**D.P.U.** 16 - \_\_\_\_

# PETITION AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FOR THE TOWN OF SUDBURY MUNICIPAL AGGREGATION PLAN

#### AGGREGATION DOCUMENTS

#### 1. Petition

#### Attachments

1. Historical Overview

**Exhibits** 

- A. Certification by the Town Clerk of Town vote to pursue Municipal Aggregation
- B. Energy-Related Services Agreement
- C. Department of Energy Resources (DOER) Consultation Letter
- D. Certification by the Town Clerk of the vote at the meeting of the Board of Selectmen to approve the Aggregation Plan
- 2. Aggregation Plan

**Exhibits** 

- A. Customer Enrollment, Opt-Out and Opt-In Procedures
- B. Sample Customer Notification Letter and Opt-Out Postcard
- 3. Public Outreach and Education Plan

Exhibit

- A. Sample of Available Media Outlets
- 4. Electric Services Agreement

# THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

	)	
Town of Sudbury Municipal Aggregation Plan	)	D.P.U. 16

#### PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF MUNCIPAL AGGREGATION PLAN

The Town of Sudbury ("Municipality") respectfully petitions the Department of Public Utilities ("Department"), pursuant to G.L. Chapter 164, Section 134(a), for approval of its Municipal Aggregation Plan. In support of this Petition, the Municipality states the following:

- 1. The goals of the community electricity municipal aggregation program (the "Program") are to bring the benefits of competitive choice of electric supplier, longer-term price stability than provided by the local utility, lower cost power and more renewable energy options to the residents and businesses of the Municipality. Under the program the Municipality will have the opportunity to provide a portion of renewable or green power through renewable energy certificates ("RECs"). The program will employ a procurement process designed to maximize savings and will provide a full set of consumer protections, including the right for any customer to opt out of the program at any time at no charge.
- 2. The Municipality formally initiated the process to develop an aggregation plan through approval of a vote at the annual town meeting on May 6, 2015. The vote and the actions and events of the Municipality preceding and following this vote for approval are outlined in the Historical Overview. (Attachment 1)
- 3. The Municipality seeks the Department's approval of its Municipal Aggregation Plan ("Plan") (Attachment 2) that describes the key features, structure and operation of the aggregation program and explains how the Plan meets the statutory requirements.

- 4. A Public Outreach and Education Plan has been formulated to ensure that residents and businesses are fully informed about the important aspects of the Plan to enable them to make intelligent decisions concerning participation in the Program. (Attachment 3)
- 5. The Plan and the associated form of Electric Services Agreement ("ESA") (Attachment 4) ensure that the program complies with all requirements of G L. Chapter 164, Section 134(a), including providing universal access, a reliable power supply and the equitable treatment of all customer classes.
- 6. The Municipality consulted with the Department of Energy Resources ("DOER") and sought the input of the Local Distribution Company ("LDC") in the development of the Plan.
- 7. The Municipality is a member of the Metropolitan Area Planning Council ("MAPC"). Although Municipalities are not required to follow the competitive bidding process of G.L. Chapter 30B when entering into a contract for energy-related services, the MAPC issued a Request for Proposals for Community Choice Aggregation Consulting Services on behalf of its member municipalities. The MAPC selected Good Energy L.P. as its green municipal aggregation consultant through an open and competitive process.
- 8. The Municipality respectfully requests that the Department conduct an expeditious review of this petition to allow the Municipality to proceed with implementation to maximize benefits for eligible consumers. Municipal aggregators are required to conduct their business openly and with full public participation. The Municipality requests a streamlined process, including a public hearing, discovery, and an opportunity for interested persons to submit written comments.
- 9. The Municipality also respectfully requests a waiver, both for itself and for its competitive supplier, from the requirement to mail a quarterly information disclosure label to every customer. The requirement for quarterly distribution of the disclosure label is specified in 220 C.M.R. § 11.06(4)(c). The Department has determined that for municipal aggregators, the distribution would normally be made

by individual mailings to customers. <u>City of Marlborough</u>, D.T.E. 06-102, at 24. The Department, however, may grant an exception to any provision of 220 C.M.R. 11.00 for good cause shown. 220 C.M.R. Section 11.08. In support of its request for waiver, the Municipality states that quarterly mailings would be burdensome and expensive, raising the supply price for customers. The Municipality will employ an alternative disclosure strategy, including press releases, public service announcements on local access cable television, postings at Municipality buildings and postings on the program website, that will provide the required information to customers as effectively as quarterly mailings. The Department has granted similar waivers to other municipal aggregators using equivalent disclosure strategies. <u>Cape Light</u>

<u>Compact</u>, D.T.E. 00-47, at 28; <u>City of Marlborough</u>, D.T.E. 06-102, at 24; <u>Town of Lanesborough</u>, D.P.U 11-27, at 23; <u>Town of Ashland</u>, D.P.U. 11-28, at 22; <u>Town of Lunenburg</u>, D.P.U 11-32, at 22; <u>Town of Lancaster</u>, D.P.U. 12-39, at 23; <u>City of Lowell</u>, D.P.U. 12-124, at 51; <u>Town of Ashby</u>, D.P.U. 12-94, at 37; <u>Town of Natick</u>, D.P.U. 13-131, at 29; Town of Greenfield, D.P.U. 13-183, at 27.

WHEREFORE, the Petitioner hereby respectfully requests that the Department:

- 1. Adopt a streamlined review and approval process;
- 2. Approve the Aggregation Plan of the Municipality;
- 3. Approve the request of the Municipality for a waiver of the requirement of 220 C.M.R Section 11.06(4)(c) to mail the quarterly disclosure label; and
- 4. Provide such other and further relief as may be necessary or appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

TOWN OF SUDBURY

By Attorney for Good Energy, L.P.

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Scott J. Mueller Scott J. Mueller Law Office 16 Conant Road Chestnut Hill, MA 02467 978-460-0693 scott@sjmuellerlaw.com Dated: \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2016

# **ATTACHMENT 1**

# TOWN OF ARLINGTON COMMUNITY ELECTRICITY AGGREGATION

# **HISTORICAL OVERVIEW**

Prepared by

**GOOD ENERGY, L.P.** 

In the Acts of 1997, Chapter 164, the Massachusetts Legislature passed House No. 5117, An Act Relative to Restructuring the Electric Utility Industry in the Commonwealth, Regulating the Provision of Electricity and Other Services, and Promoting Enhanced Consumer Protections Therein known as the Restructuring Act.

Under Section 1 of the Acts of 1997, Chapter 164, the Massachusetts Legislature decided that Massachusetts ratepayers would be best served by moving from the regulatory framework in which retail electricity service is provided principally by public utility corporations obligated to provide ultimate consumers in exclusive service territories with reliable electric service at regulated rates, to a framework in which competitive producers would supply electric power and customers would gain the right to choose their electric power supplier.

Also authorized by G.L. Chapter 164, Section 134(a) is the concept of municipal aggregation in which municipalities would have the right, acting alone or with other municipalities, to aggregate the electric loads of their residents and businesses to gain greater buying power in the newly restructured competitive electric supply market. A municipality or group of municipalities may initiate the process to aggregate electrical load of their residents and businesses upon authorization by a majority vote at a town meeting or by a board or city council.

In 2014, the Sudbury Energy Committee, Facilities Director and other representatives of the Town of Sudbury ("the Town") began exploring the aggregation of its municipal load under G.L. Chapter 164, Section 134.

On May 6, 2015, at the annual town meeting a warrant article was approved granting the Board of Selectmen and the Energy Committee authority to research, develop and participate in a contract, or contracts, to aggregate the electricity load of the residents and businesses in the Town and for other related services, independently, or in joint action with other municipalities. (Exhibit A)

On September 29, 2015, the Metropolitan Area Planning Council ("MAPC") issued a Request for Proposals for Community Choice Aggregation Services ("RFP") on behalf of the Town and other MAPC member municipalities. The RFP sought proposals to assist member municipalities in the development and administration of electricity aggregation plans that will support additionality (i.e. adding new renewable generation to the ISO-NE grid.) In January 2016, the MAPC selected Good Energy L.P. as its green energy municipal aggregation consultant.

On	, the Town, through its duly authorized representatives, the
Board of Selectmen, signed	the Energy-Related Services Agreement to retain Good
Energy, L.P., as its aggrega	tion consultant. (Exhibit B)

On	, the aggregation	documents became available on the
Town website	for public review.	
From of the aggrega by its citizens.		tials held a period for written comments
the Departmer obtain their gu Department of	nt of Energy Resources ("DOER aidance and technical assistance	L. Chapter 164, Section 134(a) and f Good Energy and the Town met with (a) to review the aggregation plan and before filing the plan with the that meeting included [insert name and
were encourage comments were aggregation do	ged to make oral comments on the received that required a chang	g of the Board of Selectmen, citizens he aggregation documents. No ge in the language or content of the aments continue to be available in the
On plan. (Exhibit		ectmen voted to approve the aggregation
On	, the DOER issued a consultat	tion letter. (Exhibit D)

#### **EXHIBITS**

- A. Certification by the Town Clerk of the Town Vote to Pursue Municipal Aggregation.
- B. Energy-Related Services Agreement
- C. Department of Energy Resources ("DOER)" Consultation Letter
- D. Certification by the Town Clerk of the Board of Selectmen Vote Approving the Aggregation Plan

## **EXHIBIT A**

Certification by the Town Clerk of the Town Vote to Pursue Municipal Aggregation

## **EXHIBIT B**

**Energy-Related Services Agreement** 

# **EXHIBIT C**

Department of Energy Resources ("DOER") Consultation Letter

#### **EXHIBIT D**

Certification by the Town Clerk of the the Board of Selectmen Vote Approving the Aggregation Plan

# **ATTACHMENT 2**

# TOWN OF SUDBURY COMMUNITY ELECTRICITY AGGREGATION

# **MUNICIPAL AGGREGATION PLAN**

Prepared with

**GOOD ENERGY, L.P.** 

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#### Introduction

The Town of Sudbury ("Municipality") has developed the Community Electricity Aggregation Program (the "Program") with the goal of bringing the benefits of low cost power, renewable energy, and electricity choice to its residents and businesses. The Program, as described in this aggregation plan (the "Plan"), is part of the efforts of the Municipality to promote environmental sustainability and economic growth.

Before being implemented, the Plan must be reviewed and approved by the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (the "Department"). The Department will ensure that the Program satisfies all of the statutory requirements, including that the Plan provides universal access, a reliable power supply and equitable treatment for all customer classes. This Plan was developed to demonstrate that the Program of the Municipality satisfies all of the requirements necessary for the Department's approval.

#### I. Key Features

The key features of the Program will include:

Price protection: The Municipality will secure its power supply by requesting competitive bids from the largest and most experienced power suppliers serving the region. This competition will be designed to result in the best possible price. The Municipality will only launch the aggregation when it obtains a price that meets the criteria set by the municipal officials. It is also the objective of the Municipality to support the development of additional green resources through the purchase of a higher level of Renewable Energy Certificates ("RECs"). In requesting bids to serve its customer load, the Municipality may act individually or as part of a Buying Group with other municipalities.

Consumer protection: The Program of the Municipality will include the strongest consumer protections, including the ability for any customer to leave the program at any time with no charge. There will be no hidden charges of any kind.

Product options: The Municipality and its residents recognize the importance of developing a sustainable energy environment, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and supporting the development of renewable energy generating resources that will provide additionality (i.e. adding new renewable generation to the ISO-NE grid). It is the objective of municipal officials to promote sustainable energy through the purchase of RECs while at the same time providing energy at affordable levels to the

residents of the Municipality.

Standard Product: Sudbury intends to offer the Sudbury Local Green product as their standard product. The municipal officials and residents of Sudbury recognize the importance of developing a sustainable energy environment, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and supporting the development of renewable energy generating resources in the Commonwealth. This product, along with other efforts undertaken and planned by municipal officials, is designed to fulfill these goals and objectives. The Sudbury Local Green product is expected to include 5% green energy above the Renewable Portfolio Standard ("RPS") required by the Commonwealth, with the exact amount yet to be determined. This product is intended to include green energy produced by renewable energy generating resources located in the Commonwealth for a very affordable premium. The exact percentage of green energy to be included in Sudbury Local Green will be determined after the receipt of bids from competitive suppliers. Including additional green energy in the standard product enables customers to have a meaningful impact on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions through the support of local renewable energy sources.

Optional Products: Sudbury intends to offer two optional products that provide customers with a wide range of possible choices for their electricity needs:

<u>Sudbury Basic</u>: Some customers may feel that the amount of green energy required by the RPS in the Commonwealth includes a sufficient amount of RECs to fulfill their renewable energy objectives. This product offers the same amount of green energy offered in the Basic Service of the Local Distribution Company as required by law.

Sudbury Premium Local Green: For customers that want more green electricity generated from renewable energy resources in the Commonwealth than is offered by Sudbury Local Green, this product offers up to a 100% green energy option. This enables customers who chose this option to have a more meaningful impact on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions through the support of local renewable energy sources.

Any charge for the additional green energy would be included in the rate submitted to the Local Distribution Company or be purchased separately as RECs from a third party and billed separately by the third party to the Local Distribution Company.

Coordination with energy efficiency programs: Energy efficiency programs help residents reduce their energy consumption. The aggregation program will coordinate

with energy efficiency programs administered by the Local Distribution Company to help more residents reduce their energy use and cost. This plan does not include those services outlined in G.L. Chapter 164, Section 134(b).

Renewable energy: The Municipality may seek to purchase a portion of the RECs from renewable energy generators and include these RECs in a green product. If RECs are obtained through the Competitive Supplier, any charge for these RECs would be included in the same rate submitted to the Local Distribution Company.

#### II. Statutory Requirements

The municipal aggregation statute, G.L. Chapter 164, Section 134, sets out the requirements that a plan must meet in order to be approved by the Department. Those requirements include procedural requirements, specified plan elements, and substantive requirements. The Plan of the Municipality satisfies all of these requirements, as discussed below.

#### 1. Local Approval

The municipal aggregation statute requires that the Municipality obtain approval from the local governing authorities before initiating the development of the plan. The Municipality satisfied the local approval requirement when the Town Meeting voted to initiate the process of municipal aggregation. Documents authorizing the aggregation, including certifications of votes taken, are contained in the Historical Overview.

#### 2. Consultation with the Department of Energy Resources and Other Parties

The aggregation statute also requires that the Municipality consult with the Department of Energy Resources ("DOER") in developing the plan. The Municipality submitted a draft of the Plan to DOER and municipal officials and / or their Aggregation Consultant met with DOER to discuss that draft. DOER provided many helpful comments on the draft and the Municipality incorporated the DOER's input into the final version of the Plan.

The Municipality has also consulted with the Local Distribution Company in the development of the Plan. The Aggregation Consultant provided the Local Distribution Company with an opportunity to review and comment on the draft Plan and met with its representatives.

The Municipality has made the Plan available for review by its citizens, including discussing the Plan at one or more public meetings, as noted in the Historical

Overview (Attachment 1).

#### III. Elements of the Plan

General Law c. 164, section 134 requires that an aggregation plan contain the following elements:

- Organizational structure
- Operations
- Funding
- Details on rate setting and other costs to participants
- The method of entering and terminating agreements with other entities
- The rights and responsibilities of program participants
- The procedure for termination of the program

The incorporation of each of these elements in the Plan is discussed below.

#### 1. Organizational Structure

The organizational structure of Program will be as follows:

Board of Selectmen and Town Manager: The Plan will be approved by the Board of Selectmen, the elected representatives of the citizens of the Municipality, and overseen by the Board of Selectmen, Town Manager or other designees of the Board of Selectmen. The designee(s) of the Board of Selectmen will be responsible for making decisions and overseeing the administration of the Program with the assistance of the Aggregation Consultant. Prior to the receipt of bids from Competitive Suppliers, the designee(s) of the Board of Selectmen shall be specifically authorized to enter into an Electric Service Agreement (ESA) under parameters specified by the Board of Selectmen.

Aggregation Consultant: The Aggregation Consultant will manage certain aggregation activities under the direction of the Board of Selectmen, Town Manager or other designee of the Board of Selectmen. Their responsibilities will include managing the supply procurement, developing and implementing the public education plan, interacting with the Local Distribution Company, and monitoring the supply contract. Through a competitive procurement process, as outlined in the Historical Overview, the Municipality has selected Good Energy, L.P. to provide these services.

Competitive Supplier: The Competitive Supplier will provide power for the aggregation, provide customer support including staffing an 800 number for customer questions, and fulfill other responsibilities as detailed in the ESA. The Competitive

Supplier shall be required to enter into an individual ESA with the Municipality under terms deemed reasonable and appropriate for its constituents by the Board of Selectmen.

Buying Group: The Municipality may elect to join with other municipal aggregators in combining its load for purposes of soliciting bids from Competitive Suppliers. The purpose of the Buying Group is to allow municipal aggregators to capture the benefits of collective purchasing power while retaining full municipal autonomy. The Municipality shall be represented by the designee(s) of the Board of Selectmen on the executive committee of the Buying Group. The Municipality, through its designee as specifically authorized by the Board of Selectmen, shall select a Competitive Supplier based on the needs of the Municipality and shall not be required to select the same terms or Competitive Supplier as other members of the Buying Group.

#### 2. Operations

Following approval of the Plan by the Department, the key operational steps will be:

- a. Issue an RFP for power supply and select a competitive supplier
- b. Implement a public information program, including a 30-day opt-out notice
- c. Enroll customers and provide service, including quarterly notifications

The implementation of an aggregation requires extensive interaction between the Municipality, the Competitive Supplier, and the Local Distribution Company. Those interactions are described in detail in the Historical Overview.

- a. Issue an RFP for power supply and select a competitive supplier
- i. Power supply

After the Department approves the Plan, the next step is to procure a contract for power supply.

The Municipality will solicit bids from leading competitive suppliers, including those currently supplying aggregations in Massachusetts and other states. In seeking bids from competitive suppliers, the Municipality may solicit bids for its load individually or as part of a Buying Group with other municipal aggregators. The RFP will require that the supplier satisfy key threshold criteria, including:

- Licensed by the Department
- Strong financial background
- Experience serving the Massachusetts competitive market or municipal

- aggregations in other states
- Demonstrated ability, supported by references, to provide strong customer service

In addition, suppliers will be required to agree to the substantive terms and conditions of the ESA, including, for example, the requirement to:

- Provide all-requirements service at a fixed price
- Allow customers to exit the program at any time with no charge
- Agree to specified customer service standards
- Comply with all requirements of the Department and the Local Distribution Company

The Municipality will solicit price bids from suppliers that meet the threshold criteria and agree to the terms and conditions of the ESA. The Municipality will request bids for a variety of term lengths (e.g. 12, 24, 36 or 48 months) and for power from different sources. Prior to delivery of the bids, the Board of Selectmen shall provide authorization to its designee(s) to select a bid and enter into an ESA based upon parameters the Board of Selectmen deem appropriate for its constituents. In consultation with its Aggregation Consultant, the designee(s) of the Municipality will evaluate the bid results including price, term and source. Whether the Municipality conducts an individual solicitation or participates in a solicitation with a Buying Group, at the conclusion of the bidding process it will select a price, term and supplier appropriate for its constituents. Participation in the Buying Group shall not require the Municipality to select the same price, terms or supplier as other members of the Buying Group. If none of the bids is satisfactory, the Municipality will reject all bids and repeat the solicitation for bids as often as needed until market conditions yield a price that is acceptable. The Municipality will only accept a bid that enables it to launch the aggregation with a price, terms and characteristics that meet the criteria set by their municipal officials.

#### ii. RECs for a green product

In addition to soliciting bids for power supply that meet the required Massachusetts RPS obligation, the Municipality intends to solicit bids for a supply of RECs for it's green products. It is the goal of the municipality to achieve additionality in its product offerings, thus contributing greater renewable resources to the ISO-NE grid and reducing GHG emissions. The Board of Selectmen, or their designee, will determine the appropriate level of green products to be include with the standard product and the optional products based upon their assessment of market conditions and what would be in the best interest of consumers at the time of the power supply solicitation. All Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs), above those required by the RPS, are

expected to be Mass Class I eligible RECs. The Municipality may seek RECs from a variety of renewable sources, and will choose the best combination of environmental benefit and price.

The Municipality will require bidders to identify the technology, vintage, and location of the renewable generators that are the sources of the RECs. It will also require that the RECs be created and recorded in the New England Power Pool Generation Information System or be certified by a third party.

b. Implement public information program including 30-day opt-out notice

Once a winning supplier is selected, the Municipality will implement a public education program.

The delivery of a comprehensive and professional public education plan and associated materials are crucial to ensuring understanding of, acceptance of and participation in the aggregation. The Municipality has already begun to build enthusiasm for and understanding of the aggregation through community-wide events and presentations. As a result, the Municipality anticipates a high level of awareness about the aggregation by the time the supply contract is signed.

At the time of launch, the Municipality will build on this existing public awareness. The Municipality will use a variety of media to communicate the objectives of the plan, the primary terms and conditions of the contract and the right to opt out at any time.

The public education plan will include both broad-based efforts and a 30-day opt-out notice to be mailed to every customer on basic service. This information will be made available in multiple languages where appropriate.

#### i. Broad-based education efforts

The broad-based efforts will take advantage of traditional media and the Web to ensure as many people as possible learn about the aggregation. Planned elements include:

- An announcement introducing the program and the competitive supplier, which will be sent to media contacts at local newspapers and other outlets identified as valuable by municipal officials.
- Dedicated informational Web pages that explain the aggregation plan, community benefits, the opt-out process and other helpful information. This site will be available during the initial educational outreach and also on an

ongoing basis so that customers can find information about the program for its duration.

- A community-wide presentation at a public meeting, open to all residents, as well as targeted presentations to vulnerable populations such as the senior community
- An inclusion of an announcement about the aggregation on the Municipality website
- A toll-free customer information and support hotline
- A presentation on the local cable access network.
- An informational FAQ for the employees of the Municipality to ensure they can confidently answer any questions.
- Informational documents that mirror the aggregation web page content and can be used as handouts during the community presentations. These materials will also be made available through the web site as down-loadable files and in the municipal offices and other public buildings.

The Municipality will develop a detailed timeline for these efforts, as the launch gets closer

#### ii. 30-day opt-out notice

In addition to the broad-based education initiatives, a 30-day opt-out notice will be mailed to every customer on Basic Service with the Local Distribution Company. The notice will have the appearance of an official communication of the Municipality, and it will be sent in an envelope clearly marked as containing time-sensitive information related to the program. The notice will: (1) introduce and describe the program; (2) inform customers of their right to opt-out and that they will be automatically enrolled if they do not exercise that right; (3) explain how to opt-out; and (4) prominently state all program charges and compare the price and primary terms of Municipality's competitive supply to the price and terms of the current Basic Service offering provided by the Local Distribution Company. The notice will indicate that because of market changes and differing terms, the Program cannot guarantee savings compared to Basic Service over the full term of the Program. The opt-out procedure is attached to this Plan as Exhibit A.

The direct mailing will include an opt-out reply card and envelope. Customers will have 30 days from the date of the mailing to return the reply card if they wish to opt out of the program. The notice will be designed by Good Energy and the Municipality and printed and mailed by the competitive supplier, who will process the opt-out replies. A sample of a draft opt-out notice and reply card are attached to this Plan as Exhibit B.

#### c. Enroll customers and provide service including quarterly notifications

After the completion of the 30-day opt-out period, the competitive supplier will enroll into the Program all customers on Basic Service with the Local Distribution Company who did not opt-out. All enrollments and other transactions between the competitive supplier and the Local Distribution Company will be conducted in compliance with the relevant provisions of Department regulations, Terms and Conditions for Competitive Suppliers, and the protocols of the Massachusetts Electronic Business Transactions Working Group.

Once customers are enrolled, the program will provide all-requirements power supply service. The Program will also provide ongoing customer service, maintain the Program web site, and process new customer enrollments, ongoing opt-outs, opt-back-ins, and customer selections of optional products. Prior to the expiration of the initial ESA, the Municipality intends to solicit a new power supply agreement.

As part of its ongoing service, the Municipality will provide the quarterly disclosure information required by G.L. c. 164, § 1(F)(6) and 220 C.M.R. § 11.06. Like the other Massachusetts aggregations, the Municipality requests a waiver from the requirement that the disclosure label be mailed to every customer and seeks permission instead to provide the information through alternative means, including press releases, public service announcements on cable television, postings at municipal offices and postings on the program website. As the Department has found with other aggregations, this alternate information disclosure strategy will allow the Municipality to provide the required information to its customers as effectively as quarterly mailings.

Also as part of ongoing operations, the Municipality intends to coordinate the aggregation program with existing energy efficiency programs that have helped residents reduce their energy usage and cost. The Municipality will cooperate with the Local Distribution Company responsible for administering the energy efficiency programs. The specifics of this coordination will be developed as the aggregation program gets closer to launch. It is anticipated that at a minimum there would be cross participation whereby aggregation program customers would be encouraged to participate in energy efficiency programs and those customers who participate in energy efficiency programs would be encouraged to consider a green product offered by the aggregation program.

#### d. Annual report to DOER

On an annual basis, the Municipality will report to the Department and the DOER on the status of the aggregation program, including the number of customers enrolled and opting-out, kilowatt-hour usage, customer savings, participation in green products, and such other information as the Department or DOER may request.

#### 3. Funding

All of the costs of the Program will be funded through the ESA.

The primary cost will be the charges of the competitive supplier for the power supply. These charges will be established through the competitive solicitation for a supplier.

The administrative costs of the program will be funded through a per kilowatt-hour aggregation fee that will be paid by the competitive supplier to the Aggregation Consultant, as specified in the ESA. This aggregation fee will cover the services of the Aggregation Consultant, including developing the aggregation plan, managing the Department's approval process, managing the supply procurement, developing and implementing the public education plan, providing customer support, interacting with the Local Distribution Company, monitoring the supply contract, and providing ongoing reports. This charge has been set at \$0.001 per kilowatt-hour. Additionally, during the first year of the ESA, the competitive supplier will also pay a fee of \$0.000025 to cover the MAPC's cost of project development, administration and support.

#### 4. Rate Setting and Other Costs to Participants

As described above, the power supply charges of the aggregation program will be set through a competitive bidding process and will include the aggregation fee. Prices, terms, and conditions may differ among customer classes, which classes will be the same as the Basic Service customer classes of the Local Distribution Company.

The Program affects only the electricity supply charges of the customers. Delivery charges will be unchanged and will continue to be charged by the Local Distribution Company in accordance with tariffs approved by the Department.

Participants in the aggregation will receive one bill from the Local Distribution Company that includes both the power supply charge of the Competitive Supplier and the delivery charge of the Local Distribution Company.

#### 5. Method of Entering and Terminating Agreements with Other Entities

The process for entering, modifying, enforcing, and terminating all agreements associated with the Plan will comply with the municipal charter, federal and state law and regulations, and the provisions of the relevant agreement.

The Municipality plans to use the same process described in Section III (2) of this Plan to solicit bids and enter into any subsequent ESAs with the assistance of its then-current aggregation consultant. Customers will be notified of subsequent ESAs through press releases and public notices. The transfer of customers from the existing supplier to the new supplier will be coordinated with the LDC using established EDI protocols.

If the Municipality determines that it requires the services of an aggregation consultant after expiration of the existing agreement with Good Energy, it will evaluate opportunities to solicit an aggregation consultant individually or as part of a group of municipalities aggregating the electric load of their respective consumers. The Municipality will solicit proposals for, and evaluate, potential aggregation consultants using a competitive procurement process or alternative procedure which the Municipality determines to be in the best interest of its consumers and consistent with all applicable local, state and federal laws and regulations.

#### 6. Rights and Responsibilities of Program Participants

All participants will have the right to opt-out of the program at any time without charge. They may exercise this right by any of the following: 1) calling the 800 number of the Competitive Supplier; 2) contacting the Local Distribution Company and asking to be returned to Basic Service; or 3) enrolling with another competitive supplier.

All participants will have available to them the consumer protection provisions of Massachusetts's law and regulations, including the right to question billing and service quality practices. Customers will be able to ask questions of and register complaints with the Municipality, the Aggregation Consultant, the Competitive Supplier, the Local Distribution Company and the Department. As appropriate, the Municipality and the Aggregation Consultant will direct customer complaints to the Competitive Supplier, the Local Distribution Company or the Department.

Participants will continue to be responsible for paying their bills and for providing access to metering and other equipment necessary to carry out utility operations.

#### 7. Extensions or Termination of Program

Prior to the end of the term of the initial ESA, the Municipality will solicit bids for a new supply agreement and plans to continue the program with the same or new competitive supplier.

Although the Municipality is not contemplating a termination date, the program could be terminated upon the termination or expiration of the ESA without any extension, renewal, or negotiation of a subsequent supply contract, or upon the decision of the Board of Selectmen or Town Manager to dissolve the program effective on the end date of any outstanding ESA. In the event of termination, customers would return to the Basic Service of the Local Distribution Company, unless they choose an alternative competitive supplier.

The Municipality will notify the Local Distribution Company of the planned termination or extension of the program. In particular, the Municipality will provide the Local Distribution Company notice: (1) 60 days prior to a planned termination of the program; (2) 90 days prior to the end of the anticipated term of the ESA; and (3) four business-days after the successful negotiation of a new electric service agreement. In the event of the termination of the program, it is the responsibility and requirement of the Competitive Supplier to return the customers to Basic Service of the Local Distribution Company in accordance with the then applicable Electronic Data Interchange ("EDI") rules and procedures.

#### IV. Substantive Requirements

The municipal aggregation statute also requires that the aggregation plan satisfy three substantive requirements:

- Universal access
- Reliability
- Equitable treatment of all customer classes

The Program of the Municipality will satisfy all three requirements, as outlined as follows:

#### 1. Universal Access

The Plan provides for universal access by guaranteeing that all customer classes will be included in the Program under equitable terms.

All customers will have access to the Program. All existing customers on Basic Service with the Local Distribution Company will be automatically enrolled in the Program unless they choose to opt-out.

As new customers move into the Municipality, they will automatically be enrolled in the Program. They will then receive an opt-out notice and be able to opt-out of the program if they choose with no charge.

New residential and small commercial customers will be enrolled at the same price as the existing customers. All other commercial and industrial customers (medium to very large) joining the Program after program initiation will be enrolled at a price that reflects market prices at the time of enrollment.

All customers will have the right to opt-out of the Program at any time with no charge. Customers that opt-out will have the right to return to the Program at a price that reflects market prices at the time of their return.

#### 2. Reliability

Reliability has both physical and financial components. The Program will address both through the ESA with the Competitive Supplier. From a physical perspective, the ESA commits the Competitive Supplier to provide all-requirements power supply and to use proper standards of management and operations. The Local Distribution Company will continue to remain responsible for delivery service, including the physical delivery of power to the consumer, maintenance of the delivery system, and restoration of power in the event of an outage. From a financial perspective, the ESA requires the Competitive Supplier to pay actual damages for any failure to provide supply at the contracted rate (i.e., to pay the difference between the contract rate and the utility supply rate). The ESA requires the Competitive Supplier to maintain insurance and the Request for Proposals for a Competitive Supplier will require that an investment-grade entity either execute or guarantee the ESA. Accordingly, the program satisfies the reliability requirement of the statute.

#### 3. Equitable Treatment of all Customer Classes

The municipal aggregation statute requires "equitable" treatment of all customer classes. The Department has determined that this does not mean that all customers must be treated "equally," but rather that similarly-situated classes be treated "equitably." In particular, the Department has allowed variations in pricing and terms and conditions among customer classes to account for the disparate characteristics of those classes.

The Program makes four distinctions among groupings of customers. First, the Program will distinguish among customer classes (residential, small business, medium and large business) by soliciting separate pricing for each of those classes. The Program will use the same customer classes the Local Distribution Company uses for the Basic Service pricing.

Second, the Program will distinguish between customers receiving the standard product and customers that affirmatively choose an optional product, if offered. Customers selecting an optional product will be charged the price associated with that product.

Third, the Program will distinguish between customers that join the program through an opt-out process and customers that join through an opt-in process. Customers that join though an opt-out process include the initial customers and new customers that move into the Municipality after the program start-date. All initial customers will receive the standard program pricing for their rate class. As described above under

"Universal Access," among new customers, the Program will distinguish between new residential and small commercial customers, who will receive the standard program pricing, and all other commercial and industrial customers, who will receive pricing based on market prices at the time the customer joins the Program.

Finally, customers that join by opting in include two types of customers: a) customers that did not become part of the Program initially because they were being served by a competitive supplier but then later join the Program; and b) customers re-joining the Program after having previously opted out. Those customers that were being served by a competitive supplier at program initiation but who later join the Program will be treated the same as new customers – residential and small commercial customers will receive the standard program pricing and all other commercial and industrial customers will pay a price based on the then-current market rates. All customers that join the Program after having previously opted out will be offered a price based on then-current market rates rather than the standard contract price. This distinction is designed to limit any incentive for frequent switching back and forth between the aggregation program and Basic Service of the Local Distribution Company.

#### V. Planned Schedule

Day	Action or Event
1	Issue RFP for Competitive Supplier
31	ESA executed between Municipality and Competitive Supplier
32	Competitive Supplier notifies Local Distribution Company to prepare eligible consumer data of the Municipality; Broad–based educational campaign begins
33	Competitive Supplier begins EDI testing with Local Distribution Company.
44	Competitive Supplier receives eligible consumer data from Local Distribution Company
48	Competitive Supplier mails opt-out notice and pre-paid reply card to all eligible consumers
49	30-day opt-out period begins on date of postmark
51	Eligible consumers receive opt-out notice in the mail
51-81	Consumers wishing to opt-out return pre-paid reply card to Competitive Supplier.
63	Competitive Supplier completes EDI testing with Local Distribution Company.
82	Competitive Supplier removes all eligible consumers who opt out from the eligible list
83	Competitive Supplier sends "supplier enrolls customer" EDI for all participating consumers.
90	Service begins as of each customer's next meter read date

The planned schedule is presented for illustrative purposes. The final schedule will be established when the Municipality receives regulatory approval.

#### VI. Conclusion

The Community Electricity Aggregation Program meets all of the requirements of the municipal aggregation statute, including providing universal access, a reliable power supply and treating all customer classes equitably. The Municipality looks forward to the approval of this Plan by the Department so that they can launch the Program and pursue the benefits of low cost power, renewable energy, and electricity choice for its residents and businesses.

#### **EXHIBITS**

- A. Customer Enrollment, Opt-Out and Opt-In Procedures
- B. Sample Customer Notification Letter and Opt-Out Postcard

**EXHIBIT A** 

#### Customer Enrollment, Opt-Out and Opt-In Procedures

The following protocols describe the procedures for customer enrollment, opt-out, and opt-in. The protocols are designed to be consistent with the Terms and Conditions for Competitive Suppliers of the Local Distribution Company. In the event of a conflict between these protocols and those Terms and Conditions, the Terms and Conditions shall govern.

- 1. Pre-Enrollment Opt-Out Notice, Pre-Enrollment Opt-Out Procedure, and Initial Enrollment
- 1.1. Opt-Out Notice and Reply Card
- 1.1.1. The Aggregation Consultant and the Municipality will design an Opt-Out Notice informing customers of the aggregation and their right to opt out and an Opt-Out Reply Card that customers may mail to exercise their right to opt out.
- 1.1.2. The Competitive Supplier shall print the Opt-Out Notice and Opt-Out Reply Card.
- 1.2. Customer List
- 1.2.1. After approval by the Department of Public Utilities and execution of the Electric Service Agreement (ESA) with a Competitive Supplier, the Local Distribution Company will electronically transmit the name, address, and existing power supply option (i.e., Basic Service or competitive supply) of each eligible consumer to the Competitive Supplier, in accordance with the rules and regulations set forth by the Massachusetts Electronic Business Transactions ("EBT") Working Group, to facilitate the notification and opt-out requirements of the program.
- 1.3. Opt-Out Mailing. Within five (5) business days of receiving the Customer List, the Competitive Supplier shall mail the Opt-Out Notice and Opt-Out Reply Card to all Basic Service customers in the City.
- 1.4. Customer Opt-Outs.
- 1.4.1. During the period of thirty (30) days from the date of the postmark of the Opt-Out Notice, customers may opt out of the aggregation by mailing the opt-out reply card to the Competitive Supplier.
- 1.4.2. After the initial thirty (30) day period customers may also opt out by calling the Competitive Supplier's customer service number or following one of the other opt-

out procedures described in Section 3.1.

- 1.5. Customer Enrollment and Commencement of Generation Service
- 1.5.1. After the conclusion of the 30-day opt-out period, and providing the EDI testing is complete, the Competitive Supplier shall submit transactions to the Local Distribution Company to enroll all Basic Service customers in the Municipality that did not opt out, pursuant to Section 1.4.1 or 1.4.2.
- 1.5.2. Subject to the Terms and Conditions for Competitive Suppliers of the Local Distribution Company, supply service will commence as follows:
- 1.5.2.1. On the customer's next scheduled meter read, for customers with meter read dates at least two business days after the date of the enrollment transaction;
- 1.5.2.2. On the customer's subsequent scheduled meter read, for customers with meter read dates less that two business days after the date of the enrollment transaction;
- 1.6. Report to the Municipality. Within five (5) business days after submitting transactions to the Local Distribution Company to enroll all Basic Service customers, the Competitive Supplier shall provide the Municipality with the Customer List, with fields added for each customer indicating the date the Opt-Out Notice was mailed, whether the customer opted out, and if so the date, and whether an enrollment transaction for the customer was submitted to the Local Distribution Company, and if so the date.
- 1.7. Undeliverable Opt-Out Notices. If any Opt-Out Notices are returned as undeliverable, the Competitive Supplier shall make Commercially Reasonable Efforts to identify a correct mailing address and re-send the notice. If the second Opt-Out Notice is not returned, and if the customer does not opt out within thirty (30) days from the date of the postmark of the second mailing, the Competitive Supplier shall submit an enrollment transaction for the customer no less than five (5) business days after the conclusion of the 30-day opt-out period.

#### 2. New Customers

- 2.1 New Customers are customers that become customers of the Local Distribution Company after the date of the initial opt-out notice, for example, customers that moved into the Municipality.
- 2.2 When a new eligible customer first moves into the Municipality, the eligible customer will be enrolled automatically in the Program upon initiation of electric distribution service, subject to the customer's right to opt out of the program as described in Section 2.5. However, if the customer is moving from another service

address within the service area of the Local Distribution Company and had previously chosen an alternative supplier, then that supplier will be carried-forward to the customer's new service address. Enrollment will occur pursuant to the rules and procedures set forth in the EBT Working Group Report.

- 2.3 The Local Distribution Company will inform the Competitive Supplier of newly enrolled consumers by submitting Auto-Enroll New Customer 814-AE transactions.
- 2.4. The Competitive Supplier shall mail an Opt-Out Notice and Reply Card for all New Customers no less than thirty (30) days after receiving notice of such New Customers from the Local Distribution Company.
- 2.5. New Customers may opt-out of the program by returning the Reply Card or by using any of the opt-out methods described in Section 3.
- 3. Opt-Out After Initial Enrollment
- 3.1. Opt-Out Procedure. Subsequent to enrollment, a customer may elect to opt out of receiving generation service through the aggregation as follows:
- 3.1.1. By calling the Competitive Supplier's customer service number and requesting to opt out, in which case the Competitive Supplier shall submit a transaction to drop the customer to the Local Distribution Company within one (1) business day;
- 3.1.2. By calling the Local Distribution Company and requesting to be returned to Basic Service, in which case the Local Distribution Company shall submit a transaction to drop the supplier transaction; or
- 3.1.3. By enrolling with an unrelated competitive supplier, in which case the unrelated competitive supplier shall submit a transaction to enroll the customer to the Local Distribution Company.
- 3.2. Effective Date. The intent is that a customer that opts out will no longer receive generation service through the aggregation program as of:
- 3.2.1. the customer's next scheduled meter read, for customers with meter read dates at least two business days after the date of the drop or enrollment transaction;
- 3.2.2. the customer's subsequent scheduled meter read, for customers with meter read dates less that two business days after the date of the drop or enrollment transaction.
- 4. Opt-In Procedure

- 4.1. Applicability
- 4.1.1. Customers not being served by the aggregation may opt in at any time.
- 4.1.2. The opt-in procedure applies to the following customers:
- 4.1.2.1. customers that were once enrolled in the aggregation and opted out; and
- 4.1.2.2. customers that were not previously enrolled in the aggregation because they opted-out before being enrolled or were served by a competitive supplier at the inception of the program.

#### 4.2. Prices

- 4.2.1. Prices for opt-in customers shall be at prevailing market rates at the time of the opt-in except that residential and small commercial customers who were served by a competitive supplier at the inception of the program, and have not previously opted out, shall receive the same prices as existing customers in the program. Unless the Municipality waives this requirement, the end date of any opt-in contract shall be coterminous with end date of the Standard Product.
- 4.2.2. The Competitive Supplier shall notify the Municipality of all prices offered to opt-in customers.
- 4.3. Opt-in Process.
- 4.3.1. Customers may opt in to the aggregation by calling the Competitive Supplier's customer service number and requesting to opt in.
- 4.3.2. The Competitive Supplier shall fully disclose to the customer the price and all other terms and conditions of service. If the customer agrees to the price and terms and conditions, the Competitive Supplier shall submit a transaction to enroll the customer to the Local Distribution Company within five (5) business days.

#### 5. Optional Products

- 5.1. Prior to enrollment, Customers may elect an Optional Product, if applicable, by calling the Competitive Supplier's customer service number. The Competitive Supplier shall enroll customers making such an election in the Optional Product.
- 5.2 Customers enrolled in the program may elect an Optional Product, or a return to the Standard Product, by calling the Competitive Supplier's customer service number. Within five (5) business days after a customer makes such an election, the Competitive Supplier shall submit a transaction to change supplier data to the Local

Distribution Company to make the change in the customer's rate option.

# **EXHIBIT B**

# SAMPLE NOTIFICATION LETTER

This letter comes from the municipality and is sent out by the competitive supplier.

John & Mary Resident 1 Any Street Sudbury, MA 01776	Date:
Dear Mr. & Mrs. Resident:	
The Board of Selectmen voted on, 2016 to authorize the residents and businesses on Basic Service with Eversource. Competitive choice, longer-term price stability, reduced electron renewable sources.	The objectives of this program are to give you
The Board of Selectmen with the assistance of Good Energy Electric Supply Company to supply power to the residents an opt-out of the program, or affirmatively choose an Optional Estandard Product: Sudbury Local Green which will include a by the Commonwealth. You may also choose to purchase on purchase any additional green energy you can elect Sudbury energy included in the Basic Service of the Local Utility, as radditional green energy than that offered with the Standard P Local Green, which offers% green energy. You can fin and product options, including how green energy is provided Certificates, at www.goodenergy.com. The electric rate com Eversource and above described Sudbury Products is as follows:	Product, you will automatically receive the an additional 5% green energy above that required the of two Optional Products. If you do not want to Basic, which provides the same amount of green required by law. You may also choose to purchase troduct by electing to purchase Sudbury Premium and more information on the aggregation program through the sourcing of Renewable Energy sparison per kilowatt hour (kWh) between

Rate Class	Local Utility	Standard Product:	Optional Product:	Optional Product:
		Sudbury Local	Sudbury Basic	Sudbury Premium
		Green		Local Green
Residential	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	\$0.000000
Commercial	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	\$0.000000
Industrial	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	\$0.000000	\$0.000000

PARTICIPATION	ACTION NEEDED
If you want to participate in this program and receive the Standard Product (Sudbury Local Green)	You do not need to take any action.
If you want to participate in this program and receive one of the Optional Products (Sudbury Basic or Sudbury Premium Local Green)	Call 1-800-XXX-XXXX to select Sudbury Basic or Sudbury Premium Local Green. If you do not call, nor elect to opt-out, you will receive the Standard Product – Sudbury Local Green.
If you do NOT want to participate in this program	Sign and date the enclosed Opt-out postage-prepaid postcard.     Mail the postcard within 30 days

Eversource will still deliver your electricity and service the transmission infrastructure. You will still receive

one bill from Eversource.

If you have any questions concerning this program, please call 800-000-0000 or visit our website at <a href="https://www.goodenergy.com">www.goodenergy.com</a>

Sincerely,

Board of Selectmen

#### **CUSTOMER NOTIFICATION ENVELOPE**

# **OFFICIAL CITY BUSINESS**

# **ELECTRIC SUPPLY PROGRAM**

Competitive Supplier 1 Energy Way Energy, MA 00000

John & Mary Resident 1 Any Street Sudbury, MA 01776

# DO NOT DISCARD - URGENT NOTICE REGARDING ELECTRIC RATES

# **BUSINESS REPLY MAIL**

FIRST-CLASS MAIL

PERMIT NO. 677

ALBUQUERQUE, NM

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

Competitive Supplier
1 Energy Way
Energy, MA 00000

NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IF MAILED IN THE UNITED STATES

# **ELECTRIC SUPPLY PROGRAM - OPT-OUT REPLY CARD**

John & Mary Resident 1 Any Street Sudbury, MA 01776

#### **OPT-OUT INSTRUCTIONS:**

If you want to participate and receive the Standard Product, you do not need to take any action .

If you do NOT want to participate, (1) sign and date this postcard and (2) drop it in the mail.

This card can only be signed by the customer of record whose name appears on this card and must be mailed within 30 days

Signature

Date

# **ATTACHMENT 3**

# **TOWN OF SUDBURY**

# **COMMUNITY ELECTRICITY AGGREGATION**

# PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION PLAN

Prepared with

**GOOD ENERGY, L.P.** 

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# 1. PURPOSE

As part of a municipal aggregation plan and in accordance with G.L. Chapter 164, Section 134(a) a public outreach and education plan is required to fully inform and educate potential consumers and participants in advance of automatic enrollment in the municipal aggregation. Consumers, including consumers with limited English language proficiency, must be informed that they would be automatically enrolled in the aggregation and that they would have the right to opt-out of the aggregation program without penalty.

The Public Outreach and Education Plan (Education Plan) component of the Community Electricity Aggregation Program (Program) has two parts. The general public outreach and education effort conducted by Good Energy will provide information to eligible consumers through electronic and print channels, public presentations and personal communications. The direct mail notification to eligible consumers will include a letter of explanation of the benefits and rights of participating in the aggregation and will contain information regarding consumer participation and rights. This letter will prominently state all charges and disclose the Basic Service rate, how to access it and that it is available to them without penalty.

In <u>Town of Westford</u>, D.P.U. 15-115, pp. 10-11 (2015), the Department found that the education component of the Town's Plan, which informed customers of their right to opt out and provided other pertinent information about the Program through newspapers, public and cable television, public meetings, electronic communication, a toll-free customer service line, and a direct mail component including the opt-out notification, satisfied the statutory requirements of G.L. c. 164, section 134(a). The Public Outreach and Education Plan of the Municipality closely resembles the Education Plan of the Town of Westford.

The purpose of the Public Outreach and Education Plan is to raise awareness and provide eligible consumers with information concerning their opportunities, options and rights for participation in the aggregation.

The Public Outreach and Education Plan consists of two parts:

- a) General Education: This will be conducted through electronic and print channels, public presentations and personal communications to inform eligible consumers about the aggregation.
- b) Direct Mail Notification: This will be mailed out to eligible consumers will include a letter of explanation of the benefits and rights of participating in the aggregation and will contain information regarding consumer participation and rights.

# Public Outreach and Education Plan

This letter will be made available in other languages where appropriate and will prominently state all charges and disclose the current Basic Service rate, how to access it and that it is available to them without penalty.

The general education component will provide a wide-ranging public outreach for the direct mail notification, increasing public awareness of the mailing and its purpose and providing reinforcement of important information.

# 1.1 GENERAL EDUCATION

The general education will provide a description of the Program for eligible consumers. It will consist of a public relations effort, advertising outreach, public presentations and electronic information sources (i.e. toll-free telephone number, websites, etc.). The general education will provide specific information about the Program and maximize the impact of the direct mail notification which will create an environment of public awareness.

# 1.1.1 Press Conference

The initial launch of the Program will be a media event featuring representatives from the Municipality, its Competitive Supplier, and Good Energy. This event will be designed to create an understanding of the Program as a whole including consumer rights and benefits. Representatives from local and regional print and broadcast sources will be invited to attend.

A press kit will be assembled to introduce the Program. Materials may include:

- a) news releases;
- b) background information;
- c) deregulation and choice information; and
- d) frequently asked questions.

# 1.1.2 Media Outreach

Following the launch of the Program, media outreach will continue through local cable television shows, newspapers and Internet sources to provide greater public education and to describe the Program, the opt-out process and the toll-free telephone number. Outreach will include public service announcements (PSAs), scheduling interviews of Program spokespersons with local media outlets and securing a positive media presence.

A series of news releases will be distributed to achieve the aforementioned goals.

# Public Outreach and Education Plan

Follow-up news releases will update the media on the status of the progress of the Program. A sample of available media outlets is contained in Exhibit A.

# 1.1.3 Notices and Public Postings

Notices in newspapers and in Municipal Offices describing the Program, the opt-out process and the toll-free telephone number will further reinforce the Program's details. Postings will be placed in public buildings (i.e. library, Senior Center, etc.) which will create the necessary repetition of messages required to motivate consumer action and build awareness and understanding.

# 1.1.4 Customer Service Center

Good Energy will maintain a toll-free telephone number to address eligible consumer's questions regarding the Program, deregulation, the opt-out process, price information and other issues eligible consumers may raise.

#### 1.1.5 Website

All information regarding the Program will be posted on the website of Good Energy, which is linked to the website of the Municipality. The Good Energy website will have links to the website of the Local Distribution Company, the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER), the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (DPU), and the Competitive Supplier.

# 1.1.6 Public Presentations

Good Energy will provide presentations to municipal officials and to any interested community group.

# 1.2 DIRECT MAIL NOTIFICATION

# 1.2.1 Opt-Out

The opt-out notification will be sent via standard mail to the billing address of each eligible consumer on Basic Service. The notification envelope will be clearly marked as containing time sensitive information related to the Program. The notification will contain a letter describing the Program.

The letter will inform eligible consumers:

a) about the Program and provide information regarding participation and rights;

# Public Outreach and Education Plan

- b) that they have the right to opt-out of the aggregation without penalty;
- c) of all charges, prominently stated, with a comparison of price and primary terms of the Competitive Supplier and the current Basic Service offering;
- d) that any savings under the Program compared to Basic Service cannot be guaranteed because the Basic Service rate is subject to changes
- e) about the opt-out process; and
- f) in languages other than English for appropriate consumer groups. (i.e. toll-free telephone number).

The opt-out notification will also contain a card with a simple check off and signature line for eligible consumers who do not wish to participate. Eligible consumers will have 30 days from the date of the mailing to return the opt-out card in a preaddressed postage-paid envelope. New eligible consumers will be enrolled in the Program in accordance with applicable Local Distributor Company rules. Upon initiation of service, these new eligible consumers will receive the same opt-out information as all other eligible consumers.

Examples of a draft opt-out notification letter and the opt-out card are included as Exhibits A and B to the Aggregation Plan. A copy of the initial opt-out notification will be filed with the Director of the Department's Consumer Division prior to the start of the opt-out period.

# 2 TIMELINE

The schedule below assumes timely preparation of mailing lists as well as space and time availability in the media. Meetings and public presentations will be scheduled upon mutually agreeable schedules. On-going education will continue beyond the period outlined below through the media and the toll-free telephone number.

DAY	ACTION OR EVENT
1	Press conference to announce the Program and introduce the Competitive
	Supplier
1	Customer service center opens (toll-free telephone number)
1	Press release on direct mail notification and the customer service center
1	Program information posted on appropriate websites: Good Energy,
	Municipality, and Competitive Supplier
1-7	Postings placed in public buildings
1-40	Public presentations to inform community groups about the Program and
	consumer rights
10	Direct mail notification sent to each eligible consumer
12-30	Display ads in newspapers describing the Program, the opt-out process and
	providing the toll-free telephone number
14	Local cable television show describing the Program, the opt-out process and
	providing the toll-free telephone number
16	Public Service Announcements describing the Program, the opt-out process
	and providing the toll-free telephone number
40	Deadline reached for eligible consumers to return the opt-out card
40+	Public outreach and education continues through the media, the toll-free
	telephone number and individual opt-out mailings to new eligible consumers
90+	Follow-up news releases to summarize the status of the Program

Exhibit A

Sample of Available Media Outlets

Newspapers

Sudbury Town Crier, Sudbury Patch, MetroWest Daily News

Radio

WYAJ (97.7 FM, SUDBURY, MA); WKOX (1200 AM, FRAMINGHAM, MA), WROR-FM (105.7 FM; FRAMINGHAM, MA); WBNW (1120 AM, CONCORD, MA)

**Television** 

SudburyTV (Comcast, Ch. 8 and 9; Verizon Ch. 31 and 32).

# **ATTACHMENT 4**

# TOWN OF SUDBURY COMMUNITY ELECTRICITY AGGREGATION

# **ELECTRIC SERVICE AGREEMENT**

Prepared with

**GOOD ENERGY, L.P.** 

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# EXHIBIT A - PRICES AND TERMS

EXHIBIT B - TEMPLATE KWH SALES AND CONSUMER ACCOUNTS DATA SUMMARY

#### ELECTRIC SERVICE AGREEMENT

This Electric Service Agreement ("ESA" or "Agreement") is entered into as of th	eday
of 2016 ("Effective Date") by and between ("C	Competitive
Supplier"), and the Town of Sudbury, a Massachusetts municipality (the "Municip	ality").
D 24 1	
Recitals	

WHEREAS, the Massachusetts Legislature has adopted Chapter 164 of the Electric Utility Restructuring Act of 1997, ("Restructuring Act"), which among other things, (1) allows for competition in the generation and supply of electricity to consumers, (2) authorizes municipalities to aggregate the electrical load of electricity consumers within their boundaries, and (3) allows municipal aggregators to formulate an aggregation plan and conduct aggregation programs;

WHEREAS, Municipality has developed a Community Electricity Aggregation Program ("Program") to aggregate consumers located within the Municipality and to negotiate competitive rates for the supply of electricity for such consumers;

WHEREAS, the program allows Municipality to solicit competitive bids for the supply of electricity individually or as part of a buying group with other municipal aggregators;

WHEREAS, the Municipality has received approval of its Program from the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities ("Department") in D.P.U.

WHEREAS, Competitive Supplier, a corporation duly authorized to conduct business in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts ("Competitive Supplier"), desires to provide All-Requirements Power Supply to consumers located within the Municipality, pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Municipality's Program and this Electric Service Agreement ("ESA"); and

WHEREAS, the Municipality desires that the Competitive Supplier provide All-Requirements Power Supply as an alternative to Basic Service for consumers within the Municipality.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS AGREED THAT, the Municipality and the Competitive Supplier hereby enter into this ESA subject to the terms and conditions below.

#### ARTICLE 1 DEFINITIONS

Capitalized terms that are used but not defined in the body of this ESA, including the Exhibits hereto, shall be defined as set forth in this Article 1. Words defined in this Article 1 which are capitalized shall be given their common and ordinary meanings when they appear without capitalization in the text. Words not defined herein shall be given their common and ordinary meanings.

- 1.0 Associated Entities Any and all of the independent contractors and subcontractors of the Competitive Supplier or of any of its corporate parents or subsidiaries, which provide goods or services to, or in any way assist, the Competitive Supplier in meeting its obligations under the ESA, but specifically excluding the Local Distributor,
- 1.1 All-Requirements Power Supply The service under which the Competitive Supplier provides all of the electrical energy, capacity, reserves, and ancillary services, transmission services, transmission and distribution losses, congestion management, and other such services or products necessary to provide firm power supply to Participating Consumers at the Point of Sale.
- Bankruptcy With respect to a Party, such Party (i) ceases doing business as a going 1.2 concern, generally does not pay its debts as they become due or admits in writing its inability to pay its debts as they become due, files a voluntary petition in bankruptcy or is adjudicated bankrupt or insolvent, or files any petition or answer seeking any reorganization, arrangement, composition, readjustment, liquidation, dissolution or similar relief under the present or any future federal bankruptcy code or any other present or future applicable federal, state or other Governmental Rule, or seeks or consents to or acquiesces in the appointment of any trustee, receiver, custodian or liquidator of said Party or of all or any substantial part of its properties, or makes an assignment for the benefit of creditors, or said Party takes any corporate action to authorize or that is in contemplation of the actions set forth in this clause (i); or (ii) a proceeding is initiated against the Party seeking any reorganization, arrangement, composition, readjustment, liquidation, dissolution or similar relief under the present or any future federal bankruptcy code or any other Governmental Rule and, such proceeding is not dismissed within ninety (90) days after the commencement, or any trustee, receiver, custodian or liquidator of said Party or of all or any substantial part of its properties is appointed without the consent or acquiescence of said Party, and such appointment is not vacated or stayed on appeal or otherwise within ninety (90) days after the appointment, or, within ninety (90) days after the expiration of any such stay, has not been vacated, provided that, notwithstanding the foregoing, the exercise of rights to take over operation of a Party's assets, or to foreclose on any of a Party's assets, by a secured creditor of such Party (including the appointment of a receiver or other representative in connection with the exercise of such rights) shall not constitute a Bankruptcy.
- 1.3 Basic Service As defined in M.G.L. c. 164, § 1 and in orders of the Department, as amended or promulgated, as the case may be, from time to time.

1.5

1.4 Commercially Reasonable - Any of the practices, methods and acts which, in the
exercise of reasonable judgment in light of the facts known, or which in the exercise of due
diligence, should have been known, at the time the decision was made, would have been
expected in the industry to accomplish the desired result consistent with reliability, safety,
expedition, project economics and applicable law and regulations, provided that in no even
shall increased costs or economic hardship be an excuse for not performing a Party's
obligations under this ESA.

cond	uct business in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
1.6	Competitive Supplier's Guarantor -
Guar party issue	Credit Rating - With respect to the Competitive Supplier or Competitive Supplier's rantor, its senior unsecured, unsubordinated long-term debt rating, not supported by third credit enhancement, and if such debt is no longer rated, then the corporate or long-term er rating of Competitive Supplier or Competitive Supplier's Guarantor; provided, ever, that the standing guaranty of
in fa	vor of Competitive Supplier's Guarantor, shall not be considered to constitute "third
party	credit enhancement" for purposes of this definition.

Competitive Supplier – . . . a corporation duly authorized to

- 1.8 Delivery Term The period for which prices for All-Requirements Power Supply have been established, as set forth Exhibit A.
- 1.9 DPU or Department The Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities or any successor state agency.
- 1.10 EDI Electronic Data Interchange: The exchange of business data in a standardized format between business computer systems.
- 1.11 Effective Date The date on which this ESA is executed by the Parties (to be determined by the later date, if the Parties execute on different dates).
- 1.12 Eligible Consumers Residential, commercial, industrial, municipal, or other consumers of electricity who receive Basic Service from the Local Distributor as of the Effective Date, or New Consumers that subsequently become eligible to participate in the Program, at one or more locations within the geographic boundaries of the Municipality, but not including those consumers who receive Basic Service and participate in a green power program from the Local Distributor, those customers who are taking power supply service from a competitive supplier and those consumers who receive Basic Service and have requested not to have their account information shared by the Local Distributor. For the avoidance of doubt, all Eligible Consumers must reside or be otherwise located at one or more locations within the geographic boundaries of the Municipality; as such boundaries exist on the Effective Date of this ESA.

- 1.13 ESA This Electric Service Agreement.
- 1.14 Force Majeure Any cause not within the reasonable control of the affected Party which precludes that party from carrying out, in whole or in part, its obligations under this ESA, including, but not limited to, Acts of God; winds; hurricanes; tornadoes; fires; epidemics; landslides; earthquakes; floods; other natural catastrophes; strikes, lock-outs or other industrial disturbances; acts of public enemies; acts, failures to act or orders of any kind of any governmental authorities acting in their regulatory or judicial capacity, provided, however, that any such discretionary acts, failures to act or orders of any kind by the Municipality may not be asserted as an event of Force Majeure by the Municipality; insurrections; military action; war, whether or not it is declared; sabotage; riots; civil or industrial disturbances or explosions. Nothing in this provision is intended to excuse any Party from performing due to any governmental act, failure to act, or order, where it was reasonably within such Party's power to prevent such act, failure to act, or order. Economic hardship of either Party shall not constitute an event of Force Majeure.
- 1.15 General Communications The type of communications described and defined in Article 5.7 herein.
- 1.16 Governmental Authority Any national, state or local government, independent system operator, regional transmission owner or operator, any political subdivision thereof or any other governmental, judicial, regulatory, public or statutory instrumentality, authority, body, agency, department, bureau, or entity, excluding the Municipality.
- 1.17 Governmental Rule Any law, rule, regulation, ordinance, order, code, permit, interpretation, judgment, decree, or similar form of decision of any Governmental Authority having the effect and force of law.
- 1.18 Green Power Electric energy generated by equipment or facilities including solar power, biomass, landfill gas, wind turbine, hydro power or other renewable energy generating resource or technology, as may be defined by M.G.L. c. 25A, § 11F, § 11F1/2, or M.G.L. c. 164, § 1, or, that may be otherwise added by mutual agreement of the Parties.
- 1.19 ISO-NE The New England Independent System Operator, or such successor or other entity which oversees the integrated dispatch of power plants in New England and the bulk transmission of electricity throughout the New England power grid.
- 1.20 kWh, kW Kilowatt-hour and kilowatts, respectively.
- 1.21 Local Distributor Utility, or any successor company(ies) or entity(ies) providing electricity distribution services in the Municipality.
- 1.22 NEPOOL The New England Power Pool.
- 1.23 New Consumers Residential, commercial, industrial, municipal, or other consumers

of electricity that become Eligible Consumers after the Effective Date.

- 1.24 New Taxes Any taxes not in effect as of the Effective Date enacted by a Governmental Authority or the Municipality, to be effective after the Effective Date with respect to All-Requirements Power Supply, or any Governmental Rule enacted and effective after the Effective Date resulting in application of any existing tax for the first time to Participating Consumers.
- 1.25 Participating Consumers Eligible Consumers enrolled in the Program.
- 1.26 Parties The Municipality and Competitive Supplier, as the context requires. In the singular, "Party" shall refer to any one of the preceding.
- 1.27 Plan Community Electricity Aggregation Program as adopted or amended by the Municipality from time to time, and as approved by the Department in D.P.U. \_\_\_\_\_The Aggregation Plan is a plan developed by the Municipality to aggregate electricity consumers for the primary purpose of negotiating the best rates for the supply of electricity for such consumers.
- 1.28 Point of Delivery The point of interconnection between NEPOOL Pool Transmission Facilities and the transmission facilities of the Local Distributor.
- 1.29 Point of Sale The electric meter for each Participating Consumer's account, as designated by the Local Distributor.
- 1.30 Program Community Electricity Aggregation Program, under which, the Plan is described and implemented.
- 1.31 Regulatory Event Implementation of a new, or changes to an existing, Governmental Rule by a Governmental Authority, including without limitation the Local Distributor's tariffs, market rules, operating protocols and definitions, which have a material effect on the services and transactions contemplated by this ESA, including Changes to a Governmental Rule that increase or decrease Competitive Supplier's costs. A "change" as used herein includes without limitation any amendment, modification, nullification, suspension, repeal, finding of unconstitutionality or unlawfulness, or any change in construction or interpretation.
- 1.32 Retail Price As set forth in Exhibit A.
- 1.33 Service Commencement Date The date of the Participating Consumer's first meter read date after \_\_\_\_\_\_, or as soon as necessary arrangements can be made with the Local Distributor thereafter.
- 1.34 Term As defined in Article 4.1.

# ARTICLE 2 RIGHTS GRANTED

# 2.1 GENERAL DESCRIPTION AND LIMITATIONS

Competitive Supplier is hereby granted the exclusive right to provide All-Requirements Power Supply to Participating Consumers pursuant to the terms of the Program and this ESA. For the avoidance of doubt, Competitive Supplier shall be authorized to supply All-Requirements Power Supply only to Participating Consumers, and the Local Distributor will continue to have the right and obligation to supply electricity to Eligible Consumers who optout of the Program and remain on, or return to, Basic Service, until changes in law, regulation or policy may allow otherwise. Competitive Supplier further recognizes that this ESA does not guarantee that any individual Eligible Consumer will be served by the Competitive Supplier.

In accordance with Article 3 below, all Eligible Consumers shall be automatically enrolled in the Program unless they choose to opt-out. In the event the geographic boundaries of the Municipality change during the term of this ESA, Competitive Supplier shall only be obligated to supply All- Requirements Service to those Participating Consumers located within the Municipality as such boundaries existed on the Effective Date of this ESA. As between the Parties, the Competitive Supplier has the sole obligation of making appropriate arrangements with the Local Distributor, and any arrangements which may be necessary with the ISO-NE so that Participating Consumers receive the electricity supplies to be delivered pursuant to this ESA.

The Municipality shall specifically authorize the Local Distributor to provide, and Competitive Supplier the right to obtain and utilize as required, all billing and energy consumption information for Participating Consumers as is reasonably available from the Local Distributor. Competitive Supplier shall request consumption data for individual Participating Consumers from the Local Distributor via EDI. If further action is required by the Local Distributor to authorize Competitive Supplier to receive such consumption and billing data, the Municipality agrees to use Commercially Reasonable efforts, at Competitive Supplier's cost, to assist Competitive Supplier, if so requested by it, in obtaining such information for Participating Consumers, including, without limitation, assisting Competitive Supplier in obtaining permission from such Eligible Consumers and/or the Department, where necessary as a prerequisite to the provision of such information. Competitive Supplier shall not be responsible for any errors that Competitive Supplier makes in the provision of All-Requirements Power Supply to the extent both that: 1) such errors are caused by errors or omissions in the information provided to it by the Local Distributor; and 2) it was reasonable for the Competitive Supplier to rely upon that provided information. The Municipality shall not be responsible for any such errors by the Competitive Supplier in any event.

# 2.2 NO THIRD PARTY BENEFICIARIES

This ESA does not and is not intended to confer any rights or remedies upon any person

other than the Parties. This ESA facilitates rights under M.G.L. c. 164 for Eligible Consumers to purchase electricity from the Competitive Supplier in accordance with the Plan and this ESA. The Municipality has the right, but not the obligation, to advocate on behalf of the Eligible Consumers interested in contracting for electric supply and on behalf of all Participating Consumers, unless otherwise prevented by law.

# 2.3 COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS

By entering into this ESA, the parties specifically represent that they have exercised due diligence to review and have fully complied with all relevant regulations and orders of the DPU, Massachusetts Attorney General, and the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources ("DOER") and any other governmental authorities having jurisdiction over any element of the transactions contemplated by this ESA. Competitive Supplier specifically represents that it has exercised due diligence to review and has fully complied with all relevant regulations and orders of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC").

# 2.4 CONDITIONS PRECEDENT

The Municipality's obligations under this ESA shall be conditioned upon the Competitive Supplier, fulfilling the following requirements:

- a) maintain Competitive Supplier's license from the Department (as such term is defined in the Local Distributor's Terms and Conditions for Competitive Suppliers);
- b) execute an Electric Supplier Service Agreement with the Local Distributor in a form reasonably satisfactory to Competitive Supplier;
- c) execute any appropriate ISO-NE applications and agreements;
- d) obtain authorization from the FERC to sell power at market-based rates; and
- e) complete EDI testing with Local Distributor.; and
- f) provide all other documentation required by the Local Distributor

If Competitive Supplier has not fulfilled all such requirements by the Service Commencement Date, then the Municipality may terminate this ESA without any liability to the Competitive Supplier.

# 2.5 OWNERSHIP AND USE OF ELIGIBLE CONSUMER DATA

Competitive Supplier acknowledges that: 1) all Eligible Consumer data (including addresses, telephone numbers or other identifying information) made available to Competitive Supplier as an agent of Municipality for such data must be protected by the Competitive Supplier and its Associated Entities to the fullest extent possible under the law; 2) the Competitive Supplier does not hold any permanent right, title or interest in this data; and 3) this data is to be obtained, retained and used by the Competitive Supplier and its Associated Entities solely to provide All- Requirements Power Supply to Participating Consumers and to render other services expressly required or permitted under this ESA. Any other use of Eligible Consumer data without the prior written consent of the Municipality is strictly prohibited. Pursuant to such authorized use, Competitive Supplier may share such Eligible Consumer data with Associated Entities as reasonably necessary to accommodate Competitive Supplier's provision of All-Requirements Power Supply or other performance pursuant to this ESA (including, without limitation, collection of receivables), provided that Competitive Supplier will take reasonable measures to inform any such Associated Entities of the confidential nature of such data and the restrictions set forth in this Article 2.5 and elsewhere in this ESA. Except as expressly provided in this ESA, and as otherwise permitted by law, Competitive Supplier and its Associated Entities shall not disclose any Eligible Consumer data to any third-party and Competitive Supplier and its Associated Entities shall take all Commercially Reasonable measures to protect Eligible Consumer data from access by, or beneficial use for, any third-party. To the extent that the provision of All-Requirements Power Supply or other services under this ESA requires that Competitive Supplier and its Associated Entities have access to or make use of any Eligible Consumer data, Competitive Supplier and its Associated Entities shall treat such Eligible Consumer data as confidential information. Competitive Supplier may use Eligible Consumer data to engage in direct marketing only during the term of this ESA and subject to the terms set forth in Article 18.2. A violation of this Article 2.5 shall be grounds for termination under Article 4.2(a). Competitive Supplier agrees violation of this Article 2.5 shall constitute irreparable harm.

# ARTICLE 3 CONSUMER CHOICE, NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS, ENROLLMENT

#### 3.1 CONSUMER CHOICE

The Parties acknowledge and agree that all Participating Consumers have the right, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 164, § 134 and the Program, to change their source of electricity supply, as set forth in Article 2.1. The Parties represent and warrant to each other that they shall not unreasonably interfere with the right of Participating Consumers to opt-out of the Program, and shall comply with any rules, regulations or policies of the Department, the Local Distributor and/or other lawful Governmental Authority regarding the procedures for opting out or of switching from one source of electric supply to another. Notwithstanding the foregoing, however, the Parties may take Commercially Reasonable measures to encourage Participating Consumers to affirmatively agree to remain in the Program, consistent with any Governmental Rules.

# 3.2 NOTIFICATION TO NEW CONSUMERS OF OPT-OUT RIGHTS

Consistent with the requirements of any applicable Governmental Rules, and within a reasonable time after the Local Distributor notifies Competitive Supplier of the existence of a New Consumer and has provided to Competitive Supplier such New Consumer's account number, service and billing address, and other pertinent contact information, Competitive Supplier shall notify such New Consumer (i) of the date on which such New Consumer will be automatically enrolled in the Program, and (ii) that the Competitive Supplier will be providing All- Requirements Power Supply to such New Consumer as of the same date, subject to the opt-out provisions of the M.G.L. c. 164, § 134, the Plan, and the Program ("Opt-Out Notice"). The Opt- Out Notice shall be mailed to each such New Consumer prior to the date of automatic enrollment. The Competitive Supplier, in its discretion as to form and content shall: (i) prominently state all charges to be assessed by the Competitive Supplier; (ii) provide a summary of the prices and terms included in Exhibit A as well as fully disclose the prices and terms then being offered for Basic Service by the Local Distributor; (iii) state how such New Consumer may opt-out of the Program prior to enrollment and remain on Basic Service from the Local Distributor; and (iv) state how all Participating Consumers, subsequent to enrollment, will also have the right to opt-out at any time and return to Basic Service or choose a new Competitive Supplier without paying a fee or penalty to Competitive Supplier. All such notices must be approved in advance by the Municipality, such approval not to be unreasonably withheld.

In providing the notifications set forth in this Article 3.2, and in otherwise conducting the activities in Article 3.4 below, the Competitive Supplier must rely upon information provided to it by the Local Distributor for the purpose of performing its obligations. Competitive Supplier will not be responsible for any errors in connection with its notification of Eligible Consumers only to the extent both that: 1) such errors are caused by errors or omissions in the information provided to it by the Local Distributor; and 2) it was reasonable for the Competitive Supplier to rely upon that provided information. The Municipality shall not be responsible for any such errors by the Competitive Supplier in any event.

# 3.3 CONSUMER AWARENESS

Upon mutual agreement concerning the content and method, either the Competitive Supplier or Good Energy, L.P. may conduct consumer awareness efforts at its sole expense.

# 3.4 ENROLLMENT

- 3.4.1 Participating Consumers All Participating Consumers as of the Effective Date will continue to be enrolled in the Program under the terms of this ESA unless they opt-out during the period specified in the Plan. The Municipality shall authorize the Local Distributor to provide to Competitive Supplier a list of Participating Consumers as of the Effective Date, as well as such Participating Consumer's service and billing addresses, and any other information necessary for Competitive Supplier to commence All-Requirements Power Supply to such Participating Consumers as of the Service Commencement Date.
- 3.4.2 New Consumers If New Consumers elect not to opt-out of the Program as provided in Article 3.2, such New Consumers will be automatically enrolled by Competitive Supplier in the Program. Competitive Supplier shall enroll such New Consumers in accordance with applicable Local Distributor rules. Residential and small commercial New Customers shall be enrolled in the Program at the rates reflected in Exhibit A. All other New Consumers shall be enrolled at a price determined by then–prevailing market conditions. Competitive Supplier shall enroll such New Consumers in accordance with applicable Department and Local Distributor rules.
- 3.4.3 Eligible Consumers Opting Out At any time during this ESA, Eligible Consumers who have previously opted out of the Program may request that they be re-enrolled in the Program. Competitive Supplier shall provide All-Requirements Power Supply to such Eligible Consumers at a price determined by the then-prevailing market conditions. Following mutually agreed upon procedures, the Competitive Supplier is responsible for accurately and promptly transmitting information regarding Eligible Consumers, to the Local Distributor. The Competitive Supplier shall be responsible for enrolling all Eligible Customers through EDI transactions submitted to the Local Distributor for initial enrollment in the aggregation and all enrollments thereafter.
- 3.4.4 Eligible Consumers Served by Third-Parties Consumers being served under other competitive supply programs offered by third-parties will not be automatically enrolled as Participating Consumers under this ESA when such program terminates or is otherwise completed. Competitive Supplier agrees that Consumers under such third-party competitive supply programs may affirmatively opt-in and receive All-Requirements Power Supply. Residential and small commercial Consumers which opt-in shall be enrolled in the Program at the rates reflected in Exhibit A. All other Consumers that opt-in shall be enrolled at a price determined by the then-prevailing market conditions.

#### ARTICLE 4 TERM OF CONTRACT AND TERMINATION

#### 4.1 TERM

This ESA shall commence on the E	ffective Date, provided, however, that Competitive
Supplier's obligation to provide All-	-Requirements Power Supply shall commence on the
Service Commencement Date, and s	shall terminate with the Participating Consumer's first
meter read date after	, unless terminated earlier under Article 4.2
below ("Term").	

# 4.2 TERMINATION

This ESA may be terminated at any time upon written notice:

- a) by the Municipality, or the Competitive Supplier, if the other Party fails to remedy or cure any breach of any material provision or condition of this ESA (including, but not limited to, Article 2.5 and Article 9, but excluding the failure to provide or arrange for All-Requirements Power Supply, which is addressed in Article 4.2(d)), within sixty (60) days following written notice to do so by the non-breaching party; or
- b) by the Municipality, or the Competitive Supplier, if any material provision or condition of this ESA be finally adjudged invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, or if the Department exercises any lawful jurisdiction so as to invalidate or disapprove this ESA in whole or in significant part; or
- c) by the Municipality, i) if an order is entered against the Competitive Supplier approving a petition for an arrangement, liquidation, dissolution or similar relief relating to bankruptcy or insolvency and such order remains unvacated for thirty (30) days; or (ii) immediately if the Competitive Supplier shall file a voluntary petition in bankruptcy or any petition or answer seeking any arrangement, liquidation or dissolution relating to bankruptcy, insolvency or other relief for debtors or shall seek, consent to, or acquiesce in appointment of any trustee, receiver, or liquidation of any of Competitive Supplier's property; or
- d) notwithstanding the foregoing, the failure of Competitive Supplier to provide or arrange for All-Requirements Power Supply to Participating Consumers, in the absence of Force Majeure or the Municipality's failure to perform, shall constitute an act of default, and the Municipality may terminate this Agreement upon giving written notice and without a cure period. In the event the Competitive Supplier has performed its obligations hereunder and its failure to arrange for or provide All-Requirements Power Supply is a direct result of actions or non-actions by any transmission service provider, the Local Distributor, or the ISO-NE, the Competitive Supplier's failure shall not be deemed to be an act of immediate default and would be subject to remedy or cure as provided in Article 4.2 (a).

#### 4.3 OBLIGATIONS UPON TERMINATION

Following termination of this ESA, the Parties shall each discharge by performance all obligations due to any other Party that arose up to the date of termination of the ESA and Competitive Supplier shall continue to have the right to collect all monies due for services

rendered to that date.

The Competitive Supplier specifically waives all rights it may have at law to claim that the Municipality has no standing or otherwise lacks the authority to seek monetary damages on behalf of individual Participating Consumers in the event of a termination of this ESA. The Competitive Supplier shall submit all consumer drops via EDI to the Local Distributor in accordance with the rules and regulations set forth by the Massachusetts Electronic Business Transactions (EBT) Working Group.

#### 4.4 EXTENSION

The ESA may be extended beyond the termination date established in Article 4.1 by mutual, written agreement of the Parties. Any new pricing terms shall be added to and replace Exhibit A as Exhibit A-2. Upon any such extension, this ESA shall continue to be in effect, and all provisions of the ESA shall retain the same force and effect as before the extension, unless it is terminated by either Party pursuant to the provisions of Article 4.2 or until the date stated in such extension.

# ARTICLE 5 CONTINUING COVENANTS

The Competitive Supplier agrees and covenants to perform each of the following obligations during the term of this ESA.

# 5.1 STANDARDS OF MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS

In performing its obligations hereunder, during the term of this ESA, the Competitive Supplier shall exercise reasonable care to assure that its facilities are prudently and efficiently managed; that it employs an adequate number of competently trained and experienced personnel to carry out its responsibilities; that it delivers or arranges to deliver an uninterrupted supply of such amounts of electricity to the Point of Delivery as are required under this ESA; that it complies with all relevant industry standards and practices for the supply of electricity to Participating Consumers; and that, at all times with respect to Participating Consumers, it exercises good practice for a Competitive Supplier and employs all Commercially Reasonable skills, systems and methods available to it.

# 5.2 CUSTOMER SERVICE ACCESS

The Competitive Supplier agrees to provide, or cause to be provided, certain customer services to Participating Consumers. Such services shall be reasonably accessible to all Participating Consumers, shall be available during normal working hours, shall allow Participating Consumers to transact business they may have with the Competitive Supplier, and shall serve as a communications liaison among the Competitive Supplier, the Municipality, and the Local Distributor. A toll-free telephone number will be established by Competitive Supplier and be available for Participating Consumers to contact Competitive

Supplier during normal business hours (9:00 A.M.- 5:00 P.M. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday) to resolve concerns, answer questions and transact business with respect to the service received from Competitive Supplier. The Municipality will post program-related information on the Municipality's website which will be available to Participating Consumers for general information, product and service information, and other purposes.

# 5.3 RESPONDING TO REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

To the extent authorized by the Participating Consumer(s) and to the extent such individual permission is required by law, the Competitive Supplier shall, during normal business hours (as set forth above), respond promptly and without charge therefore to reasonable requests of the Municipality for information or explanation regarding the matters covered by this ESA and the supply of electricity to Participating Consumers. Competitive Supplier agrees to designate a service representative or representatives (the "Service Contacts") who shall be available for these purposes, and shall identify the office address and telephone number of such representative(s). Whenever necessary to comply with this Article 5.3, the Service Contacts shall call upon other employees or agents of the Competitive Supplier to obtain such information or explanation as may be reasonably requested. Nothing in this Article 5.3 shall be interpreted as limiting the obligation of the Competitive Supplier to respond to complaints or inquiries from Participating Consumers, or to comply with any regulation of the Department or Attorney General regarding customer service.

# 5.4 ARRANGING FOR FIRM ALL-REQUIREMENTS POWER SUPPLY

Competitive Supplier shall participate in or make appropriate arrangements with the ISO-NE. any relevant regional transmission organization, wholesale suppliers or any other entity to ensure an uninterrupted flow of firm All-Requirements Power Supply to the Local Distributor for delivery to Participating Consumers, and exercise all Commercially Reasonable efforts to cooperate with the NEPOOL, the ISO-NE or any other entity to ensure a source of back-up power in the event that Competitive Supplier is unable to deliver All-Requirements Power Supply to the Point of Delivery. In the event the Competitive Supplier is unable to deliver sufficient electricity to the grid to serve Participating Consumers, the Competitive Supplier shall utilize such arrangements and exercise all Commercially Reasonable efforts as may be necessary to continue to serve Participating Consumers under the terms of this ESA, and shall bear any costs it may incur in carrying out these efforts and obligations. Competitive Supplier shall not be responsible to the Municipality or any Participating Consumers in the event that, through no fault of the Competitive Supplier or its Associated Entities, the Local Distributor disconnects, curtails or reduces service to Participating Consumers (notwithstanding whether such disconnection is directed by the ISO-NE).

# 5.5 NON-DISCRIMINATORY PROVISION OF SERVICE

Competitive Supplier shall supply electric energy to the Point of Delivery to all Eligible Consumers on a non-discriminatory basis; provided, however, that those prices and other terms may vary in accordance with reasonably established rate classifications (e.g., residential, commercial, municipal, industrial) or by such other categories as appear in Exhibit A. To the extent applicable, Competitive Supplier's prices, terms and conditions shall be in accordance with the Massachusetts General Laws, the regulations of the Department, and other applicable provision of law. To the extent required by law and/or the conditions of any Department approval of this ESA, the Competitive Supplier may not deny service to an Eligible Consumer for failure to pay the bills of any other electric company (whether engaged in the distribution, transmission, or generation of electricity) or of any other aggregator, marketer or broker of electricity, but may reasonably deny or condition new service, or terminate existing service, based upon any Participating Consumer's failure to pay bills from the Competitive Supplier, subject to any provisions of law or applicable DPU orders or regulations. Provision of electric energy supply shall be subject to Competitive Supplier's standard credit policies, to the extent permitted by law, as described in Exhibit A.

# 5.6 APPROVAL OF GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS

Competitive Supplier shall cooperate with the Municipality in the drafting and sending of messages and information to Eligible Consumers concerning the Program or any matter arising under or related to this ESA. Competitive Supplier shall, prior to sending, whether directly or through its Associated Entities, any direct mail, advertising, solicitation, bill insert, electronic mail, or other similar written or electronic communication (collectively, "General Communications") to Participating Consumers (but excluding individually drafted or tailored communications responding to the specific complaint or circumstance of an individual consumer), provide a copy of such General Communication to the Municipality for its review to determine whether it is consistent with the purposes and goals of the Municipality. The Municipality shall have the right to disapprove such General Communications and suggest revisions if it finds the communication inconsistent with the purposes and goals of the Municipality, factually inaccurate or likely to mislead; provided, however: (i) that the communication shall be deemed approved if the Municipality fails to respond within seven (7) calendar days (not including weekends and holidays); and (ii) that no approval shall be necessary for any communication (a) regarding any emergency situation involving any risk to the public health, safety or welfare; (b) which has been approved by the Department, the DOER, or any other Governmental Authority; or (c) in the nature of routine monthly or periodic bills, or collection notices, except that any bill insert or message included at the bottom of such bill not within the scope of (a) or (b) above shall require approval. If the Municipality objects to any General Communication on the grounds it is inconsistent with the purposes and goals of the Municipality, the Competitive Supplier, after consultation as provided in this Article 5.6, may nevertheless elect to send such General Communication provided that it: (i) clearly indicates on such mailing that it has not been endorsed by the Municipality, (ii) has previously provided all Participating Consumers a meaningful chance to opt not to receive such General Communications, (iii) has stated in

connection with such chance to opt not to receive such communications that "the Municipality wants to protect Eligible Consumers from receiving marketing materials if you do not wish to do so," and (iv) has otherwise sought input from the Municipality as to the means by which Eligible Consumers are given a chance to remove their names from any list which may receive General Communications. The Municipality may reject or exclude any proposed General Communication that, in its reasonable judgment, is contrary to the interests and objectives of the Program or the Municipality.

# 5.7 COMMUNICATION OF INSERTS AND MESSAGES

Competitive Supplier agrees that if it communicates with Participating Consumers directly, and unless prevented for regulatory or other such reasons from doing so, it shall allow the Municipality to include no less than three (3) inserts per year into such communications, provided that the Municipality pays the cost of printing and reproducing such insert and any incremental postage or handling costs the Competitive Supplier may incur as a result of including such insert. Competitive Supplier shall have the right to disapprove such General Communications (that is communications other than those pertaining to the Municipality's demand-side management, energy efficiency programs and technology, and renewable energy programs, if applicable) and suggest revisions if it finds the communication inconsistent with its business interests, factually inaccurate or likely to mislead; provided, however: (i) that the communication shall be deemed approved if the Competitive Supplier fails to respond within seven (7) calendar days after receipt (not including weekends and holidays); and (ii) that no approval shall be necessary for any communication which has been ordered by the Department, the DOER, or any other Governmental Authority to be so communicated.

# 5.8 PARTICIPATING CONSUMER LISTS

To the extent not prohibited by any Governmental Rule or expressly by any Participating Consumer(s), the Competitive Supplier shall, upon request of the Municipality, provide a list of the Participating Consumers being served by the Competitive Supplier, including such reasonable identifying and aggregate consumption information as the Municipality may also request to the extent such information is available to Competitive Supplier. Competitive Supplier shall provide such Participating Consumer lists in an electronic format reasonably acceptable to both Parties and with no more frequency than once a month.

# 5.9 COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS

The Parties shall promptly and fully comply with all existing and future Governmental Rules of all Governmental Authorities having jurisdiction over the activities covered by this ESA.

#### 5.10 CONSENT

Whenever performance of an obligation of any Party hereto requires the consent or approval of any Governmental Authority, such Party shall make Commercially Reasonable efforts to

obtain such consent or approval. In the event the Competitive Supplier requests the Municipality's assistance in obtaining such consent or approval and the Municipality anticipates that it will incur costs in fulfilling the Competitive Supplier's request, it shall give the Competitive Supplier an estimate of such costs. Upon receiving the estimate, Competitive Supplier shall determine whether it will continue to request the Municipality's assistance, and if so, the Competitive Supplier shall reimburse the Municipality for all costs, up to the estimated dollar amount, reasonably incurred by the Municipality in connection with such efforts.

# ARTICLE 6 ROLE OF THE MUNICIPALITY

Under this ESA, the Municipality shall not actually receive, take title to, or be liable for the supply or delivery of All-Requirements Power Supply in any manner whatsoever. The Parties specifically agree that the role of the Municipality is established under M.G.L. c. 164, § 134 and includes negotiating the terms and conditions under which All-Requirements Power Supply will be provided by the Competitive Supplier under this ESA. It is the sole obligation of the Competitive Supplier to arrange for delivery of All-Requirements Power Supply to Participating Consumers. The Parties agree that Municipality is not a "distribution company", "electric company", "generation company" or "transmission company" within the meaning of M.G.L. c. 164, § 1 as a result of this ESA, unless a court, the Department, or other lawful authority shall adjudicate to the contrary; provided, however, that the Municipality may be considered to be operating a municipal load aggregation plan pursuant to M.G.L. c. 164, § 134. The Competitive Supplier hereby agrees that it will take no action, whether directly or through its Associated Entities, that would make the Municipality liable to any Participating Consumer due to any act or failure to act on the part of the Competitive Supplier or its Associated Entities relating to the delivery or supply of All-Requirements Power Supply.

# ARTICLE 7 PRICES AND SERVICES; BILLING

# 7.1 SCHEDULE OF PRICES AND TERMS

Competitive Supplier agrees to provide All-Requirements Power Supply and other related services as expressly set forth herein in accordance with the prices and terms included in Exhibit A to this ESA, which Exhibit is hereby incorporated by reference into this ESA.

# 7.2 OBLIGATION TO SERVE

As between the Parties, Competitive Supplier has the sole obligation to obtain sources of supply, whether from generating facilities owned or controlled by its affiliates, through bilateral transactions, or the market, as may be necessary to provide All-Requirements Power Supply for all of the Participating Consumers under the Program. Competitive Supplier, except as explicitly limited by the terms included in Exhibit A, shall be obligated to accept all Participating Consumers, regardless of their location or energy needs provided such Participating Consumers are eligible under the applicable regulations and tariffs of the Local Distributor.

#### 7.3 METERING

The Local Distributor will be responsible for any metering which may be required to bill Participating Consumers in accordance with the Local Distributor's Terms and Conditions for Competitive Suppliers.

# 7.4 TERMS AND CONDITIONS PERTAINING TO INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNT SERVICE

#### 7.4.1 Title

Title to All-Requirements Power Supply will transfer from Competitive Supplier to Participating Consumers at the Point of Sale. In accordance with the Local Distributor's Terms and Conditions for Competitive Suppliers, the Competitive Supplier will be responsible for any and all losses incurred on the local network transmission systems and distribution systems, as determined by the Local Distributor.

# 7.4.2 Billing and Payment

Unless otherwise specified in an Exhibit to this ESA, all billing under this ESA shall be based on the meter readings of each Participating Consumer's meter(s) performed by the Local Distributor. Competitive Supplier shall, or shall cause the Local Distributor or any other entity, to prepare and mail bills to Participating Consumers monthly. If the Competitive Supplier arranges for the Local Distributor to perform billing services, the Competitive Supplier shall adopt the billing and payment terms offered by the Local Distributor to its Eligible Consumers on Basic Service unless the Competitive Supplier and Local Distributor otherwise agree. Any over-charge or under-charge will be accounted for in the next billing period for which actual meter data is available.

# 7.4.3 Regional and Local Transmission

The prices quoted in Exhibit A do not include current and future charges for distribution service costs collected by the Local Distributor under its distribution service tariff or local transmission costs as may be imposed by the regional power pool, ISO-NE, or individual electric utilities that have FERC transmission tariffs. The Competitive Supplier understands that these costs will be collected by the Local Distributor. If, in the future, Competitive Supplier becomes responsible for such distribution or transmission costs, Competitive Supplier shall be entitled to collect such costs from Participating Consumers to the extent permitted by any Governmental Rules. These costs are "pass through" costs as determined by the appropriate regulatory agencies.

#### 7.4.4 Taxes

All sales, gross receipts, excise or similar taxes imposed with respect to the sale or

consumption of All-Requirements Power Supply shall be included on the Participating Consumer's bill and shall be remitted to the appropriate taxing authority by Competitive Supplier. Participating Consumers shall be responsible for all taxes that are required by law to be imposed upon a purchaser of electricity and are associated with electricity consumption under the ESA. Participating Consumers shall be responsible for identifying and requesting any exemption from the collection of any tax by providing appropriate documentation to Competitive Supplier. For avoidance of doubt, Competitive Supplier shall be responsible for all taxes imposed on Competitive Supplier's income.

#### ARTICLE 8 DEVELOPMENT OR OFFERING OF RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES

# 8.1 RENEWABLE ENERGY PORFOLIO STANDARD

Competitive Supplier agrees that it, and its Associated Entities directly or indirectly involved in providing services or meeting the Competitive Supplier's obligations under the ESA, will comply with the applicable provisions of M.G.L. c. 25A, § 11F, § 11 F1/2, and any regulations, orders or policies adopted pursuant thereto.

# 8.2 PROVISION OF GREEN POWER [include if applicable]

Competitive Supplier will enter into a REC Purchase Agreement ("RPA") with

("REC Supplier") attached hereto as Exhibit C. Pursuant to the RPA, REC Supplier will provide, and Competitive Suppler will purchase, renewable energy certificates (RECs) in a quantity sufficient to support the Municipality's opt-out and opt-in programs as described in Exhibit A of the RPA. Competitive Supplier shall include the REC's purchased from the REC Supplier in the All Requirements Power Supply to be provided to the Municipality under the ESA. Competitive Supplier shall include all costs of such RECs in the price for All Requirements Power Supply as provided in Exhibit A of this ESA. In the event REC Supplier defaults under, or terminates, the RPA prior to the termination of this ESA, Competitive Supplier shall procure and provide RECs for the continuing term of the ESA sufficient to support the Municipality's opt-out and opt-in programs as described in Exhibit A of the RPA ("Replacement RECs"). The prices included in Exhibit A of the ESA shall not be subject to modification because Competitive Supplier is required to provide Replacement RECs.

ARTICLE 9 SERVICE PROTECTIONS FOR RESIDENTIAL CONSUMERS Competitive Supplier agrees that it and its Associated Entities shall comply with the provisions of 220 C.M.R. 25.00, 27.00, 28.00 and 29.00, as applicable to Competitive Suppliers, and any amendments thereto, and any code of conduct or policies the Department may adopt in accordance with M.G.L. c. 164, § 1F(7). The Competitive Supplier shall, on or before \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, provide a written, detailed description of its billing and termination procedures, customer services, confidentiality and related practices and procedures for approval by the Municipality (which approval shall not be unreasonably

withheld). Such written description shall also include the Competitive Supplier's plans for maintaining "service quality standards", as that phrase is used in § 1F(7); for complying with the "affirmative choice" requirements of § 1F(7); and for handling consumer complaints, including any arbitration procedures. If the Participating Consumer(s) so permit(s) or to the extent such permission is required by law or the terms of any Department order with respect to this ESA, the Competitive Supplier agrees to provide notice to the Municipality of any consumer complaints received from a Participating Consumer, and the Municipality shall have the right, but not the obligation, to participate in resolution of the dispute, to the extent that such complaints relate directly to the Program, and to the extent permitted by Department regulations and other applicable law. The failure to timely submit such written description, or the submission of practices and procedures which materially fail to comply with Department regulations and policies, shall be deemed grounds for termination of this ESA, at the discretion of the Municipality after providing written notice of such failure to the Competitive Supplier and allowing the Competitive Supplier sixty (60) days to cure such failure.

In addition, and in accordance with M.G.L. c. 164, § 1F(2) and 220 CMR 11.05(2)(b)19, in the event of a dispute regarding an invoice or Competitive Supplier's service, whether directly or through its Associated Entities, under this ESA, a Participating Consumer may contact the Department, which may refer the dispute to the Massachusetts Office for Dispute Resolution for mediation of such dispute, if the amount in dispute is greater than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) and the subject of the dispute is within the Department's statutory and regulatory authority.

# ARTICLE 10 NON-DISCRIMINATION IN HIRING AND EMPLOYMENT

Competitive Supplier agrees that it conduct its operations and activities under this ESA in accordance with all applicable state and federal laws regarding non-discrimination in hiring and employment of employees.

#### ARTICLE 11 POWER SUPPLY INFORMATION AND ACCESS TO INFORMATION

#### 11.1 POWER SUPPLY INFORMATION

# 11.1.1 Quarterly Report of Sales

Competitive Supplier shall provide the Municipality or its agent with a quarterly report of sales which will contain: (i) the actual aggregate kWh sales for each meter read of the reporting period and (ii) the number of Participating Consumer accounts active in each meter read of the reporting period. The quarterly report will be due to the Municipality or its agent within forty-five (45) days following the close of each quarter (March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31). The aggregate kWh sales and number of Participating Consumer accounts shall be listed in the report both by rate code and rate name as shown on Exhibit B attached hereto. This information shall be provided in electronic format.

#### 11.1.2 Consumer-Related Data

On and after the Service Commencement Date, Competitive Supplier will maintain consumer- related data in electronic form including utility account number, billing name, billing address, service address historical usage, demand, and ICAP (Installed Capacity) data. Competitive Supplier will make such data available to the Municipality or its agent upon request within forty-five (45) business days of the request. A violation of this Article 2.5 shall be grounds for termination under Article 4.2(a).

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# 11.1.3 Standard of Care

Competitive Supplier shall use all Commercially Reasonable efforts in preparing and providing any information or data required under the ESA. To the extent that Competitive Supplier determines that any information or data provided hereunder is in error, it shall provide such information or data to the Municipality or its agent within a Commercially Reasonable time

# 11.2 POWER SUPPLY REPORT

Unless the "Disclosure Label" requirement is waived by the DPU, within fifteen (15) days of the end of the quarter, Competitive Supplier shall present a copy of the current "Disclosure Label" required by the Department of all Competitive Suppliers to be disclosed to their Participating Consumers which includes information pertaining to Competitive Supplier's power supply and a reasonably detailed description of the sources of Competitive Supplier's power supply used to serve Participating Consumers pursuant to this ESA, except to the extent such disclosure would violate any confidentiality obligations of Competitive Supplier.

# 11.3 BOOKS AND RECORDS

Competitive Supplier shall keep their books and records in accordance with any applicable regulations or guidelines of the Department, the FERC, and any other Governmental Authority. The Municipality will have access to any reports mandated by the Securities and Exchange Commission which are available on the Internet "EDGAR" system. Upon reasonable request by the Municipality and at the Municipality's expense, Competitive Supplier shall provide back up for any charge under this ESA questioned by the Municipality.

#### 11.4 COPIES OF REGULATORY REPORTS AND FILINGS

Upon reasonable request, Competitive Supplier shall provide to the Municipality a copy of each public periodic or incident-related report or record relating to this ESA which it files with any Massachusetts or federal agency regulating rates, service, compliance with environmental laws, or compliance with affirmative action and equal opportunity

requirements, unless the Competitive Supplier are required by law or regulation to keep such reports confidential. Competitive Supplier shall be reimbursed its reasonable costs of providing such copies.

# ARTICLE 12 RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES; CHOICE OF LAW AND FORUM

#### 12.1 CHOICE OF LAW AND FORUM

This ESA and the rights of the Parties shall be interpreted and determined in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts without respect to conflicts-of-laws principles. Any litigation arising hereunder shall be brought solely in the appropriate federal court in Massachusetts or appropriate state court sitting in the Massachusetts county in which the Municipality is located, to whose jurisdiction the parties hereby assent, waiving all objections to venue or forum.

# 12.2 DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Unless otherwise provided for in this ESA, the dispute resolution procedures of this Article 12.2 shall be the exclusive mechanism to resolve disputes arising under this ESA. The Parties agree to use their respective best efforts to resolve any dispute(s) that may arise regarding this ESA. Any dispute that arises under or with respect to this ESA that cannot be resolved shall in the first instance be the subject of informal negotiations between the Parties involved in the dispute. The dispute shall be considered to have arisen when one Party sends the other Party(ies) involved in the dispute a written notice of dispute. The period for informal negotiations shall be fourteen (14) days from receipt of the written notice of dispute unless such time is modified by written agreement of the Parties involved in the dispute. In the event that the parties involved in the dispute cannot resolve a dispute by informal negotiations, the Parties may seek judicial enforcement subject to the provisions of this ESA. Notwithstanding the foregoing, injunctive relief may be immediately sought without resorting to alternative dispute resolution to prevent irreparable harm that would be caused by a breach of this ESA.

#### ARTICLE 13 INDEMNIFICATION

# 13.1 INDEMNIFICATION BY THE COMPETITIVE SUPPLIER

In addition to any other remedies available to the Municipality at law or equity, and notwithstanding any other provision contained herein, the Competitive Supplier shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Municipality ("Indemnified Party") and the Indemnified Party's officials, officers, employees, agents, representatives and independent contractors, from and against any and all costs, claims, liabilities, damages, expenses (including reasonable attorney's fees), causes of action, suits or judgments, incurred by, on behalf of or involving any one of the foregoing parties to the extent arising directly from or

in connection with (i) any material breach by Competitive Supplier of its obligations, covenants, representations or warranties contained in this ESA and not resulting from the actions of the ISO, Local Distributor, the Municipality or its employees or agents, or (ii) any action or omission taken or made by the Competitive Supplier or its Associated Entities in connection with Competitive Supplier's performance of this ESA.

#### 13.2 NOTICE OF INDEMNIFICATION CLAIMS

If the Municipality seeks indemnification pursuant to this Article 13, it shall notify Competitive Supplier of the existence of a claim, or potential claim as soon as practicable after learning of such claim, or potential claim, describing with reasonable particularity the circumstances giving rise to such claim. Upon written acknowledgment by the Competitive Supplier that it will assume the defense and indemnification of such claim, the Competitive Supplier may assert any defenses which are or would otherwise be available to the Municipality.

#### 13.3 SURVIVAL

Notwithstanding any provision contained herein, the provisions of this Article 13 shall survive the termination of this ESA.

#### 13.4 DUTY TO MITIGATE

Each Party agrees that they have a duty to mitigate damages and covenant that they will use Commercially Reasonable efforts to minimize any damages they may incur as a result of the other Party's performance or non-performance of this ESA.

# ARTICLE 14 REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES

#### 14.1 BY THE COMPETITIVE SUPPLIER

As a material inducement to entering into this ESA, the Competitive Supplier hereby represents and warrants to the Municipality as of the Effective Date of this ESA as follows:

- a) it is duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the jurisdiction of its formation and is qualified to conduct its business in those jurisdictions necessary for it to perform its obligations under this ESA;
- b) it has all authorizations from any Governmental Authority necessary for it to legally perform its obligations under this ESA or will obtain such authorizations in a timely manner prior to when any performance by it requiring such authorization becomes due;
- c) the execution, delivery and performance of this ESA are within its powers, have been duly authorized by all necessary action and do not violate any of the terms or conditions in its governing documents or any contract to which it is a party or any Governmental Rule

applicable to it;

- d) subject to the conditions set forth in Article 2.4, this ESA constitutes a legal, valid and binding obligation of the Competitive Supplier enforceable against it in accordance with its terms, and the Competitive Supplier has all rights such that it can and will perform its obligations to the Municipality in conformance with the terms and conditions of this ESA, subject to bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization and other laws affecting creditor's rights generally and general principles of equity;
- e) no Bankruptcy is pending against it or to its knowledge threatened against it; f) none of the documents or other written information furnished by or on behalf of Competitive Supplier to the Municipality pursuant to this ESA, contains any untrue statement of a material fact or omits to state any material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements contained herein or therein, in the light of the circumstances in which they were made, not misleading; and
- g) all information furnished by Competitive Supplier in response to the Request for Proposals for competitive electric supply services is true and accurate.

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#### 14.2 BY THE MUNICIPALITY

As a material inducement to entering into this ESA, the Municipality hereby represents and warrants to Competitive Supplier as of the effective date of this ESA as follows:

- a) this ESA constitutes the legal, valid and binding contract of the Municipality enforceable in accordance with its terms, subject to applicable law;
- b) the execution, delivery and performance of this ESA are within the Municipality's powers, have been or will be duly authorized by all necessary action;
- c) the Municipality has all authorizations from any local or state Governmental Authority necessary for it to legally perform its obligations under this ESA or will obtain such authorizations in a timely manner prior to when any performance by it requiring such authorization becomes due; and
- e) no Bankruptcy is pending or threatened against the Municipality.

# ARTICLE 15 INSURANCE

15.1 In order to help support the indemnifications provided in Article 13, and its other promises and covenants stated herein, Competitive Supplier shall secure and maintain, at its own expense, before the Effective Date and throughout the term of this ESA, unless otherwise specified, comprehensive commercial general liability insurance of at least \$3,000,000 combined single limit and excess liability coverage of at least \$5,000,000 with insurers licensed to do business in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and satisfactory to the Municipality. A certificate that each such insurance coverage is in force and effect, and listing the Municipality as an additional insured on all policies, shall be submitted on or before the Effective Date and thereafter whenever renewed or requested by the Municipality. All insurers must be notified that the insurance policies must provide that a copy of any notice of cancellation or non-renewal will be sent to the Municipality.

- 15.2 With respect to any of the insurance policies provided by the Competitive Supplier pursuant to these requirements which are "claims made" policies, in the event at any time such policies are canceled or not renewed, the Competitive Supplier shall provide a substitute insurance policy with terms and conditions and in amounts which comply with these requirements and which provides for retroactive coverage to the date of the cancellation or non-renewal of the prior "claims-made" policy. With respect to all "claims made" policies which have been renewed, the Competitive Supplier shall provide coverage retroactive to the Effective Date under this ESA. All said substitute or renewed "claims made" policies shall be maintained in full force and effect for three (3) years from the date of the termination of the ESA.
- 15.3 Competitive Supplier, to the extent required by law, must provide worker's compensation insurance meeting all applicable state and federal requirements.

# ARTICLE 16 CONFIDENTIALITY

Competitive Supplier acknowledges that the Municipality is subject to public records laws, including without limitation, M.G.L. c. 4, § 7, cl. 26 and M.G.L. c. 66, § 10. To the extent not prohibited by such laws, each Party shall keep confidential, and shall not disseminate to any third party (other than such Party's affiliates) or use for any other purpose (except with written authorization, such authorization not to be unreasonably withheld), any information received from the other that is confidential or proprietary in nature unless legally compelled (by deposition, inquiry, request for production of documents, subpoena, civil investigative demand or similar process, or by order of a court or tribunal of competent jurisdiction, or in order to comply with applicable rules or requirements of any stock exchange, government department or agency or other Governmental Authority, or by requirements of any securities law or regulation or other Governmental Rule) or as necessary to enforce the terms of this ESA. The Party receiving confidential or proprietary information shall have no obligation with respect to such information which: (i) is or becomes generally available to the public other than as a result of disclosure by the receiving Party; (ii) was in its possession prior to disclosure hereunder and which was not acquired directly or, to the Party's knowledge, indirectly from the disclosing Party; (iii) was received from a non-party to this ESA who to the receiving Party's knowledge, was not subject to a confidentiality agreement or fiduciary obligation regarding information; (iv) was independently developed by the receiving Party without reference to the information.

Either Party may disclose the terms of this ESA to its affiliates, and to its officers, directors, employees, attorneys and accountants. This Article 16 shall survive the termination of this ESA for a period of two (2) years.

If either Party is compelled to disclose any confidential information of the other Party, such Party shall request that such disclosure be protected and maintained in confidence to the extent reasonable under the circumstances and use Commercially Reasonable efforts to

protect or limit disclosure with respect to commercially sensitive terms. In addition, notwithstanding the public records laws referenced above, such Party shall provide the other Party with prompt notice of the requirement to disclose confidential information in order to enable the other Party to seek an appropriate protective order or other remedy, and such Party shall consult with the other Party with respect to the other Party taking steps to resolve the scope of any required disclosure. In the event the Competitive Supplier requests the Municipality's assistance in protecting the confidentiality of information and the Municipality anticipates that it will incur costs in fulfilling the Competitive Supplier's request, it shall give the Competitive Supplier an estimate of such costs. Upon receiving the estimate, Competitive Supplier shall determine if it continues to request the Municipality's assistance, and if so, the Competitive Supplier shall reimburse the Municipality for all costs, up to the estimated amount, reasonably incurred by the Municipality in connection with such efforts.

For the avoidance of doubt, the information related to this ESA that is considered confidential and proprietary in nature shall include the following:

- a) any account information related to the Participating Consumers including, without limitation, historic usage data, metering, and billing and payment information;
- b) any information regarding transactions entered into by Competitive Supplier and any third parties in connection with the provision of All-Requirements Power Supply;
- c) any list of Participating Consumers:
- d) any information disclosed by a Party during any settlement discussions;
- e) Competitive Supplier's insurance policies;
- f) any financial security instrument(s) provided by Competitive Supplier;
- g) any non-public information provided by Competitive Supplier; and
- h) any information which either Party should reasonably understand to be confidential and proprietary by virtue of the sensitive nature of the information.

#### ARTICLE 17 REGULATORY EVENT

If a Regulatory Event occurs, the Parties shall use their best efforts to reform this ESA to give effect to the original intent of the Parties.

#### ARTICLE 18 MISCELLANEOUS

#### 18.1 NO ASSIGNMENT WITHOUT PERMISSION

Competitive Supplier shall not assign this ESA or any of its rights, obligations and privileges under this ESA without the prior written approval of the Municipality. Such approval may be

denied at the reasonable discretion of the Municipality, including if the proposed assignee does not have the experience and financial ability to fulfill all obligations of the Competitive Supplier in the ESA. Notwithstanding the above, any assignment of this ESA by the Competitive Supplier, whether as the result of the sale of all or substantially all of the Competitive Supplier's business related to this ESA or otherwise. shall be subject to the following requirements: (i) Competitive Supplier shall provide the Municipality with notice of the proposed assignment at least 45 days prior to such assignment: (ii) Competitive Supplier's assignee shall agree in writing to be bound by the terms and conditions of this ESA; and (iii) Competitive Supplier and such assignee shall, at least forty-five (45) days in advance of any assignment, reasonably demonstrate to Municipality that assignee has the experience and financial ability to fulfill all obligations of the Competitive Supplier in the ESA. The Municipality may assign this ESA without the prior consent of Competitive Supplier provided that the proposed assignee has at least the same financial ability as the Municipality and such assignment would not materially impair the rights and interests of Competitive Supplier under this ESA. The rights and obligations created by this ESA shall inure to the benefit of, and be binding upon, the successors and permitted assigns of, the respective Parties hereto.

#### 18.2 DIRECT MARKETING

Prior to the introduction of any new product or service which Competitive Supplier may wish to make available to Participating Consumers or other Eligible Consumers located within the Municipality, Competitive Supplier agrees to (i) give the Municipality written notice of such new product or service and (ii) subject to the entry into reasonable confidentiality terms to the extent permitted by law and mutually acceptable to the Parties, discuss with the Municipality the possible inclusion of such new product or service in this or another aggregation program undertaken by the Municipality.

Competitive Supplier also agrees not to engage, whether directly or through any of its Associated Entities, in any direct marketing to any Participating Consumer that relies upon Competitive Supplier's unique knowledge of, or access to, Participating Consumers gained as a result of this ESA. For the purposes of this provision, "direct marketing" shall include any telephone call, mailing, electronic mail, or other contact between the Competitive Supplier and the Consumer. Broad-based programs of the Competitive Supplier that do not rely on unique knowledge or access gained through this ESA will not constitute such "direct marketing."

#### 18.3 NOTICES

All notices, demands, requests, consents or other communications required or permitted to be given or made under this ESA shall be in writing and addressed to:

If to Competitive Supplier:

# If to Municipality:

Mr. Charles de Casteja Good Energy, L.P. 232 Madison Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor New York, NY 10016 Phone: 212-792-0222 Fax: 212-792-0223

and

Town Manager 730 Massachusetts Avenue Sudbury, MA 02476 Phone: 781-316-3010

charles@goodenergy.com

Fax: 781-316-3019

achapdelaine@town.Sudbury.ma.us

Notices hereunder shall be deemed properly served (i) by hand delivery, on the day and at the time on which delivered to the intended recipient at the address set forth in this ESA; (ii) if sent by mail, on the third business day after the day on which deposited in the United States certified or registered mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, addressed to the intended recipient at its address set forth in this ESA; or (iii) if by Federal Express or other reputable express mail service, on the next business day after delivery to such express mail service, addressed to the intended recipient at its address set forth in this ESA. Any party may change its address and contact person for the purposes of this Article 18.3 by giving notice thereof in the manner required herein.

#### 18.4 CHANGES IN EMERGENCY AND SERVICE CONTACT PERSONS

In the event that the name or telephone number of any emergency or service contact for the Competitive Supplier changes, Competitive Supplier shall give prompt notice to the Municipality in the manner set forth in Article 18.3. In the event that the name or telephone number of any such contact person for the Municipality changes, prompt notice shall be given to the Competitive Supplier in the manner set forth in Article 18.3.

#### 18.5 ENTIRE ESA; AMENDMENTS

This ESA, including the Plan incorporated by reference in Section 18.14, constitute the entire

agreement between the Parties hereto with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior oral or written agreements and understandings between the Parties relating to the subject matter hereof. This ESA may only be amended or modified by a written instrument signed by all Parties hereto.

#### 18.6 FORCE MAJEURE

If by reason of Force Majeure any Party is unable to carry out, either in whole or in part, its obligations herein contained, such Party shall not be deemed to be in default during the continuation of such inability, provided that: (i) the non-performing Party, within two (2) weeks after the occurrence of the Force Majeure, gives the other Party hereto written notice describing the particulars of the occurrence; (ii) the suspension of performance be of no greater scope and of no longer duration than is required by the Force Majeure; (iii) no obligations of the Party which were to be performed prior to the occurrence causing the suspension of performance shall be excused as a result of the occurrence; and (iv) the nonperforming Party shall use Commercially Reasonable efforts to remedy with all reasonable dispatch the cause or causes preventing it from carrying out its obligations. If (i) an event of Force Majeure caused by any strikes, lockouts or other industrial disturbances involving Competitive Supplier or its Associated Entities continues for a period of thirty (30) days or longer, or (ii) an event of Force Majeure arising from any other cause continues for a period of sixty (60) days or longer, either Party may terminate this ESA by sending the other Party a written notice as set forth in Article 4.2; provided, however, that the same shall not constitute a default under this ESA and shall not give rise to any damages. Additionally, Competitive Supplier shall submit all consumer drops via EDI to the Local Distributor in accordance with the rules and regulations set forth by the EBT Working Group

#### 18.7 EXPENSES

Each Party hereto shall pay all expenses incurred by it in connection with its entering into this ESA, including without limitation, all of its attorney's fees and expenses.

#### 18.8 NO JOINT VENTURE

Competitive Supplier will perform all obligations under this ESA as an independent contractor. Nothing herein contained shall be deemed to constitute any Party a partner, agent or legal representative of the other Party or to create a joint venture, partnership, agency or any relationship between the Parties. The obligations of the Municipality and the Competitive Supplier hereunder are individual and neither collective nor joint in nature.

#### 18.9 JOINT WORK PRODUCT

This ESA shall be considered the work product of all Parties hereto, and, therefore, no rule of strict construction shall be applied against either Party.

#### 18.10 COUNTERPARTS

This ESA may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original and all of which shall constitute a single agreement.

#### 18.11 COMMISSION

The Parties acknowledge that the Price for energy as described in Exhibit A includes: a) a commission fee equal to \$0.001 (1 mil) per kWh of Participating Consumers actual usage for the duration of the ESA payable to Good Energy, L.P., the consultant hired by the Municipality to develop, implement, and administer the Program; and b) a commission fee equal to \$0.000025 per kWh of Participating Consumers actual usage for the first twelve (12) months of the Agreement payable to the Metropolitan Area Planning Council ("MAPC") to cover the MAPC's cost of project development, administration and support. The Competitive Supplier agrees to include these commission fees in the Price for energy and to make the monthly commission payments on behalf of Participating Consumers to Good Energy, L.P. and MAPC for the duration of this ESA. The commission fee shall be paid ten (10) business days following receipt by Competitive Supplier of the meter readings of each Participating Consumer's meter(s) performed by the Local Distributor. This provision shall be binding upon the Parties and all permitted assigns and other successors-in-interest of the Parties.

#### 18.12 WAIVER

No waiver by any Party hereto of any one or more defaults by any other Party in the performance of any provision of this ESA shall operate or be construed as a waiver of any future default, whether of like or different character. No failure on the part of any Party hereto to complain of any action or non-action on the part of any other Party, no matter how long the same may continue, shall be deemed to be a waiver of any right hereunder by the Party(ies) so failing. A waiver of any of the provisions of this ESA shall only be effective if made in writing and signed by the Party who is making such waiver.

#### 18.13 CO-OPERATION

Each Party acknowledges that this ESA must be approved by the Department and agree that they shall use Commercially Reasonable efforts to cooperate in seeking to secure such approval.

#### 18.14 PLAN

Competitive Supplier agrees that it has been provided with and had a reasonable opportunity to read the Plan. The Parties agree that the Plan, in the form as it exists on the Effective Date of this ESA, is incorporated into this ESA by reference, and that it shall be construed harmoniously to the greatest practicable extent; notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event of any conflict between this ESA and the Plan, this ESA shall govern. The Municipality will

provide Competitive Supplier with amendments to the Plan as they are adopted; provided, however, that such amendments are not incorporated into this ESA as a result of such adoption. Any amendments hereto must be made in accordance with Article 18.5 of this ESA.

#### 18.15 ADVERTISING LIMITATIONS

Competitive Supplier agrees not to use, whether directly or through any of its Associated Entities, the name of the Municipality, or make any reference to the Municipality in any advertising or other information to be distributed publicly for marketing or educational purposes, unless the Municipality expressly agrees to such usage. Any proposed use of the name of the Municipality must be submitted in writing for agreement and prior approval. The Municipality acknowledges that the Competitive Supplier's corporate affiliates own the exclusive right to the trademarked logo and trade name used by Competitive Supplier. No right, license or interest in this trademark and/or trade name is granted to the Municipality hereunder, and the Municipality agrees that it shall not assert any right, license or interest with respect to such trademark and/or trade name.

#### 18.16 PRESS RELEASES

The Parties agree to cooperate in good faith prior to the issuance of any formal press release with respect to this ESA, such cooperation to include agreement as to the form, substance and timing of such formal press release.

#### 18.17 HEADINGS AND CAPTIONS

The headings and captions appearing in this ESA are intended for reference only, and are not to be considered in construing this ESA.

#### 18.18 SURVIVAL OF OBLIGATION

Termination of this ESA for any reason shall not relieve the Municipality or the Competitive Supplier of any obligation accrued or accruing prior to such termination.

#### 18.19 REMEDIES

# 18.19.1 General

Subject to the limitations set forth in Article 18.19.2 below and Article 4, the Municipality and the Competitive Supplier reserve and shall have all rights and remedies available to each of them at law or in equity with respect to the performance or non-performance of the other Party hereto under this ESA.

#### 18.19.2 Limitations

COMPETITIVE SUPPLIER

NO PARTY HERETO SHALL BE LIABLE FOR CONSEQUENTIAL, INCIDENTAL, PUNITIVE, EXEMPLARY OR INDIRECT DAMAGES, LOST PROFITS OR OTHER BUSINESS INTERRUPTION DAMAGES, BY STATUTE, IN TORT OR CONTRACT. Notwithstanding the foregoing, each Party acknowledges that the preceding sentence shall not limit the other Party's rights to seek direct damages or, under Article 13.1, to seek indemnification from Competitive Supplier for consequential, punitive, or incidental damages or other such losses claimed by third- parties; provided that the aggregate limit on Competitive Supplier's indemnification obligation pursuant to this provision shall be equal to the greater of: 1) the amount payable for such claims under any and all insurance maintained by the Competitive Supplier; 2) 50% of the Competitive Supplier's annual gross receipts (price per kWh multiplied by kWh volumes sold) received under this ESA in the most recent 12 month period: or 3) \$10,000,000.00.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have caused this Agreement to be executed by their duly authorized representatives, as required by the applicable laws of the Municipality and the laws, rules and regulations of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as of the respective dates set forth below

# 

# EXHIBIT A

# PRICES AND TERMS Community Electricity Aggregation Program

Price by Rate C	Classification	
	Rate Class Residential Commercial Industrial	Price per kWh
[Final Prices w	rill be determined prior	to the beginning of the respective pricing periods]
Terms for Syst	em Supply Service	
	e after	this Exhibit A will commence on the first Consumer and continue until the first Consumer meter unless this ESA is sooner terminated in accordance.
the approved I Commercial an	Fixed Basic Service Rand Industrial consumer	esidential pricing must be at least \$.001/kWh less than atte in effect for residential consumers. The pricing for s on the Effective Day must be at least \$.001/kWh less ce Rate in effect for commercial consumers
Participating C for the entire le charges. Howe	onsumers' meter read ength of such pricing p	er Supply shall be as stated on this Exhibit A through dates in Prices shall be fixed eriod. Prices must include all adders and ancillary upplier may offer price reductions to Participating m of this ESA.
		ents retail power supply will commence at the prices umer's first meter read dates after
Energy in the A Renewable Por current requires	All-Requirements Powertfolio Standards and A	: The Competitive Supplier shall include Renewable er Supply mix in an amount equal to the DOER's Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards starting with Service Date or pay all penalties imposed by the DOER ments.

Term: The period of delivery of All Requirements Power Supply shall be consistent with the provisions of Article 4 and Exhibit A of this ESA.

Eligible Consumer Opt-Out: Participating Consumers are free to opt-out of the Program utilizing established EDI drop protocols. Participating Consumers are to provide five (5) days notice to the Competitive Supplier of such termination. There are no fees or charges for Participating Consumers to opt-out or terminate service.

Competitive Supplier's Standard Credit Policy: The Competitive Supplier will not require a credit review for any consumer participating in the Program, nor will Competitive Supplier require any consumer to post any security deposit as a condition for participation in the Program. The Competitive Supplier may terminate service to a Participating Consumer and return such consumer to Basic Service in the event that the consumer fails to pay to Competitive Supplier amounts past due greater than sixty (60) days.

# **EXHIBIT B**

# TEMPLATE KWH SALES AND CONSUMER ACCOUNTS DATA SUMMARY

Rate Code Rate Name Consumer No Accounts

kWh

January
February
March
April
May
June
July
August
September
October
November
December