WHAT is Community Choice Energy (CCE) and why do we need it?
Known as “Green Municipal Aggregation” or “Community Choice Energy,” CCE is an energy-supply option that would allow the City of Springfield to get up to 100% of its electricity from clean, renewable energy such as solar and wind power. Eversource would still provide our energy, and we would still pay our electric bills, but switching to the CCE option means that together we would be...

- Working toward the City’s Strong, Healthy, Just: Climate Action & Resilience Plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80% by 2050,
- Advancing racial equity,
- Improving our public health, and
- Stabilizing the cost of electricity.

YES, We Have OPTIONS!
Springfield can create our own CCE program, or collaborate with a nearby existing one. We want our city to adopt a CCE program as soon as possible, with comparable or lower electricity costs. From North Adams to Worcester to the Cape, nearly 170 communities in Massachusetts have done this already and they are benefitting from more stable utility bills while also helping to slow climate change. Springfield can help lead the way by offering electricity customers the unique option of 100% renewables, just as Greenfield, MA, is doing. By choosing to implement CCE we are giving control back to the ratepayers.

HOW Do We Pay for CCE?
Once it is up and running, a CCE is paid for by the electricity customers; CCEs are not subsidized by taxpayers. Start-up funding for a CCE (all of which is recoverable from electricity fees) can be paid for by any source, including a foundation grant, business, municipality, etc.

WHAT if we Do Nothing?
Currently, 80% of Springfield’s electricity comes from burning fossil fuels that contribute to climate change. If we do nothing, that will continue. Springfield will remain a major greenhouse gas emitter and fewer families and businesses will choose to settle here due to unstable utilities expenses.
WHO Wants CCE in Springfield?

LiveWell Springfield has been convening the Climate Change, Health + Equity Committee (CCHE) since January 2021, engaging hundreds of residents and other interested parties to prioritize policies, and they identified CCE as a top priority. In this work, LiveWell Springfield proudly partners with:

- MA Climate Action Network [Community Choice Aggregation](MassClimateAction.org)
- Local Energy Aggregation Network [LEANenergyus.org](LEANenergyus.org)
- Metro. Area Planning Comm. - [Start a Community Choice Aggregation Program](MAPC.org)

We believe that change happens best when the people most impacted are at the decision-making table. To balance and lift up the voices of neighbors in the meetings, our committee strives to have a 1:1 ratio of residents to organizational/agency staff. CCHE’s work is based on the City of Springfield’s 2017 *Strong, Healthy, Just: Climate Action & Resilience Plan*, aka the "CARP."

HOW Do We Move Forward to Get CCE in Springfield?

- City Council votes to pursue CCE
- Mayor agrees to pursue CCE
- Mayor contracts with CCE expert to help the community craft an Energy Aggregation Plan
- Springfield residents review and comment on the Energy Aggregation Plan
- MA Dept. of Energy Resources & Dept. of Public Utilities review/approve the Energy Aggregation Plan
- Springfield contracts with an electricity distributor that meets requirements of the Energy Aggregation Plan

Resources

- MA Climate Action Network - [Community Choice Aggregation](MassClimateAction.org)
- Local Energy Aggregation Network [LEANenergyus.org](LEANenergyus.org)
- Metro. Area Planning Comm. - [Start a Community Choice Aggregation Program](MAPC.org)

Questions?

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Show your support!

Join the effort to bring Community Choice Energy to Springfield by signing this petition to city leaders.

Scan here now