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For Immediate Release - September 3, 2024

Valley Green Energy Information Sessions Scheduled for September

NORTHAMPTON – The communities of Amherst, Northampton, and Pelham are working together during September to provide public information sessions about the November launch of the Valley Green Energy regional electricity program.

Like all similar programs throughout the state, Valley Green Energy uses an automatic enrollment model. As a result, most electricity customers in the Valley Green Energy communities will be impacted. Residents and businesses in all three communities are encouraged to attend an information session and ask questions:

Information Session 1: Tuesday, September 10, 2024, at 1:00 – 2:00 PM
Amherst Senior Center/Bangs Community Center
70 Boltwood Walk, Amherst

Information Session 2: Tuesday, September 17, 2024, at 1:00 – 2:00 PM
Northampton Senior Center
67 Conz Street, Northampton

Information Session 3: Thursday, September 26, 2024, at 7:00 – 8:00 PM
Amherst, Northampton, and Pelham - Community Zoom Meeting
Zoom Link: <https://amherstma.zoom.us/j/81381124425>
Closed captioning and language interpretation are available

If you require an ASL interpreter, please make that request via the customer support form on ValleyGreenEnergy.org or by sending an email to support@ValleyGreenEnergy.org. Please note that an information session with interpretation services may need to be scheduled on a different date from the general public information sessions. If you need language interpretation, please attend the Zoom meeting where you can choose closed captioning in your preferred language.

Valley Green Energy is a regional group electricity buying program developed to provide the dual benefits of cleaner electricity and stable prices to residents and businesses in all three communities. Valley Green Energy will launch in November. Program prices will be fixed until November 2026, which will provide 24 months of protection from seasonal electricity price spikes.

Participants in Valley Green Energy will automatically receive an additional 10% of their electricity (compared to the minimum required by law) from renewable sources for 13.994 ¢/kWh, a price that will be lower and more stable than both the Eversource and National Grid residential electricity supply prices in place at launch. For comparison, National Grid's basic service rate is 16.055¢/kWh. However, because the utilities' prices change and future prices are unknown, future savings cannot be guaranteed.

Two additional program options will be available by request. One that allows participants to choose to receive electricity that is 100% from renewable sources for 16.474 ¢/kWh and another where they can opt to receive just the minimum amount from renewable sources required by law (currently 24%) for 13.594 ¢/kWh.

A joint effort to be administered by all three communities, Valley Green Energy received state regulatory approval in April. The program will change the electricity supply price on each participant's electric bill, but local electric utilities will continue to handle billing, address power outages, and deliver electricity without interruption. Nearly 200 other Massachusetts communities already have similar programs, including the nearby communities of Greenfield, Hatfield, Leverett, and Northfield.

Participation in Valley Green Energy is not required. Any account holder eligible for automatic enrollment will receive a notification by mail before the program launches and will have the opportunity to opt out.

For more information, please visit the program website at ValleyGreenEnergy.org or call customer support with the program consultants at 1-844-202-6033.