

Maine Community Power Alliance



The **Maine Community Power Alliance** (MCPA) promotes [Community Choice Aggregation](#) (CCA) programs in towns and communities in Maine. Community Choice Aggregation is an alternative means of obtaining electricity supply, as an option outside of the MPUC's (Maine Public Utilities Commission) Standard Offer, or Competitive Energy Providers (CEPs). In a CCA program, the town or municipality acquires electricity directly from wholesale suppliers on behalf of all its residents and businesses, each of whom have the choice to "opt out" if they prefer not to participate. A CCA program could provide residents of participating municipalities benefits similar to the [Maine Power Options](#) benefits available to public-serving and non-profit organizations of Maine.

A CCA program offers:

- The ability of town residents and businesses to choose the sources and nature of electricity supplied to them
- Competitive, often lower, electricity rates than are currently available
- Increased selection of energy, including clean, renewable, *local* sources
- Retaining profits (including [Renewable Energy Credits](#)) for local benefits
- Complete transparency of local governance, rate setting, use of reserves, and public choices with *nonprofit oversight* by locally elected boards.

CCA's have been successful in [several states](#) for over a decade. In New Hampshire, the CCA approach is organized and led by [Community Power New Hampshire](#). Launched in April 2023, over 70 New Hampshire communities joined *in just 20 months*.

CCA programs have no impact on existing utilities. Utilities continue to deliver electricity and act as billing agents for electricity suppliers.

While this approach is already authorized in [1999 Maine law authorizing Electric Industry Restructuring](#), we advocate modernizing this legislation with [LD 2112, An Act to Authorize Municipalities to Form Community Choice Aggregation Programs to Procure Electricity](#).

LD 2112 provides the "opt out" option and other key fixes.

Send correspondence to: MaineCommunityPowerAlliance@gmail.com

RESOURCES

- Maine Community Power Alliance: <https://youtu.be/4bpZCc59uKE>
- LEAN Energy US: <https://www.leanenergyus.org>
- National Renewable Energy Laboratory: <https://www.nrel.gov/news/program/2019/report-sheds-light-on-community-choice-aggregation-in-the-united-states.html>
- New Hampshire: <https://www.communitypowernh.gov>