



Po Box 4911  
Houston, TX 77210-4911

**Do not discard. Time-sensitive notice regarding electricity rates.**

<<Customer Name>>  
<<Mailing Address>>  
<<Mailing City, State Zip>>

April 9, 2019

## Great news! The City of Peekskill has joined the Westchester Power program!

The City of Peekskill has joined with 26 other municipalities in a community electricity program known as Westchester Power. The Westchester Power program is run by Sustainable Westchester, a local non-profit based out of Mount Kisco, which aims to bring green power to Westchester residents at an affordable price.

By buying power as a group, we have been able to provide more than 90,000 Westchester residents and small businesses with low-cost, fixed rates for electricity supply since 2016. So far, the Westchester Power program has saved Westchester residents over 15 million dollars and offset more than 420,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide.

### Supply Options

There are two supply options under our program: renewable and standard.

- **100% Renewable Option:** Your total electricity supply is matched by New York State qualified hydropower Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs).
- **Standard Option:** Your electricity supply is a mixture of fossil fuels, nuclear, and some renewable energy.

The City of Peekskill has chosen the 100% Renewable Option as the default. You will be enrolled in this option unless you choose to switch or opt out.

For translation services, please call our office at (914) 242-4725. Para acceder a nuestros servicios de traducción, llame a nuestras oficinas, al (914) 242-4725.

**For more information on the Westchester Power program, please see the enclosed FAQ or call the office at (914) 242-4725.**

You can switch between supply options by calling our office at (914) 242-4725 or visiting our website, [www.westchesterpower.org](http://www.westchesterpower.org), and filling out the appropriate form under "Energy Choices."

## Westchester Power Rates

Westchester Power has secured rates that are lower than the average Con Edison supply rates over the past 12 months (July 2017 – July 2018) by organizing a competitive bidding process among energy supply companies (ESCOs).

- Constellation NewEnergy, Inc. was the lowest bidder for our 2019 bulk purchase and will be your new supplier, beginning on your first meter-read date after June 1, 2019.
- The new rate for your electricity supply will remain fixed until January 2021.

### Rates\*

Rate Class	12-month Average Con Ed Rate**	Standard Option	100% Renewable Option
<b>Residential (EL1)</b>	<b>\$0.0826</b>	<b>\$0.07709</b>	<b>\$0.07959</b>
<b>Small Commercial (EL2)</b>	<b>\$0.0855</b>	<b>\$0.07709</b>	<b>\$0.07959</b>

\* Rates do not include Gross Receipt Tax (GRT). If your municipality collects GRT, it will be added to these rates.

\*\* Based on the weighted average Con Edison electricity supply rate from July 2017 – July 2018.

The power lines that deliver your electricity remain the responsibility of Con Edison, and they will continue to bill you in the exact same way. You will continue to contact Con Edison in the event of any problem with your electricity service.

## Enrollment

**You will remain in the program unless you choose to opt out within 30 days of the postmark on this letter.** If you choose to stay with us, your new rate will take effect beginning in June 2019. As always, you have the ability to opt out at any time with no penalties.

To opt out, you can:

- Return the enclosed opt out postcard, OR
- Call the Westchester Power office at (914) 242-4725, OR
- Go to [www.westchesterpower.org](http://www.westchesterpower.org) and submit the Opt Out Form under “Energy Choices.”

*What we've accomplished through December 2018:*  
**2 billion kWh served**  
**\$15 million saved**  
**420,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide avoided**

*Thanks to our participating municipalities!*

*City of New Rochelle  
 City of Peekskill  
 City of Rye  
 City of White Plains  
 Town of Bedford  
 Town of Greenburgh  
 Town of Lewisboro  
 Town of Mamaroneck  
 Town of New Castle  
 Town of North Salem  
 Town of Ossining  
 Town of Pound Ridge  
 Town of Somers  
 Village of Ardsley  
 Village of Croton-on-Hudson  
 Village of Dobbs Ferry  
 Village of Hastings-on-Hudson  
 Village of Irvington  
 Village of Larchmont  
 Village of Mamaroneck  
 Village of Ossining  
 Village of Mount Kisco  
 Village of Pelham  
 Village of Pleasantville  
 Village of Rye Brook  
 Village of Sleepy Hollow  
 Village of Tarrytown*

**Additional questions?**  
**Give our office a call at (914) 242-4725.**



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Q: What is Westchester Power?**

A: Westchester Power is a program that enables participating Westchester communities to join together and purchase electricity supply in bulk. Aggregating consumers on a large scale creates the buying power necessary to dictate the terms of our energy purchasing. Westchester Power has secured low fixed electric supply rates for 27 Westchester municipalities, representing over 90,000 households and small businesses.

### **Q: Who administers Westchester Power?**

A: Westchester Power is a partnership program of Sustainable Westchester and participating Westchester County municipalities. Sustainable Westchester is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) consortium of Westchester County local governments - in effect, owned by you. Sustainable Westchester has been authorized by the New York State Public Service Commission as the pilot CCA program in New York State, and your municipality has chosen Westchester Power to act as the manager, coordinator, and administrator of the program.

### **Q: Does Westchester Power replace my utility?**

A: No. Your existing utility (Consolidated Edison) will continue to deliver reliable power, maintain power lines, and respond to service outages. They will still provide the same customer service to all residents regardless of whether they are in the program. They are required by law to do so. Customers will still receive only one bill each month and it will still come directly from your utility. The new bill will reflect the change in supplier and new supply rate.

### **Q: How does Westchester Power procure power?**

A: Westchester Power administered a competitive bidding process, soliciting responses from all registered New York suppliers. Constellation NewEnergy, Inc. is the supplier for the current contract, beginning January 1, 2019.

### **Q: How can I be sure Westchester Power will provide energy consistently?**

A: Electricity is a highly regulated industry and there are many safeguards against service interruption from supplier error. There is a "grid operator" (called the NYISO) that monitors the grid at the high-voltage level to ensure the proper power is flowing at all times. In addition, the utility remains the "provider of last resort," which means they are obligated to serve any customers whose supplier has failed to buy the requisite power for those customers.

### **Q: Will I save money by participating in Westchester Power?**

A: Westchester Power rates are fixed at a price lower than the average utility rate between July 2017 – July 2018. Over the first 2 years of the program, Westchester Power's rates have outperformed the utility and saved customers money. While our large customer base assures us of attracting competitive bids from suppliers, it is the nature of a fixed price contract that there is no guarantee that Westchester Power rates will be lower in any given month or save money through the end of the contract period.

**Q: How does the enrollment process work?**

A: Residential and small commercial (those not charged for their peak demand) customers that currently receive electric supply from the utility are automatically enrolled. Residents or small businesses that are presently under contract with a third party electricity supply company (ESCO) are not enrolled. If you are already signed up with an ESCO, but want to switch to Westchester Power, look at the terms of your existing contract to see when it expires and what (if any) penalties apply for early termination. If you choose to terminate your contract with the ESCO, you can then “Opt In” to join the program.

**Q: What if I don't want to participate?**

A: It is absolutely your choice. Every household and small business that currently receives its energy supply from the utility can opt out at any time by filling out an online form at [www.westchesterpower.org](http://www.westchesterpower.org) under “Energy Choices,” or by calling Westchester Power directly at 914-242-4725. They will ask you for the same information seen on that form: name of your utility, name on the account, account number, email, phone, service address, and your city, state, and zip code.

**Q: Is there a fee for opting out of Westchester Power?**

A: No, there is never a fee or penalty for opting out.

**Q: If I opt out after the contract has taken effect, how will that affect my service?**

A: Service will not be interrupted whatsoever. The account will be transferred back to the utility at the end of the following billing period.

**Q: Does Westchester Power supply “green” power?**

A: Yes. In fact, 24 of the 27 participating municipalities have set 100% renewable power supply product as the default option for their residents and small businesses. Your municipality chose either standard power or green power as the default supply, but residents/small businesses can freely choose to switch supply options at any time.

**Q: What is the 100% Renewable Energy Option?**

A: The Westchester Power renewable energy option is currently 100% renewable power supply product consisting of delivered power matched with Renewable Energy Certificates (“RECs”) generated by hydropower, solar energy or wind energy not coal, natural gas, oil, or nuclear. Using electricity generated by hydropower, solar, or wind energy dramatically reduces greenhouse gas emissions. We can celebrate our contribution to cleaner air and cleaner water. It is the right choice for our planet, for future generations, for all who care about climate change.

**For additional information,  
email [info@westchesterpower.org](mailto:info@westchesterpower.org) or call (914) 242-4725.**

***For questions regarding municipal participation:  
Jessica Youngblood, City Planner, [jyoungblood@cityofpeekskill.com](mailto:jyoungblood@cityofpeekskill.com), (914) 293-0916.***

