



**LEBANON ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (LEAC)  
NOVEMBER 20, 2025 - 3:30 PM  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL OR  
REMOTE VIA VIRTUAL PLATFORM  
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- 
- 1. Call to Order**
  - 2. Preamble**
  - 3. Approval of Minutes**
    - A. October 16, 2025
  - 4. Old Business**
    - A. Legislation 1 PUC Regulations, 1 CPCNH / LCP updates; CPCNH Publicity Campaign.
    - B. Landfill Gas to Energy Project; compost issue
    - C. Lebanon Energy Savings Program
    - D. EV Subcommittee Report
    - E. City Master Plan: Chapter 13- Energy. Discussion leading to LEAC's approval.
    - F. UV's Energy Committees- meet to share information, goals, etc.
  - 5. New Business**
    - A. C-PACER — Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy and Resiliency, designed to assist commercial property owners and developers, access to private-sector financing for improvements to save energy costs and/or improve a building's resiliency. To enable the program, municipalities must adopt a C-PACER Ordinance or Resolution.
    - B. Balcony Solar legislation
    - C. CPCNH: New refresh policy
  - 6. Open to the Public**
  - 7. Upcoming Events**
  - 8. Future Agenda Items**
  - 9. Adjournment**

AGENDA  
LEBANON ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (LEAC)  
November 20, 2025

AGENDA ITEM 3  
APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

**October 16, 2025**

DRAFT

**LEBANON ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (LEAC)  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
Remote Via Microsoft Teams  
LebanonNH.gov/Live  
October 16, 2025  
3:30 PM**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Henry Bromberg (Chair), Thomas Benzel, Clifton Below, Sherry Boschert (remote), Patrick Kenelly, James Mashal (remote), Woody Rothe, Bill Stearns

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Jonathan Chaffee,

**STAFF PRESENT:** Chris Kilmer, Asst. Director, Public Works

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1 **1. CALL TO ORDER – Chair Bromberg called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM**

2

3 **2. PREAMBLE –** Read by Mr. Chris Kilmer

4

5 **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

6 A. September 18, 2025

7

8 *Ms. Clifton Below MOVED to approve the September 18, 2025, minutes as amended.*

9 *Seconded by Mr. Tom Benzel*

10

11 *\* The vote on the MOTION was approved( 8-0).*

12

13 • September 18, 2025

14 Amendments:

15 Page 1, Line 25, change **new** metering to **net** metering

16 Page 1, Line 27, change to : Specific to Lebanon, the Landfill Gas can only be used to produce current  
17 renewal energy credits and not for the production of electricity (per DOE), for NH Class 1 energy.

18 Page 1, Line 28 change Mr. Tom Corman to Representative Tom Corman.

19

20 **4. OLD BUSINESS**

21 A. Legislation 1 PUC Regulations 1 CPCNH / LCP updates; CPCNH Publicity Campaign

22

23 Mr. Below said that Representative Corman put in the bill drafting request on renewable energy credits.

24 Representative Michael Vose put in a bill to enable storage as part of net metering. His first draft had

25 issues starting with mandating that all net metered installations have to have storage (within 2 years) and

26 also at the request of Eversource, added that by statute the storage could only charge from the net metered

27 generation, which is contrary to Liberty’s battery pilot. Liberty allows batteries to be charged from the

28 grid when they dispatch it to save a co- incident peak so that they return it to the customer. Mr. Below

29 met with him and Representatives Corman and McGhee and explained how this works. Representative

30 Vose agreed to take out the mandate provision (that you had to have storage), and that the language about

1 being only charged from the generation source should have an exception as the public utilities allows for  
2 the public good. He shared a prior case about this topic.

3  
4 Regarding Liberty's under collections from prior periods, the PUC only let them recover half of that, so  
5 they still have approximately \$4M in under recovery that they have not collected that they need to start  
6 trying to recover. They propose to start recovering this with their new rate, but the town of Salem  
7 (representing about half of Liberty's service load) is launching their community power program, which  
8 will add to their already shrinking customer base. Depending on how this plays out, it creates the  
9 possibility that CPCNH rates could be lower than Liberty's sometime next year.

10  
11 Next, he spoke about people that install solar, and whether they continue to consume the same amount of  
12 electricity or an increase. He used AI and found substantial causal correlation that there is actually  
13 increased usage since the same people tend to all purchase electric vehicles and utilize charges, electric  
14 heat pumps, electric lawnmowers and chain saws, etc. Arguably, the utilities are getting  
15 overcompensated, since the electric companies are underestimating the actual electric use of the customer  
16 which means they have less lost revenue than they think they have.

17  
18 As an aside, he noted that nationally, 7% of EV owners have solar whereas in CA, that number is 37%.

19  
20 Clean Energy New Hampshire along with Revision and others put in comments complimentary to  
21 CPCNH.

22 Eversource is adamant that they do not want to change load settlement because they do not want to allow  
23 CPCNH to serve net metered customers. Mr. Below said that the programming involved could not cost  
24 that much.

25  
26 Mr. Below shared that both the states of TX and CA are progressive on distributive energy resources, and  
27 competitive suppliers get offered compensation for exports to the grid, both for distributed generation and  
28 storage, and it is all encouraged and supported by the business communities there.

29  
30 90% of attrition from CPCNH is from people moving away (apartments, houses, small businesses, etc.),  
31 which is natural. The coalition is looking at their policy on "refreshes" for those who have previously  
32 opted out, to notify them that they can opt back in. All communities (in CPCNH) have the option of  
33 writing consumers who have opted out but due to their rates currently being higher, they may wait on this  
34 for now.

35  
36 Mr. Mashal spoke about the financials and said that the coalition has been working on a drawdown  
37 (losses) of their reserves. All reserves are currently accrued by each municipality and aggregated up at a  
38 coalition level. Lebanon Community Power(LCP) has approximately \$1M of reserves, similar to Nashua,  
39 though LCP has less customers to serve. This is in part due to the business mix and also because Liberty  
40 customers are less expensive to serve than Eversource customers. According to their calculations, there is  
41 about a 60 or more days period of reserves. Mr. Below said that Lebanon has offered a *net savings* for  
42 those customers who were in this program from the beginning.

43  
44 He thinks there will be adjustments to their rate setting period; it is under review. Mr. Below said that  
45 April 2026 will be 3 years from the launch of this program. In the meantime, they will continue to rebuild  
46 cash reserves.

47  
48 B. Landfill Gas to Energy Project

1 Mr. Kilmer said that the hydrogen sulfide vault that has been causing shutdowns has been temporarily  
2 addressed with a workaround. Their staff has been manually pumping, to help keep things running. The  
3 revised vault with different sensors is in and they are simply waiting for the it to be installed by an  
4 electrician.

5  
6 He is still working through the production bill credits with Liberty; they are recording the correct  
7 amounts, but it is not accurately tabulating on the bills. Mr. Kilmer continues to manually tabulate each  
8 month, so that the end results is an accurate amount/credit.

9  
10 He just learned that their Q2 recs minted but without any classifications on them. The issue is that the  
11 City needs to report emissions. He has shared GIS requirements with Mr. Below a bit earlier today, for  
12 them to discuss. The City now meets the thresholds, and their accountant has that information to compile,  
13 and he anticipates the City will get the domestic content adder. The goal is money back via direct pay.

14  
15 C. Lebanon Energy Savings Program

16  
17 Mr. Rothe said they are still working with Zane Building Group. He learned that the mailings from RBG  
18 have been staggered so many landlords were not aware of this program until calls from him/LEAC.

19  
20 D. EV Subcommittee Report

21  
22 Mr. Stearns said that AARP is going to contribute about \$3,000 for an EV bike charger at Ledyard  
23 School. He and Ms. Boschert will work together on ideas to raise the additional funds needed for this  
24 installation.

25  
26 Ms. Boschert said that there has been significant pushback from developers for EV. Some want this  
27 moved out of Zoning and into the site plan review process. The other topic is the actual proposed  
28 amendments themselves, and what the regulations should be. The Planning Board unanimously voted for  
29 the regulations to be taken out of Zoning and put into site plan review process. They did not, however,  
30 take any actions on the regulations themselves.

31  
32 The City Council has formed a Task Force with three members of the City Council and three members of  
33 the Planning Board and charge them with reviewing the proposed regulations and amendments and  
34 deciding which way the City of Lebanon should go.

35  
36 Members are: Tim McNamara, Laurel Stavis, Chris Simon, Ward 1, Wes Acord, Karen Appleton and  
37 Don Collins. Another Council member, Eric Stacey, had drawn up his own proposal about the regulations  
38 and wanted to be appointed to this task force and if he was not appointed, he said he would resign. He  
39 was not appointed so at the meeting Eric Stacey resigned.

40  
41 Ms. Boschert plans to attend the next meeting, and she asked LEAC members to come, if possible, to help  
42 make LEAC's case.

43  
44 Other key dates:

45  
46 ZBA (Zoning Board Adjustments) November 3, 7:00PM, to review the proposed amendments. Ms.  
47 Boschert will be traveling that day and asked if any one of the LEAC members could attend this  
48 important meeting. Mr. Clifton Below said that he will attend.

1  
2 November 24, 6:30PM the Planning Board will review all of this again.  
3 January 7, 2026 City Council will meet and have public hearings.  
4 January 21, 2026 City Council will have another public hearing and, in all likelihood, make decisions.  
5  
6 Ms. Boschert had a good meeting with Mr. Jon Levada (a developer), and she thinks there is the  
7 possibility of collaboration for a better infrastructure and outcome.  
8  
9 LEAC has applied for a T- mobile grant (\$8,000) and are awaiting their response. It could potentially  
10 cover the cost of two installations. They are also asking for TIF funds (\$105,000 approximately) to install  
11 the remaining ones. The new City Manager, Andrew Hosmer, agreed to review this in the future.  
12  
13 Lastly, she looked at the City’s fleet electrification plan because Mr. Jim Wheatley, Fire Chief and Mr.  
14 Paul Cotes, Recreation, Arts, and Parks will be needing to replace some vehicles at some point in the  
15 future.

16  
17 E. Energy Efficient Standards of the City’s Staff Housing Initiative

18  
19 Mr. Rothe said they have submissions for some modulars. Either he or Mr. Kenelly will talk with Mr.  
20 David Brooks.

21  
22 F. City Master Plan – Energy Chapter: review

23  
24 Mr. Bromberg had shared the updated Master Plan in advance of this meeting (September 20<sup>th</sup>), but not  
25 all members had the chance to take a thorough look at it. Four LEAC members met multiple times with  
26 Ms. Catheryn Hembree, Planning, and reviewed this large document. Their deadline for reviewing this is  
27 approaching so they will plan to discuss and vote on this plan at the November LEAC meeting. It will  
28 also be included in the November Agenda Packet.  
29

30 **5. NEW BUSINESS**

31  
32 A. Clean Energy NH: Energy Circuit Rider Program, Mr. Doug Cogan, Sullivan County

33  
34 Mr. Cogan’s focus is on working with energy committees on clean energy. He lives in the area and is  
35 familiar with Lebanon and surrounding areas, including Plainfield where he has lived for years.  
36

37 Clean Energy New Hampshire has established a new relationship with Liberty Utilities via a three-year  
38 program for NH Saves. As an aside, Claremont is currently updating their energy chapter as well.  
39

40 He will stay abreast of issues coming up and stated goals. As the City of Lebanon dives into their Master  
41 Plan, he might be of assistance connecting possible grant opportunities for the City and help with that  
42 paperwork. He also has tools and resources and numerous guides for the City’s use. He can be of  
43 technical and possible financial assistance (connecting parties, completing applications, etc.).  
44

45 Chair Bromberg invited Mr. Cogan to LEAC’s November 20, 2025 meeting at 3:30PM, and Mr. Cogan  
46 accepted.  
47

1 He has shared (through Mr. Bromberg) a local energy briefing for LEAC members consideration.  
2 Numerous programs and resources are listed here that would be helpful for LEAC.

3  
4 Today, he asked about municipal buildings and how the energy is tracked and was told by Mr. Rothe that  
5 the energy portfolio manager program is still being used to track energy in those buildings. It was  
6 suggested that Mr. Mark Goodwin might be a resource to get specific answers about this.

7  
8 Next, he asked about energy audits and retrofits. There was an audit and retrofit completed in 2023; He  
9 asked if that work has been completed. Mr. Below said that the only areas he does not know about is the  
10 back wall and stage in the Opera House and the green rooms below ground level. Mr. Cogan then  
11 inquired about other locations including the Police Station, the West Lebanon Fire Station and the  
12 Lebanon Airport; solar phases, etc., these are all areas where he might be able to be of assistance.

13  
14 Ms. Boschert was asked about the May 25, 2025 RFP. She shared that LEAC EV Subcommittee has  
15 taken bids, and LEAC is waiting for further response from TIF. Mr. Cogan said that there is still money  
16 available for funds up to \$100,000 (per project) for EV charging systems, the clock is ticking on this as it  
17 has on others. Ms. Boschert was aware of this source and is continuing to navigate this for LEAC.

18  
19 Mr. Cogan said that there is a heat pump accelerator program that is coming forward in 2026, and he  
20 thinks they can help the City with this. He also cited several other energy topics that he wants to discuss  
21 with LEAC. Mr. Below gave Mr. Cogan the contact name of Lieutenant Michael Wright with the City of  
22 Lebanon Police Dept.; he is responsible for facilities management for the police station.

23  
24 Mr. Mashal left the meeting at 4:30PM.

25  
26 B. Housing and Land Conservation – future meetings, topics

27  
28 C. Local Energy Solutions Conference – brief discussion

29  
30 Chair Bromberg said that Mr. Chaffee was asked if LEAC would like to get on the list of hosting  
31 organizations for public information sessions from the Department of Environmental Services (DES). He  
32 asked for a vote on this.

33  
34 ***Ms. Boschert MOVED that LEAC, Lebanon, NH agree to be host for some of these meetings***  
35 ***Seconded by Mr. Below.***

36 ***\*The vote on the motion was approved (7-0).***

37  
38 Ms. Boschert noted that the deadline for giving feedback for the current draft is November 15, 2025. She  
39 encouraged LEAC members to provide their feedback individually, since they will not meet again in time  
40 to meet this deadline. Chair Bromberg will let Ms. Oxenham know of LEAC's interest.

41  
42 D. Meeting with new City Manager – report

43  
44 Chair Bromberg met with Mr. Andrew (“Andy”) Hosmer, City Manager, and found the meeting affable.  
45 Ms. Boschert also meet with him on a different date, and she too found the meeting productive.

46  
47 E. Halting Landfill composting program ?

48

1 Mr. Kilmer said that it is not definite whatsoever that the City is stopping the composting program at the  
2 solid waste facility, rather they are in early discussions and *considering stopping*. They are researching  
3 options. He said that currently, the way they are set up results in the compost not being “functional” or  
4 viable, so they are not able to send it off site. They cannot use it as cover material because the current  
5 bags that are used do not break down. Also, they are awaiting test results to see if they can put in on the  
6 float versus having to landfill it. They do not have the manpower to handle this properly, nor do they have  
7 a good use for the landfill at this point in time. It will need to be relocated at some point in the future. It  
8 was also noted that the methane generation has a positive impact on the other end and could result in  
9 credits back to the City.

10  
11 Mr. Rothe added that the City compost is not viable for consumers because of the likely fungicides in it.  
12 Mr. Below additionally added that there could also be pFAST chemicals or other things they do not  
13 control and could pose liability for the City if they were to try to pass this along.

14  
15 **6. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC None**

16  
17 **7. UPCOMING EVENTS**

- 18 - Composting Workshop – October 21 6:00 – 7:30PM Kilton Library, West Lebanon, NH
- 19 -Public Comment opportunity regarding Environmental Services publishing draft measures for New  
20 Hampshire’s climate action plan - October 30 6:30-7:30PM Kilton Library, West Lebanon, NH

21  
22 **8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

23  
24 **9. ADJOURNMENT**

25  
26 *Mr. Benzel MOVED for adjournment.*  
27 *Seconded by Mr. Kennelly.*

28  
29 *\*The vote on the MOTION was approved (7-0).*

30  
31 **The meeting was adjourned at 5:24 PM**

32  
33 Respectfully submitted,  
34 Cinda Mersel  
35 Recording Secretary  
36

AGENDA  
LEBANON ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (LEAC)  
November 20, 2025

AGENDA ITEM 5  
New Business:

# **B. BALCONY SOLAR LEGISLATION**

# HOLLIS BROOKLINE NEWS

SHARING INFORMATION TO CREATE A BETTER COMMUNITY  
A RESOURCE PROVIDED BY THE HOLLIS-BROOKLINE ROTARY CLUB

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## NEW HAMPSHIRE HAS NEVER BEEN A TRAILBLAZER ON SOLAR, BUT CLEAN ENERGY PROPONENTS STILL SEE A PATH

Thu, Sep 11, 2025

By Molly Rains | New Hampshire Bulletin

New Hampshire has been slower than the rest of New England to lean into renewable electricity generation, including through solar power. And while some opportunities to change that will likely arise during the upcoming legislative session, it's not yet clear whether lawmakers will have an appetite to pursue them.

Some clean energy advocates view expanding solar as an accessible route toward more widespread renewable energy capacity in New Hampshire, said Sen. David Watters, a Democratic member of the state Senate's Energy and Natural Resources Committee since 2019.

"Solar is kind of the low-hanging fruit if we want to do something about renewable energy and reducing costs for New Hampshire people," he said.

Yet, in New Hampshire, approximately 2% of electricity was generated through solar power as of spring 2025 — far less than the other New England states' average of about 15%, according to data from the Solar Energy Industries Association.

"The climate's the same as in all the neighboring states, of course," said Dan Weeks, vice president of business development at ReVision Energy, a solar system installer that operates across northern New England. What's

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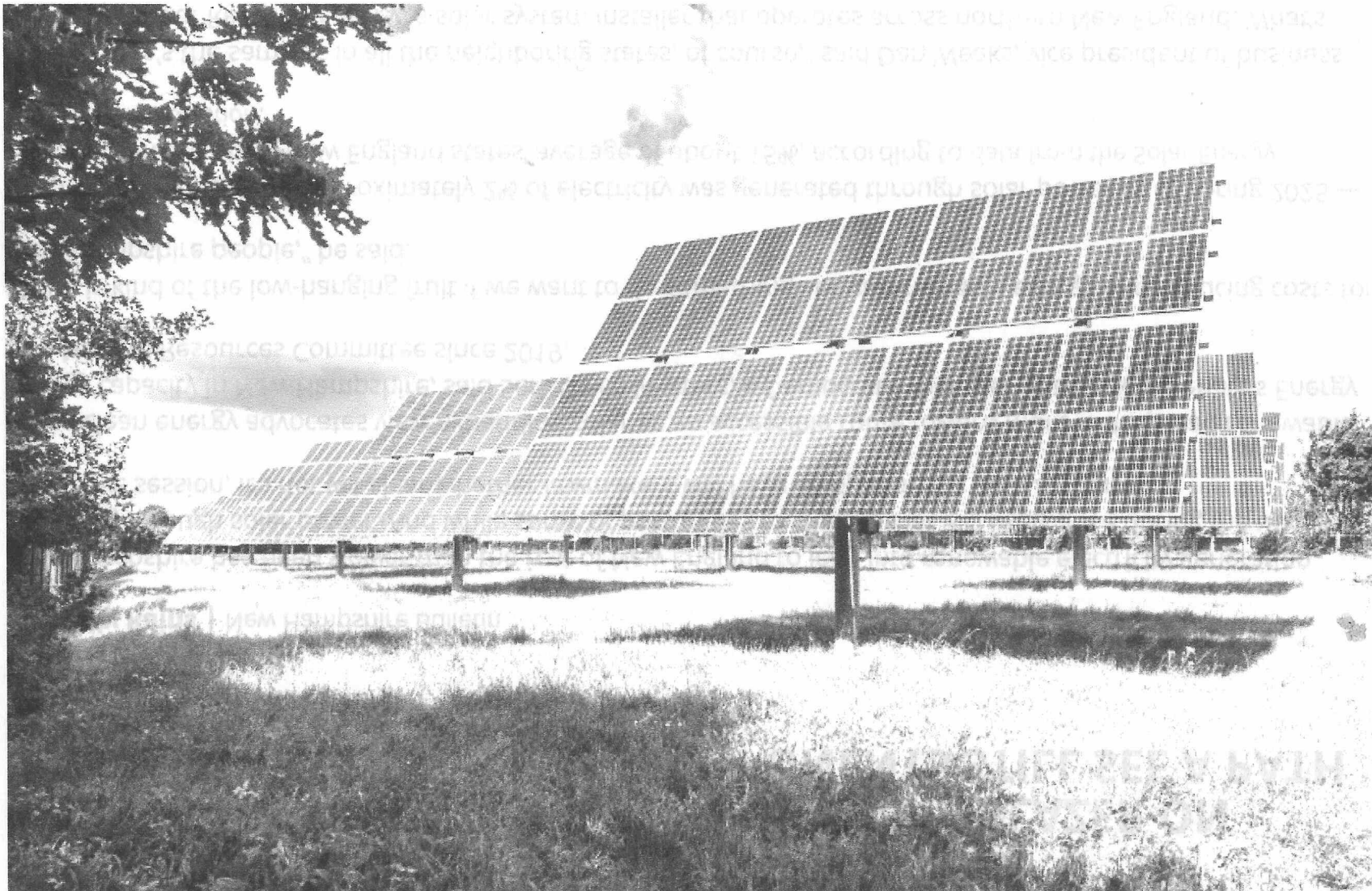


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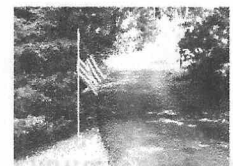


*In New Hampshire, approximately 2% of electricity was generated through solar power as of spring 2025 — far less than the other New England states' average of about 15%. (Image by Sebastian Ganso from Pixabay)*

different, then, he and others said, is New Hampshire policymakers' historic reticence around the development of solar infrastructure.

### Divided on incentives

Part of that stems from an overarching debate in the New Hampshire solar landscape: To what extent should the state encourage solar development through subsidies and other incentives?



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Some consider such pro-solar measures counterproductive for ratepayers and, therefore, not worth the investment, said Rep. Michael Vose, a Republican from Epping who chairs the House Science, Technology, and Energy Committee. Vose said he would not abide by proposals to implement ratepayer-borne subsidies when electricity costs in New England are already among the highest in the contiguous U.S.

“Those subsidies come from ratepayers,” he said. “To keep (electricity) as affordable as possible is an imperative ... so we have resisted the temptation to overspend on energy subsidies for renewable energy and energy efficiency, in order to keep our rates lower.”

Concerns that solar development unfairly shifts a cost burden onto ratepayers are not new. Former Gov. Chris Sununu vetoed multiple proposed expansions to net metering, a program through which energy customers who own generation equipment are reimbursed for the electricity they generate at their property. In a 2019 veto message, Sununu called that program regressive and outlined concerns it would raise rates for those who did not engage in the program. He expressed similar concerns after vetoing another expansion bill in 2023.

A 2022 study on the effects of net metering in New Hampshire, conducted by Montreal-based consulting firm Dunsky Energy + Climate Advisors, concluded that the practice would cause an increase of about 1% to the energy bills of customers who do not use net metering – about \$1.70 per month for a family paying a typical monthly electric bill of \$170.

And solar advocates say the increased uptake of solar has a longer-term benefit to all consumers across the network that outweighs that amount.

A healthy base of solar capacity can reduce the load on the electrical grid at times of peak use, such as hot summer days when air conditioning units are working overtime, Weeks said. At those times, solar arrays’ productivity and peak regional energy demand is typically aligned, correlated to the hottest times of day.

The result is a solar buffer that can help protect the grid from hitting the ceiling of peak demand, at which time electric providers must switch on expensive, emergency power stations to feed the grid. The cost of electricity climbs steeply when demand is highest, Weeks said. But solar can help stave off those emergency measures.

This principle was particularly visible in New England this June, when a buffer from behind-the-meter solar — meaning arrays installed at the site of use, such as residential rooftop panels — saved consumers an estimated \$8.2 million in peak electricity pricing on one particularly hot day, according to a report by renewable energy advocacy nonprofit The Acadia Center.



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Most of the solar panels in existence across New Hampshire are residential solar panels and other small arrays. In some cases, Watters said, this may be because groups looking to develop larger projects have taken them to neighboring states where more incentives are available.

Vose said the reason that new energy projects were not arriving in New Hampshire was multifaceted and pointed to the high cost of construction in New England generally.

"It's a difficult environment to make money," Vose said.

He also pointed to past measures he said were intended to encourage energy development in the state – such as House Bill 609, signed by Sununu in July 2024, which streamlined the site approval process for proposed energy projects.

"Unfortunately, it hasn't been tested yet, because there haven't been any projects proposed," he said.

Vose also said he did not expect to see the Republican-majority House reconsider their stance on solar subsidies or other incentives in the near future.

New Hampshire Consumer Advocate Donald Kreis said New Hampshire's comparative lack of solar was due to the state not courting developers as aggressively as neighboring states. But as those governments back off on their own subsidies and incentives, he said, New Hampshire may be well poised to take advantage of the market and develop its own infrastructure with direct investment from ratepayers.

### **Budget cuts and dwindling funds**

The amount of funding available for all renewable energy projects in New Hampshire has diminished greatly over the course of the past year.

Just this July, the New Hampshire Department of Energy received notice that the \$43.5 million the state was set to receive through the federal "Solar for All" program had been rescinded. The funds were part of a nationwide program that was, until its termination, set to disburse about \$7 billion in already promised funding to 60 organizations including states and tribes. The funds were earmarked to help bring solar energy projects to low-income households.

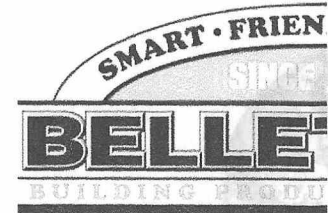
Plans for New Hampshire's portion of the funds included adding community solar projects and collectively owned solar arrays statewide, including projects for manufactured housing parks, publicly owned housing, and



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workforce housing sites, according to an April 2024 press release from the New Hampshire Department of Energy. The New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority and New Hampshire Community Loan Fund were sub-grantees in the project.

In the release, Rob Dapice, New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority executive director, said he expected the project to reduce utility costs for residents and housing developers alike.

The New Hampshire Department of Energy appealed the grant's termination to the EPA, Deputy Commissioner Christopher Ellms said in an email to the Bulletin on Sept. 5. In the dispute, dated Aug. 28, Division of Policy and Programs Director Joshua Elliott called the termination "arbitrary and capricious" and requested the funds be restored.

Other federal cuts under the Trump administration have also diminished the amount of funds available for renewable energy projects, including the termination of the residential clean energy credit, which reimbursed homeowners up to 30% of the cost of a qualifying renewable energy project for their home but is set to end Dec. 31.

And at the state level, the budget bill signed by Gov. Kelly Ayotte in August will transfer the millions of dollars accrued in New Hampshire's renewable energy fund — and all incoming revenue — to the general fund over the next two years. As a result, about \$15 million otherwise earmarked for clean energy and energy efficiency development across the state will be sent to the general fund for use elsewhere, leaving about \$1 million per year available in the fund for investing in renewable energy.

### Looking ahead

Though legislators and advocates said they did not expect sweeping solar policy developments to find traction in the next legislative session, some more incremental developments may be on the horizon.

One of those includes a possible bill to streamline the adoption of so-called plug-in, or balcony, solar, said Watters. These portable solar panels can be less expensive than traditional rooftop arrays, and plug directly into a socket. Watters said he was considering legislation to help chart a more straightforward path for New Hampshire residents to put the technology to use.

"The technology is there. There's a lot of good devices that people can buy," Watters said. "...If they're potentially a renter, or are in a situation where they can't do rooftop, this is a possibility for some solar development."

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Battery technology is another arm of the solar industry developing rapidly in neighboring states, said Weeks. Batteries installed along with solar panels allow residents to save surplus power they generate rather than feeding it directly to the grid; through agreements with utilities, this power can sometimes be tapped into in times of peak demand to further stave off the need for emergency plants, Weeks said.

"These programs have been shown to save all ratepayers, whether you have solar or not, a lot of money," he said.

Residents with battery systems in place may be able to benefit further through a bill Vose said he was considering that would allow users to be reimbursed through net metering for the power stored in their batteries in addition to the power generated in real time through their panels.

Net metering itself is another matter advocates hope the state will take up once again in the upcoming session.

When New Hampshire's net metering rules were last updated in 2017, Weeks said, they allowed for projects to be guaranteed participation in net metering through 2040. But as time goes on and that deadline nears, uncertainty has grown about the future of the program — and that, Weeks said, could put would-be developers on edge.

"With each passing year, the time horizon is shorter and shorter, down to 15 years now, and that is also discouraging investment in solar," he said.

*New Hampshire Bulletin is part of States Newsroom, a nonprofit news network supported by grants and a coalition of donors as a 501c(3) public charity. New Hampshire Bulletin maintains editorial independence. Contact Editor Dana Wormald for questions: [info@newhampshirebulletin.com](mailto:info@newhampshirebulletin.com).*

## BUSINESS

**Community Support: Brookline's Finest Steps Up to Help**



HOTTIS VILLO BEVAICE

BISK ZEBVAICEZ

HB BC1897 280

AGENDA  
LEBANON ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (LEAC)  
November 20, 2025

AGENDA ITEM 5  
New Business:

# **C. CPCNH: NEW REFRESH POLICY**



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**Date Adopted:** November 6, 2025  
**Version:** V3.2  
**Policy Name:** New Customer Refresh Noticing & Enrollment Policy

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See [New Customer Refresh Info Sheet](#) for background information.

### Summary

The CEO or their designee, in consultation with the Portfolio Manager, is responsible for determining the timing and cadence of new customer refresh noticing and enrollment towards achieving the objectives of this policy.

Members may provide criteria to guide periodic refreshes for their aggregation program by governing body vote to amend their Electric Aggregation Plan. Such guidance should be developed in coordination with CPCNH staff to ensure operational feasibility.

### New Customer Refresh Practice

In accordance with the legal, regulatory, and policy frameworks and requirements, CPCNH shall periodically conduct refresh noticing and enrollment of new customers.

The CEO or their designee, in consultation with the Portfolio Manager and Risk Management Committee, is responsible for determining the timing and cadence of new customer refresh noticing and enrollment towards achieving the objectives of this policy.

Upon adoption of this policy the CEO shall cause the Member Representatives and Principal Executive Officers of each Operating CPA to be notified of the policy adoption and provided access to review the policy.

#### Guidance for Next Customer Refresh (e.g., March 2026)

Before CPCNH conducts the next refresh, any Member may, through their Representative or Principal Executive Officer, notify the CEO by December 31, 2025 of their intent to amend their EAP or otherwise act to establish criteria for the frequency of future refreshes.

Members providing such notice shall have until January 31, 2026 to report any EAP amendment or other action to establish criteria for frequency of refreshes before CPCNH proceeds with the refresh.

#### Guidance for Subsequent Refreshes

After the first refresh, any Member adopting an EAP amendment or action establishing refresh frequency criteria shall provide the CEO with documentation of the governing body's action. CPCNH will apply such guidance beginning with refresh enrollments occurring four months after receipt (e.g., guidance received in February takes effect for June enrollments and beyond).

## Portfolio and Financial Analysis

The Portfolio Manager is responsible for conducting an analysis of the portfolio and financial impacts of new customer refresh enrollments. The CEO will direct the Portfolio Manager to conduct such analyses to inform refresh practices, cadence, and timing.

The Portfolio Manager will advise the Risk Management Committee on the portfolio and financial impacts associated with new customer refreshes and may recommend adjustments to hedge levels accordingly.

## Noticing and Enrollment

The Member Services Department is responsible for managing workflows and protocols for customer noticing and enrollment including but not limited to:

- Coordinating with CPCNH's Data Manager to prepare for and execute enrollments via Electronic Data Interchange (EDI).
- Requesting from utilities customer lists for noticing and relaying to the Data Manager.
- Managing print/mail vendors, workflow timelines, and digital/print copy and design.
- Requesting from utilities customer lists for enrollment and relaying to the Data Manager.
- Fielding customer escalations from the Contact Center.

## Authority to Amend

This policy may be amended by majority vote of either the Board of Directors or the Membership at regular or special meetings of either body at which action to amend is properly noticed in accordance with CPCNH's Joint Powers Agreement and By-Laws.

## Purpose & Objectives

The purpose of this policy is to detail CPCNH's approach to new customer refresh noticing and enrollment towards achieving the following objectives:

- **Compliance.** Comply with law, administrative rules, local policy, and CPCNH policy.
- **Clarity.** Clarify and create shared understanding among CPCNH's Members, Board, personnel, and customers and the choices available to them.
- **Financial Responsibility.** Ensure customer refresh enrollments ultimately produce beneficial financial impacts to CPCNH's Member Community Power Aggregations (CPAs) and their joint reserve funds.
  - Addition of new loads can be strategically timed and managed in coordination with portfolio management activities and market opportunities. Customer refreshes should have positive impact to Members' joint reserve accruals while spreading fixed costs over a larger customer base to benefit customers.

## Context & Legal Framework

### State Law: RSA 53-E

“New customer refreshes” are provided for under New Hampshire [RSA 53-E:7 – VI](#).<sup>1</sup>

### Administrative Rules: Puc 2205.05

Notification and enrollment of customers who apply for new electric service from their utility is further provided for under Administrative Rule [Puc 2205.05 New Utility Service Customers](#).<sup>2</sup>

### Regulatory Compromise Results in Transaction Costs & Inefficiencies

Throughout 2021 and 2022, CPCNH played a leading role in drafting statutory and regulatory language governing CPAs. During the negotiations, multiple approaches to handling enrollments of new customers were considered including:

- 1) Directly enroll customers who apply for electric service into their default CPA program (as is done in certain other CPA markets); or
- 2) First, enroll customers who apply for electric service into utility default service to then be subsequently and periodically noticed and enrolled into their default CPA program.

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<sup>1</sup> “New customers to the electric distribution utility after the notification mailing required by paragraph III shall initially be enrolled in utility provided default service unless the customer has relocated within a single utility’s service area and is continuing service with a competitive supplier or a municipal or county aggregation program. Upon request of an aggregator, but not more frequently than monthly and notwithstanding RSA 363:38 [Privacy Policies for Individual Customer Data], the utility shall make available to each operating municipal aggregation, or county aggregation where there is no municipal aggregation, the names, account numbers, mailing addresses, and any other information necessary for successful enrollment in the aggregation of customers that are new to or then currently on electric distribution utility provided default service after they have provided the customer list for the initial customer mailing required by paragraph III and that are located within the aggregation service area. The aggregation shall periodically mail a written notification to such new customers that have not previously opted out of the aggregator’s service and shall enroll them in the aggregation consistent with the opt-in or opt-out requirements of this paragraph and paragraph III.”

<sup>2</sup> [Puc 2205.05 New Utility Service Customers](#). (a) Electric customers who apply for new service provided by a utility within the CPA service area of a CPA providing opt-out alternative default service pursuant to RSA 53-E:7, III, after the supply of customer names and addresses by the utility for the customer notification mailing required under RSA 53-E:7, III, shall initially be enrolled in default service provided by the utility unless the customer has relocated within a single utility’s service area and is continuing with service provided by a CEPS, or has relocated within a CPA service area and is continuing with service provided by or through the CPA.

(b) Upon request of a CPA, but not more frequently than monthly following provision of the customer list for the initial mailing pursuant to Puc 2204.05, the utility shall make available to each operating municipal CPA, or county CPA where there is no municipal CPA, the names, account numbers, mailing addresses, and any other information necessary for successful enrollment in the aggregation of customers that are then currently on utility default service and are located within the CPA service area.

(c) The CPA shall periodically mail a written notification to such new customers that have not previously opted out of the CPA’s service and shall enroll them in the CPA consistent with the requirements of Puc 2204.05.

While option 1 has clear benefits of efficiency and reduction of costs that are ultimately born by customers, option 2 was enacted into rules to accommodate the insistence by certain utilities that option 1 could not be achieved by their business systems.

2025 Analysis of CPCNH attrition rates (rate of customer departure from CPCNH service) indicate that natural customer turnover (e.g., customers moving in/out of premises), not opt-outs, is the primary driver of attrition. Of the ~2,750/month reduction in customers observed between February and September 2025, less than 10% are due to opt-outs while the strong majority are due to natural customer turnover. Customers in this “natural attrition” category are eligible for refresh noticing and enrollment into CPA service.

### **Local Policy: Electric Aggregation Plans**

Pursuant to RSA 53-E:6, a municipality may implement CPA service after local legislative body adoption of an “Electric Aggregation Plan” (EAP) providing for:

*“Universal access, reliability, and equitable treatment of all classes of customers subject to any differences arising from varying opportunities, tariffs, and arrangements between different electric distribution utilities in their respective franchise territories, and shall meet, at a minimum, the basic environmental and service standards established by the commission and other applicable agencies and laws concerning aggregated service.”*

An EAP providing for opt-out default service must also be submitted to and approved by the Public Utilities Commission to determine it conforms to state law and regulation.

EAPs of CPCNH Members detail whether energy supply services are offered on an opt-in basis or on an opt-out basis as an alternative default service, among other requirements. EAPs adopted by CPCNH Members and approved by the PUC typically include language to the effect of: *“The program will serve as the default electricity supplier for all [Eversource / Unitil / Liberty] customers on a default ‘opt-out’ basis.”*

Once adopted, an aggregation plan and program may be amended and modified from time to time as provided by the governing body of the municipality or county (RSA 53-E:7 – IX).

Most Member EAPs providing for opt-out default service simply state that after initial launch new utility default service customers will be periodically enrolled on an opt-out basis after 30 days’ advance mailed notice, without providing any additional criteria to guide the frequency of such periodic refreshes.

### **Discussion**

State law, administrative rules, and local policy under EAPs make clear that opt-out CPAs are the default electricity supplier and shall periodically notify and enroll new utility customers. The provision that the notification and enrollment be done “periodically” provides for flexibility.