - in development

Massachusetts – 144 active, 176 authorized

New Hampshire – 62 Operating, 8 launching, 7

New Jersey – 1 active, 131 authorized

New York – 101 active, 158 authorized

Ohio – 354 active, 632 authorized

Rhode Island – launched May 2023, 7 authorized,

Virginia – authorized in 1999, none launched yet

States Considering: AZ, CO, ME, MI, NM, PA, CT...

New England CCAs

State	Authorized	Active	% of Population
Massachusetts	199	144?	41%
New Hampshire	All	77	40+%
Rhode Island	7	7	38%
Maine	All	12*	

*** Municipal and Island Utilities, not CCAs per se, could be strengthened by LD 2112**

More State Details

CALIFORNIA

- * Began with Marin Clean Energy in **2010**
- * Grown to **25** CCAs by '23, serving over **14 million** people in **218** Communities
- * Higher Renewable Energy use has been achieved than expected
- * **Profits used for public purposes**
- * Investment grade = lower cost loans
- * Lower cost energy solutions

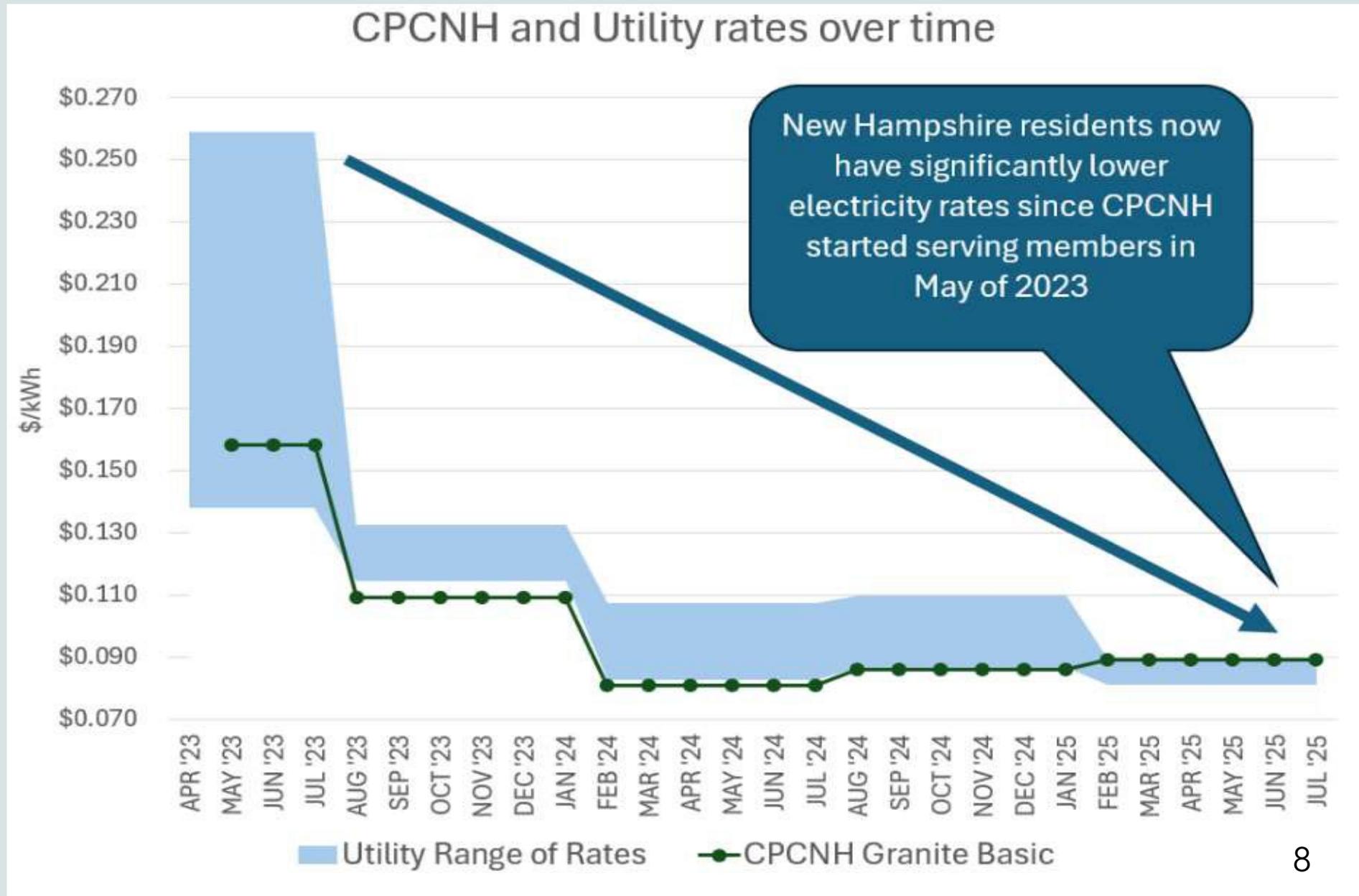
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NEW HAMPSHIRE

- * Legislation revised in 2019; PUC okay in 2022
- * Independent brokers grew
- * As of Jan '26, **CPC NH** has **62** operating members, +**8** launching, +**7+** more on deck
- * On average, **Lower cost supply** than IOUs
- * **Higher clean energy content offered** as option
- * **Local control** of profits means savings for projects
- * **Collaboration** among members of

[Clean Energy NH](#)

Actual Experience of Declining Rates in NH with CPCNH





Summary

- **It is time for a new approach to achieving local control over energy supply:**
 - **CCAs are alive in 10 states**
 - **Savings are being enjoyed**
 - **Community Power in NH is a great model**
 - **Local control matters for innovation**
 - ❖ **Community Power is taking off in Maine**
- MAINE COMMUNITY POWER ALLIANCE**

Resources



www.leanenergyus.org

communitypowernh.gov

25 CCA organizations in CA: cal-cca.org

Maine Community Power Alliance

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Maine community power alliance