

# HUNTERDON AREA ENERGY COOPERATIVE

## Dear Washington Township Resident,

I am proud to write to you today to share the good news about the Hunterdon Area Energy Cooperative. Washington Township has opted to participate in this state-authorized "Community Aggregation Program" designed to offer you and your neighbors <u>reduced rates on your electric bills.</u>

The bottom line is that when we all purchase energy together as a community, we are able to access lower, more stable rates.

Community Aggregation is very different than other third party supply contracts and offers protections to you that individual contracts may not offer:

The rate is a flat rate that will be the same from month to month.

The ability to leave the program at ANY TIME.

NO penalties or fees to leave the program.

The following pages contain important information explaining the Community Aggregation Program established by Washington Township to provide lower electric generation rates than you would currently pay with JCP&L. We are pleased to offer this program for your electric supply!

We have scheduled public information sessions about the program so that everyone can learn more and get their questions answered:

Town Hall 43 Schooley's Mountain Road, Long Valley, NJ January 16, 2019 at 5:45 p.m.

Washington Township Public Library 37 East Springtown Road, Long Valley, NJ January 22, 2019 at 11:30 a.m.

Fairmount Firehouse 12 Parker Road, Long Valley, NJ January 24, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

We hope to see you at one of these information sessions.

Sincerely,

Matthew Murello

Matthew Murello Mayor

## THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT COMMUNITY ENERGY AGGREGATION

**All current services** such as delivery, meter readings, billing, payments, emergency services, etc., are serviced through JCP&L, just as they are today.

This program offers the reduced rate versus JCP&L's current Price to Compare on the supply portion of your electric bill. You will still be billed for consumption (delivery) charges from JCP&L, just as you are today.

The rate offered is a flat rate that will be the same from month to month.

**Budget billing will be offered**. If you are currently enrolled in a budget bill plan with JCP&L, the program's supplier will start a budget bill plan for you. In addition, anyone wishing to enroll in a budget plan through the program may also elect to do so. Please see the budget bill page included in this packet for more information.

**There are no fees for participation in the program**. You may choose to join or leave the program at any time, as often as you wish, for the duration of the program at no cost. You will never be charged fees or incur penalties, even after the initial 30-day response period.

You will continue to call JCP&L for service-related questions and outages. For outages, you will still call JCP&L at (888) 544-4877, and for billing-related questions, you can call JCP&L at (888) 544-4877 or IDT Energy, Inc. at (855) 823-9309.

**No one will be calling or knocking on your door regarding this program**. All information regarding this program is mailed through the US Postal Service and will be posted on the program's website at www.njaggregation.us/HAEC. Please be wary of anyone trying to obtain or discuss your account information otherwise.

**We're all in this together**. We know municipal energy issues like this can sometimes be a bit technical and perhaps even boring. Please keep in mind that this is something your neighbors and people across Hunterdon and Morris Counties have done as well.



## **BUDGET BILL INFORMATION**

# For those residents who are on a *budget bill program* through JCP&L, please review the information provided on this page.

- If you are currently on Budget Billing with JCP&L, you will <u>automatically</u> be offered a budget bill with this program through IDT Energy, Inc.
- <u>Prior to entering the program</u>, you will receive a reconciliation or "true up" bill from JCP&L. This is to bring your account to zero prior to entering the energy aggregation program.
- The reconciliation amount may be substantial, depending on how much you are over or under on the budgeted amount, and this reconciliation may come as a charge or a credit on your bill.
- This new budget amount will be based on your most current usage history for the last 12 months. Every six (6) months in the program, IDT Energy will conduct an adjustment to your monthly budget amount to ensure your budget amount is in line with your actual usage.
- After 12 months with the program, IDT Energy will conduct a reconciliation or "true up" to bring your account to a \$0 balance. This may result in a credit or charges, depending on your usage and budget bill amount.
- If you choose to leave the program, you will be provided another reconciliation or "true up" which will bring your account to \$0 prior to leaving the program.
- If a new rate is not offered at the end of this initial contract term for the program participants, you will receive a reconciliation or "true up" bill on the last bill. Just as above, this will zero out your account prior to returning to JCP&L. The resulting credit or charges *may* be substantial if your usage is significantly lower or higher than the prior year.
- Any resulting reconciliation charge or "true up" amount represents your usage over and above the amount you were budgeted for and is not for "extra charges". We encourage you to track your usage vs. your budgeted amount so you can stay current on your usage and charges.
- If you have a credit against your budgeted amount, meaning you used less energy than budgeted for, your credit will be applied to any future charges on your bill.

## Please contact a Commercial Utility Consultants customer care agent at (855) 200-2648 with questions. Thank you!



# **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

What is the Hunterdon Area Energy Cooperative? Municipalities have the ability to pool the usage of all their residents to obtain a lower energy supply rate than you are currently being charged.

Who supervises the Hunterdon Area Energy Cooperative process? The NJ Board of Public Utilities has enforcement authority over Aggregation programs in New Jersey. The program's Energy Agents, Commercial Utility Consultants, Inc., and Concord Energy Services, Inc., must follow strict statutory guidelines implemented by the state agency. Key documents are provided to the NJ Board of Public Utilities and the Division of Rate Counsel staff for review and comment during the process.

Is my municipality the only one in the Energy Aggregation Program? No, your municipality chose to participate in this program along with three others in order to maximize buying power to obtain better rates for their residents.

What information will I receive about the program? Aside from public meetings, you will receive at least two letters: one is your official opt-out letter (attached in this packet) which provides details such as the program rate, term, chosen supplier and the deadline for opting out; and the second is a confirmation letter from JCP&L stating that you have elected to remain in the program and the date your account will be switched over. This second letter is a form letter stating you have chosen to switch, even though the program was chosen by your municipality as a benefit to you.

Are Commercial Utility Consultants and Concord Energy Services energy suppliers? No. They are independent consultants that work with all of the energy suppliers licensed by the Board of Public Utilities to do business in New Jersey. Commercial Utility Consultants and Concord Energy Services obtain the energy contract and work through the process to put the energy aggregation program in place for your municipality.

**Do I have to be enrolled in this program?** No. You can choose not to participate by going to <u>www.njaggregation.us/HAEC</u>, by calling (877) 292-3904 or by returning the enclosed response card.

**Will I be penalized if I do not become a part of the program?** No. <u>There will never be a fee or penalty associated with participation or non-participation in this program</u>. If you do not want to be a part of our program, you are free to stay with your current utility or choose your own Third Party Supplier.

Am I going to have to pay more than one bill if I am a part of this program? No. You will continue to pay one bill each month directly to JCP&L, just as you always have.

If I have solar panels, can I be a part of this program? At this time, suppliers are not able to process the net metering portion of solar credits, and we recommend that you opt-out of the program to avoid losing your credits.

**If I am currently in a contract with a Third Party Supplier, can I be a part of this program?** If you are currently under contract with a Third Party Supplier, you will <u>not</u> be automatically enrolled in the Energy Aggregation Program. We recommend that you wait for your current contract term to expire and then enroll in the Energy Aggregation Program by calling our Energy Agents at 855-200-2648.

Who will read my meter now? JCP&L will still be reading your meter.

**Can my information be sold to advertisers or energy companies?** No. Your information, including your account number, is confidential and can only be used to set up the municipality's program.



## HUNTERDON AREA ENERGY COOPERATIVE

January 7, 2019

Dear Washington Township Resident:

Recently Washington Township took advantage of a state law that allows us to establish a Community Energy Aggregation Program. For municipalities that choose to participate, this program permits the aggregation of all residential customers within participating municipalities for the purpose of competitively purchasing electricity at rates lower than are currently available from your electric utility. Washington Township combined the electricity consumption of all residential customers in conjunction with three other municipalities and received competitive bids from the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities licensed suppliers to provide this electricity supply service and secure better rates for our residents.

**How the Program Works:** We obtained a rate that is lower than what JCP&L currently charges for the energy supply portion of your bill.<sup>1</sup> This program offers a flat rate and is designed to offer a reduced rate without the risk of rate increases, unlike other variable Third Party Supply (TPS) contracts. This means the rate will remain the same for the term of the contract.

**Electricity Auction Results:** The auction results are **\$0.0863/kWh** offered by IDT Energy, Inc. (as compared to JCP&L's prevailing Price to Compare rate of \$0.105331/kWh). This rate will go into effect on your **April 2019** meter read date and will continue through your **October 2020** meter read date. By way of example, if your monthly electric usage is 700/kWh, your bill under this program will be \$60.41 for the supply portion versus \$73.73 that you would have paid with JCP&L. You will see your initial savings on the electric bill you receive in May 2019.

JCP&L will continue to deliver your electricity, and you will be billed at the regulated delivery rate. JCP&L will continue to provide all emergency and safety services. JCP&L will also continue to provide customer services such as meter reading, billing<sup>2</sup> and service restoration. You will also continue to only receive one bill and continue to pay JCP&L.

In accordance with the State's program requirements, as a Washington Township resident you will be automatically enrolled in the program unless you opt-out by **2/28/2019**. Once enrolled, **you may leave at any time and you will never have to pay any fees associated with joining or leaving the program**.<sup>3</sup>

As a residential electric customer who has not chosen a Third Party Supplier (TPS) for your electric supply, you will be automatically enrolled in this program and receive the anticipated energy savings **unless you indicate your desire not to participate** by completing and mailing the enclosed response card by **2/28/2019**. (The date shall not be less than 30 calendar days after the postmark on this notice.) You may also call (877) 292-3904 toll free to opt-out (please note that wait times may be longer during high call time periods and please have your bill handy) or visit www.njaggregation.us/HAEC. For all other questions and more detailed information, or if you received this letter in error, call toll free at (855) 200-2648.

<sup>1</sup> JCP&L rates may increase or decrease during the course of this program, which would affect the anticipated level of customer savings. Savings cannot be guaranteed over the term of the agreement. JCP&L charges can change quarterly and are posted on the web.

<sup>2</sup> Other billing arrangements may apply for customers who do not remain current with their bills.

<sup>3</sup> Leaving the program is subject to the timing of meter readings and typically takes 1-2 full meter read cycles,

## HUNTERDON AREA ENERGY COOPERATIVE - MUNICIPAL AGGREGATION PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

Third Party Supplier Information By entering into this contract, you are agreeing to purchase your electric supply from this supplier	State of New Jersey License Number: ESL-0081 (Electric), GSL-0090 (Gas) IDT Energy, Inc., 520 Broad Street, Newark, NJ 07102 855-823-9309 - contactus@idtenergy.com - <a href="www.IDTEnergy.com">www.IDTEnergy.com</a> You have chosen IDTE as your third party supplier (TPS). IDTE is not affiliated with your electric distribution company (EDC). IDTE is responsible for the electric supply charges on your bill. These charges will appear on your EDC's bill separate and apart from your EDC's charges for delivering your electricity.	
Price Structure	With this Municipal Aggregation Program, your price will be effective starting with your fir date of service with IDTE and is a flat rate that will remain the same for all bills issued through your October 2020 Meter Read Date. <sup>1</sup>	
Generation/ Supply Price	The supply price you will be charged for the electricity supplied during the Term of the Municipal Aggregation Program will be <b>\$0.0863 per kWh (8.63 cents/kWh).</b>	
Statement Regarding Savings	The utility's Price to Compare may rise or fall during the term of this agreement so there is no guarantee of savings.	
Amount of time required to change from TPS back to default service or to another TPS	If you choose to cancel service and opt-out of this Municipal Aggregation Program to return to your EDC or switch to another TPS, this change will be effective with the next available cycle date in accordance with your EDC's cycle rules, which takes 1 to 2 billing cycles from the submission of the cancellation request.	
Incentives	N/A	
Right to Cancel/Rescind	This Agreement shall continue until the expiration of the specified term (unless either party provides prior notice of its intent to cancel) and until the EDC completes the termination in accordance with its rules. A customer may opt-out of this Agreement at any time during the 30 calendar days after the postmark on the Opt-Out notice, or at any time over the term of the contract without penalty, by calling 877-292-3904, visiting www.njaggregation.us/HAEC or returning the enclosed response card. You may cancel this agreement at any time without Penalty.	
Contract Start Date	Your account will begin receiving Electric Supply Service from IDTE on the first available billing cycle date, as determined by your EDC, on or after <b>3/31/2019</b> .	
Contract Term/Length	The Term of this Municipal Aggregation Program will end on or about <b>10/31/2020.</b>	
Cancellation / Termination Fees	There are no early termination fees associated with this Municipal Aggregation Program.	
Renewal Terms	You will receive notice at least 30 days prior to expiration of the Term advising of your renewal options. You may cancel this agreement at any time without penalty.	
Distribution Company Information	<ul> <li>Your EDC will continue to deliver electric to you, you still make payment to your EDC for this service, and you will still call your EDC in the case of an energy related emergency. You may contact your EDC at the information provided below:</li> <li>JCPL: 1-888-LIGHTSS (544-4877)</li> </ul>	

1. Supplier cannot adjust prices monthly for changed market conditions. Prices can <u>only</u> be adjusted to reflect a Change in Law affecting power prices that will also impact the JCP&L power supply tariff. You will be notified in advance of any such change, and will maintain your ability to opt out.

## IDT Energía, Inc. (IDTE) Resumen del Contrato de Terceros Proveedor

## HUNTERDON AREA CORPORATIVA ENERGETICA – PARTICIPANTES DEL PROGRAMA DE AGREGACION MUNICIPAL

Información de Terceros Proveedor	Numero de Licencia del Estado de Nueva Jersey: ESL-0081 (Electric), GSL-0090 (Gas) IDT Energy, Inc., 520 Broad Street, Newark, NJ 07102
Al entrar en este contrato, usted acepta comprar su suministro eléctrico a este proveedor.	<b>855-823-9309 - contactus@idtenergy.com - www.IDTEnergy.com</b> Usted ha elegido a IDTE como su tercer proveedor de suministro (TPS). IDTE no está afiliada con su compañía de distribución eléctrica (EDC). IDTE es responsable por los cargos de suministro eléctricos en su factura. Estos cargos aparecerán separados en su EDC factura y aparte de los cargos de distribución de su EDC.
Precio Estructurado	Con este Programa de Agregación Municipal, su precio será efectivo a partir de la primera fecha de servicio con IDTE y es una tarifa plana que seguirá siendo la misma para todas las facturas emitidas hasta la fecha de lectura del medidor de Octubre de 2020. <sup>1</sup>
Generación / Precio de Suministro	La tarifa de suministro que se le cobrara por la electricidad durante el término del Programa de Agregación Municipal será <b>\$0.0863 por kW (8.63 cents/kWh).</b>
Declaración sobre ahorros	El precio de comparación de la utilidad puede aumentar o disminuir durante el término de este acuerdo, por lo que no hay garantía de ahorro.
Cantidad de tiempo necesario para cambiar de suplidor al servicio predeterminado o a otro suplidor	Si usted decide cancelar el servicio y optar-no de este Programa de Agregación Municipal para regresar a su EDC o a otro suplidor (TPS), este cambio será efectivo con la siguiente fecha de cicle disponible de acuerdo con las reglas del cicle de su EDC, que toma 1 a 2 ciclos de factura desde la presentación de la solicitud de cancelación.
Incentivos	N/A
Derecho a cancelar /Rescindir	Este acuerdo continuara hasta la expiración del plazo especificado (a menos que una de las partes notifique su intención de cancelar) y hasta que la EDC complete la terminación de conformidad con sus reglas. Un cliente puede optar por no participar en este acuerdo en cualquier momento durante los 30 días calendario posteriores al sello en el aviso de exclusión, o en cualquier momento durante el término del contrato sin penalización, <b>Ilamando al 877-292-3904, visitando www.njaggregation.us/HAEC o devolver el formulario incluido que desprende a la dirección designada. Usted puede cancelar este acuerdo en cualquier momento sin penalización.</b>
Fecha de inicio de contracto	Su cuenta comenzara a recibir el servicio de suministro eléctrico de IDTE en la primera fecha de ciclo de facturación disponible, según lo determinado por su EDC, en o después de <b>3/31/2019</b> .
Termino de contrato/ Duración	Los términos de este Programa de Agregación Municipal terminaran en o alrededor del <b>10/31/2020.</b>
Cancelación / Cargos de Terminación	No hay cargos de terminación anticipada asociados con este Programa de Agregación Municipal.
Términos de Renovación	Usted recibirá un aviso dentro de los 30 días previos a la expiración del plazo de asesoramiento de sus opciones de renovación. Usted puede cancelar este acuerdo en cualquier momento sin penalización.
Información de la compañía de distribución	<ul> <li>Su EDC continuara la distribución de electricidad, usted todavía hace el pago a su EDC por este servicio, y usted todavía llamara a su EDC en el caso de una emergencia relacionada con la energía. Puede comunicarse con su EDC a la siguiente información:         <ul> <li>JCPL: 1-888-LIGHTSS (544-4877)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

1. El proveedor no puede ajustar los precios mensualmente por las condiciones del mercado. Los precios <u>solo</u> pueden ajustarse para reflejar un Cambio en Ley que afecte los precios de la energía y que también afectaría la tarifa de suministro de energía de JCP&L. Se le notificara por adelantado de cualquier cambio de este tipo y mantendrá su capacidad de exclusión.



#### **Hunterdon Area Energy Cooperative**

C/O Commercial Utility Consultants, Inc. 212 W. State St Trenton, NJ 08608



## Hunterdon Area Energy Cooperative

Program Opt-Out Reply Card

First Name, Init, Last Name Address City, St Zip Code

Signature	Date

#### **Opt-Out Instructions**

You do not need to take any action to participate in the Hunterdon Area Energy Cooperative

If you do not wish to participate:

- 1. Sign and date this card; and
- 2. Drop it in the mail

This card must be signed by the customer of record whose name appears in the address on this card. You have 30 days from the postmark of this notification to return the card.

I also do NOT wish to participate in any future energy aggregation programs offered by my municipality.