

June 27, 2025

Rate Adjustment Notice

CPCNH Board of Directors Adopts Rate Increase for Period Aug 1, '25 – Jan 31, '26

Electricity rates are scheduled to increase for utilities and suppliers across New Hampshire. The electricity market is driven by factors such as the regional and global price of natural gas and other fossil fuels, availability of fuel and electricity supply, customer demand, and weather events. New England's electricity market is heavily dependent on the price of natural gas, which is driven by global market trends and can react with volatility to geopolitical events around the world.

On Thursday June 26, 2025, the CPCNH Board of Directors approved a rate adjustment that will go into effect starting August 1, 2025. For the typical residential customer, rates will increase from 9.7 ¢/kWh to between 13.2 – 13.7 ¢/kWh, depending on the cost to serve different customers. **Visit www.communitypowernh.gov to view all rate options.**

The rate adjustment represents an average 38% increase relative to current residential Community Power rates. [Proxy supply rates](#) from Eversource, Unitil, Liberty, and NH Electric Co-op are set to increase an average of 43% from current period rates. Some utility rates include partial adders to collect prior period losses, while some losses are deferred for collection in future periods.¹

As a result of engagement across our membership and [CPCNH testimony before the PUC](#), utility under-collections will be recovered in utility supply rates and not as added charges to Community Power and market customers. Through the Coalition, members help ensure state energy policy decisions reflect customer interests and unlock greater value by modernizing our energy system.

Community Power Coalition of NH is controlled by its members and makes our state more energy independent. Through our public power agency, members are beginning to see the benefits of developing local projects like the [5-megawatt Poverty Plains community solar array in Warner](#) (equivalent to ~1,200 households) scheduled to come online in 2026. Development of locally controlled energy assets can enable long-term stability, cost savings, and greater energy security.

Customers are free to choose between Community Power, third-party options, or their utility. To opt in, out, or to select cleaner power, customers can:

- ✦ Visit www.communitypowernh.gov/ and use the online portal.
- ✦ Call 1-866-603-7697 (POWR) or email Info@CommunityPowerNH.gov.

¹ The PUC has ordered Liberty to refile their rates and defer part of their under-collection, which will lower Liberty's proposed rate.

How are Community Power rates determined?

Over the past six months, CPCNH personnel have made significant technical improvements to core power resources and financial business systems. CPCNH now has confidence in the functionality and accuracy of systems and tools for (1) load forecasting, (2) financial modeling, (3) cost of service analysis, (4) rate setting.

- ⚡ Improvements to our **load forecast** model enable more accurate predictions of the patterns of customer electricity usage over time to inform energy purchasing and portfolio management.
- ⚡ The improved load forecast connects to newly constructed **probabilistic cashflow model** to create a clear view of CPCNH's financial position and outlook across multiple scenarios.
- ⚡ We then conduct a **cost-of-service** analysis to create a detailed understanding of all cost drivers. Costs are then allocated across different customer classes (e.g., residential vs. general service) and utility territories to ensure fair cost allocation and to minimize cost shifting.
- ⚡ The resulting **rate setting** scenarios from these improved technical systems ensure informed decision-making and that rates cover costs.

Rate scenarios are publicly deliberated by CPCNH's Risk Management and Finance Committees and approved by our Board of Directors.

Why do different classes of customers, and customers served by different utilities, pay different electric rates? What are “cost-of-service” rates?

Customer classes in different utility territories have different costs of service. This is visible in the variation in supply rates charged by different utility companies. The difference in residential rates across utility territories is primarily driven by varying energy capacity costs. These costs are charged to CPCNH by ISO New England to ensure sufficient generating capacity for system reliability. CPCNH follows cost causation principles, meaning customers should pay for costs associated with serving them and not those associated with serving other customers. Cost of service rates ensure fair treatment of customers and equitable contributions to joint reserves by different member cities and towns.

What are the components of the rate?

Rates for the upcoming period are set to cover a forecasted total of \$96,829,495 in costs, including:

- ⚡ 86.4% energy supply (\$83,628,968)²
- ⚡ 8.6% contribution to members' joint reserves (\$8,370,236)
- ⚡ 5.0% operating expense (\$4,830,291)

Members' joint reserves support local control, ensure long-term stability, and enable members to finance local energy investments to increase energy independence. CPCNH aims to meet minimum reserve targets to cover 60 days of expenses over a 3-year period.

² Includes energy, capacity, other ISO-NE charges, Purchase of Receivables discount, annual rate adjustment, and the RPS obligations.