

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is Stratham Community Power?

A. Stratham Community Power would be a locally controlled electricity provider for the Town of Stratham. A Community Power aggregator will be selected by the Select Board which will provide the actual electricity. The rates charged will replace what Unitil would have charged for the energy sources they use. Although Unitil will continue to charge you for the transmission and delivery of electricity to your home or business, the source of that electricity will be from Stratham Community Power, rather than Unitil.

Q. Do I have to participate in Stratham Community Power? Can I opt out?

A. You get to decide! Any customer may opt out of Stratham Community Power.

Q. How will Stratham Community Power rates compare to Unitil?

A. Residential customers who elect to receive Stratham Community Power “Granite Basic” product will receive a minimum of 23.4% renewable energy (the current minimum required). We expect the initial default service rate to be at least 5% lower than Unitil’s default energy rate.

Q. Are residents with solar power eligible for Community Power?

A. For now residents with solar power will not be automatically enrolled but it is expected to be resolved prior to Stratham Community Power launch.

The NH Public Utilities Commission has an open docket with the goal to work out an agreement to accommodate Net Metering, which could be achieved in early 2024.

Q. Will Unitil be hurt by Community Power?

A. No. Unitil will continue to do just what it does now. The default supply rate offered by Unitil is simply a pass through. Unitil gets no revenue from it.

Q. Why did prices spike the way they did last year?

A. Natural gas prices spiked and 50% of ISO New England power suppliers use natural gas. Also there is little profit benefit on the supply side to be innovative. Unitil shares the goal of reducing prices

Q. Who governs and administers Stratham Community Power?

A. The Stratham Select Board governs Stratham Community Power.