

Possible EAP goals section (note: this is preceded by Energy Aggregation Plan goals below):

## INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNITY POWER

### OVERVIEW OF PORTSMOUTH COMMUNITY POWER

### OVERVIEW OF THE COMMUNITY POWER COALITION OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

### PORTSMOUTH COMMUNITY POWER GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND REQUIREMENTS

**PORTSMOUTH POLICY GOALS:** Energy policy in Portsmouth has consistently embraced not only a ~~rapid~~ shift away from fossil fuel energy, but also a community power aggregation program. The Natural Step framework adopted when the city became an Eco-Municipality specifically calls for a reduction in fossil fuel consumption as one of its Four Principles. The city also adopted a renewable energy policy in 2018 with a stated goal to be “net zero” in carbon emissions, beginning with municipal consumption and extending to communitywide consumption and transportation. The Renewable Energy Committee report supporting this policy recommended ~~(#25) forming a local utility and/or~~ (#26) a Community Aggregation program.

Renewable energy policy:

<https://files.cityofportsmouth.com/files/planning/renewableenergypolicy.pdf>

Committee report:

<https://files.cityofportsmouth.com/files/planning/RenewableEnergyCommitteeFinalReportandRecommendationswithAppendixC.pdf>

Portsmouth Community Power can achieve both of these and will be a beneficial next step in the city's path to Net Zero.

In addition, economic growth and stability have long been city goals, and cost-effective, stable electric rates support this objective.

### PORTSMOUTH COMMUNITY POWER GOALS

**Competitive rates and expanded choices** – the program should ~~not launch unless it can~~ deliver ~~lower rates than the utility~~ stable and competitive rates. There should be tiered options from “cheapest” to “greenest” and the standard default package should be competitive in price with utility, preferably with more green power in it. It should enable easy opt out so consumers have full choice.

**More green power/more resilient power** – to both enable a ~~more rapid~~ shift away from fossil fuels, and to meet the demand from residents who want more renewable energy, Portsmouth Community Power should have a system of tiered offerings including for example ones with 50% green power and 100% green power.

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Portsmouth should also advocate with CPCNH to buy local (New Hampshire or New England) wind, hydro, solar to create these options, and advocate for buying this pure green power from the region in addition to Renewable Energy Credits. The program should ~~use all means~~ leverage opportunities (creation of reserve programs, purchase power agreements, etc.) to foster local renewable generation projects.

**Regional ~~c~~Collaboration:** Portsmouth Community Power should collaborate with regional community power programs, municipalities, utilities, and government agencies to jointly develop cost effective renewable energy generation and storage projects, and support electric energy transit fleets and charging corridors, as well as enhanced reliability of electric supply through development of community microgrids to support critical infrastructure

**Rate stability/fiscal stability and financial reserves:** Portsmouth Community Power, through the Coalition, will adopt a Risk Management Policy ~~that enables purchase of a portfolio of short and long term contracts~~ to ensure competitive rates as market prices fluctuate, as well as a plan to deposit a portion of revenues into a rate reserve fund.

#### Enhanced ~~c~~Customer ~~f~~Focus

- Educate consumers regarding how to reduce energy costs including for example, installation of “smart meters” and control of when power is taken (time-varying rate structures) or supplied to the grid (net metering programs (time-varying rate structures))
- Reduce fossil fuel consumption ~~by supporting through energy efficiency programs and encouragement of more efficient electric vehicles and appliances~~ electrification of appliances and vehicles
- Encourage local energy production and storage by supporting customer installation of clean energy technologies
- Attract and support local businesses through enhanced energy reliability and clean power initiatives

#### Consumer ~~p~~rotections and ~~p~~ublic ~~a~~dvocacy

- Ensure the ~~program~~ contracts entered into and projects represent the interests of customers and the City of Portsmouth
- Represent the interests of customers before the legislature and the PUC and advocate for policies, regulation and infrastructure investments to achieve affordable, local and resilient energy systems

**Strong partnership with Eversource** Successful implementation of Portsmouth Community Power will require a strong partnership with Eversource as the investor-owned transmission ~~and~~ delivery and billing utility entity. The program should also work with Eversource on ~~any and all~~ ways to modernize the grid and develop innovative energy saving programs.

**Through strategies and initiatives like these**, enabled by the scope and scale of service provided through the Coalition, Portsmouth Community Power intends to:

- Reduce fossil fuel consumption overall while enhancing the reliability of our electricity grid;
- Create savings and new value for customers; and
- Support the vitality and growth of local businesses.

These objectives are essential to our continued success as a vital, sustainable community.

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