

Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire - Member-Candidates Meeting

- Update community leaders on Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire
- Share information about Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) and how communities can join the Coalition

March 18th, 10:30am - 12pm

Meeting Agenda

Purpose: Convene community leaders to learn about the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire and why and how to join by adopting the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA).

- 1 | Welcome, Purpose, Expectations
Breakout Group Introductions
- 2 | Presentation
How We Got Here
Vision for Community Power
Coalition Operations & Governance Realize the Vision
Joint Powers Agreement (JPA): Joining the Coalition
- 3 | Discussion & Q/A
Next Steps & Forthcoming Resources

Purpose: Allow participants to network and engage with one another efficiently

Section 1

1 Minute Per Speaker

Popcorn to Next Speaker

Volunteer Time Keeper

Be Inclusive, Be Respectful

Breakout Groups

1. Introduce yourself, community, title
2. Share one succinct example of past, present or future energy project in your community
3. In a word, phrase or sentence, share why you are interested in Community Power

Summary of Registrants

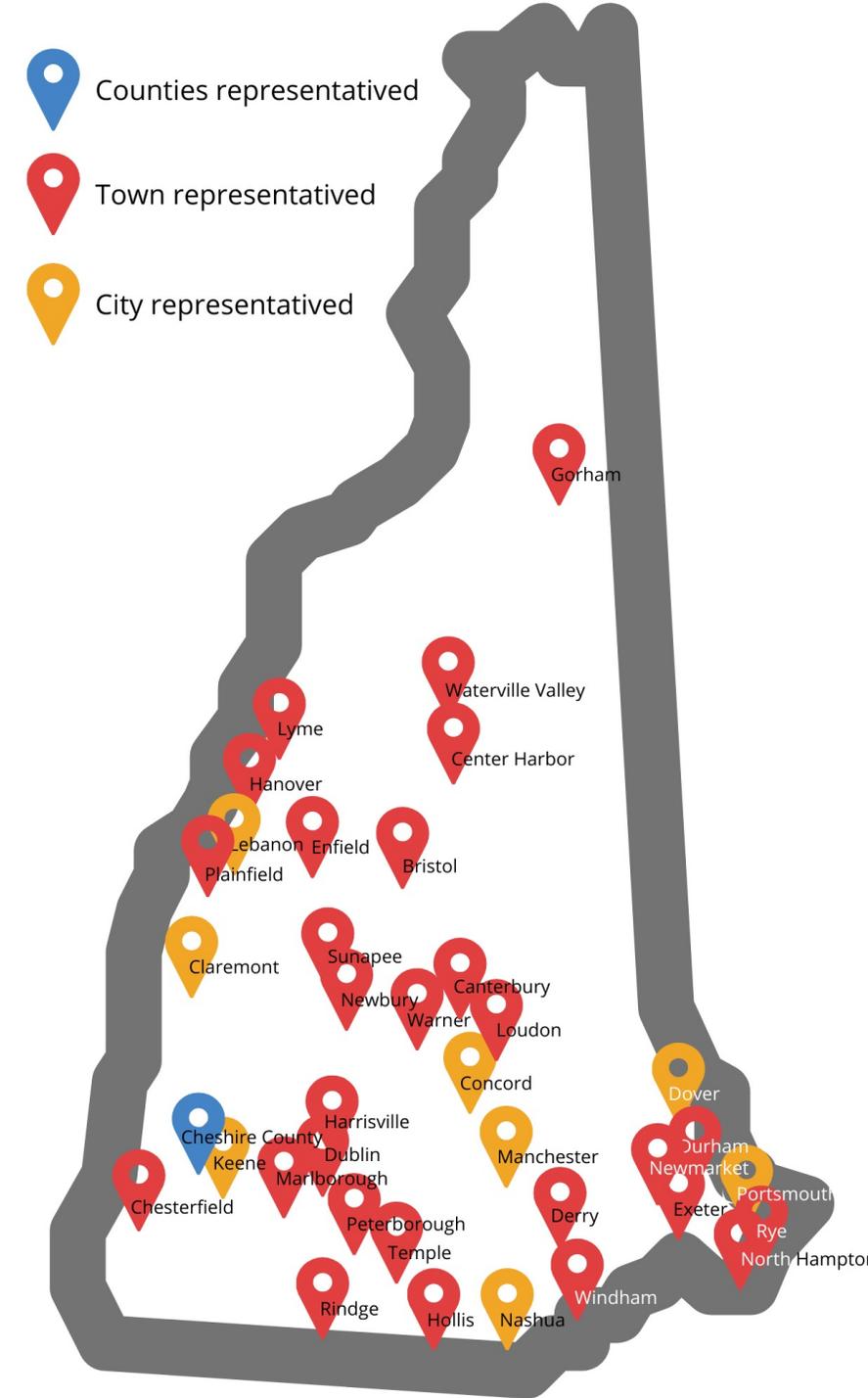
Elected officials, municipal staff, energy committee volunteers

- Together we buy ~1.6 million megawatt-hours
- Together we spend ~\$113 million on energy supply

- Registered Communities (not comprehensive)

Bristol, Canterbury, Center Harbor, Cheshire County, Chesterfield, Claremont, Concord, Derry, Dover, Durham, Enfield, Exeter, Gorham, Hanover, Harrisville, Hollis, Keene, Loudon, Lyme, Manchester, Marlborough, Nashua Newbury, Newmarket, North Hampton, Plainfield, Peterborough, Portsmouth, Rindge, Rye, Sunapee, Waterville Valley, Warner, Windham

- All regions of state; all electric distribution utilities.



Section 2

Presentation

How we got here

Vision for Community Power

Coalition operations & governance realize the vision

Joint Powers Agreement: Joining the Coalition

CPCNH ORGANIZING GROUP

Throughout 2020, the CPCNH Organizing Group met regularly to research national best practices & explore the viability of establishing new public power entity to share services across municipalities and counties.



Clifton Below
Assistant Mayor
City of Lebanon



Doria Brown
Energy Manager
City of Nashua



Julia Griffin
Town Manager
Town of Hanover



April Salas
Sustainability Director
Town of Hanover



Rod Bouchard
Deputy Administrator
Cheshire County



Group Facilitator: Henry Herndon, former Director of Local Energy Solutions, Clean Energy NH

Technical & Community Advisors: Dori Drachmann, Co-founder, Monadnock Sustainability Hub



Samuel Golding, President, Community Choice Partners | Dr. Amro Farid, Thayer School of Engineering at Dartmouth

Ned Hulbert, Harrisville Planning Board & EAC | Mary Day Mordecai, Growing Edge Partners

Tad Montgomery, Energy & Facilities Manager & Everett Hammond, P.E., Asst. DPW Director, City of Lebanon

Hanover's Commitment to Ready for 100

First Step – 100% Renewably Generated Electricity by 2030

Town Has Set Four Key Goals to Get There



- 1 Town of Hanover must “walk the talk” by shifting all municipal electricity to renewable sources – large scale solar installations, heat pumps, energy efficiency modifications.
- 2 “Solarize Hanover” and “Weatherize Hanover” promoted to all Town residents to reshape and reduce electricity demand.
- 3 Shift all retail electricity customers to 100% green electricity.
- 4 Enter into long-term PPA for New England-generated renewable electricity with all large commercial and institutional customers.

VISION FOR COMMUNITY POWER

Nashua & Harrisville

Foster resilient NH communities across the state by empowering them to realize their unique energy goals

Energy Independence & Sustainability

Long-term Price Stability

Innovation

Equity (within and across communities)

Statewide network of expertise + learning at no cost



Coalition Operations Across Three Spheres

ISO NEW ENGLAND
REGIONAL MARKET OPERATIONS



Headwaters

- Wholesale Energy Portfolio Management
- (Buying Lots of Electricity)
- Option to Integrate Local Renewables

STATE POLICY & UTILITIES



Rivers & Rapids

- Legislative (House Bill 315)
- Regulatory Rule Development
- Utility Partnerships
- Metering & Billing

COMMUNITY ENERGY INNOVATION

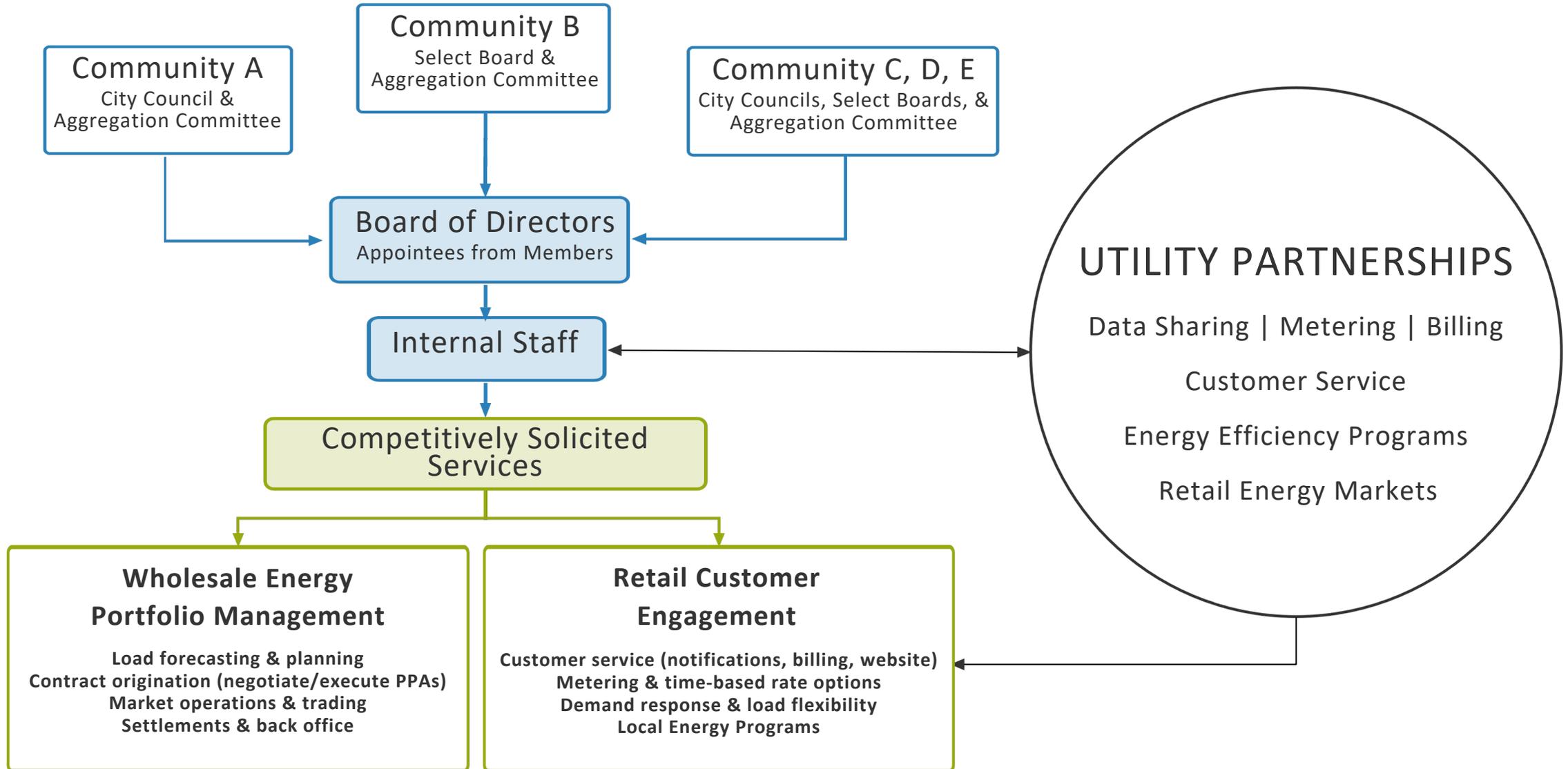


Lakes & Wells

- Value-Added Retail Products & Services
- E.g., Time-of-Use Rates, Residential Solar, Energy Storage, EV Integrations

Coalition operations enable communities to realize their energy, climate and master plan goals.

OPERATIONS: CPCNH ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



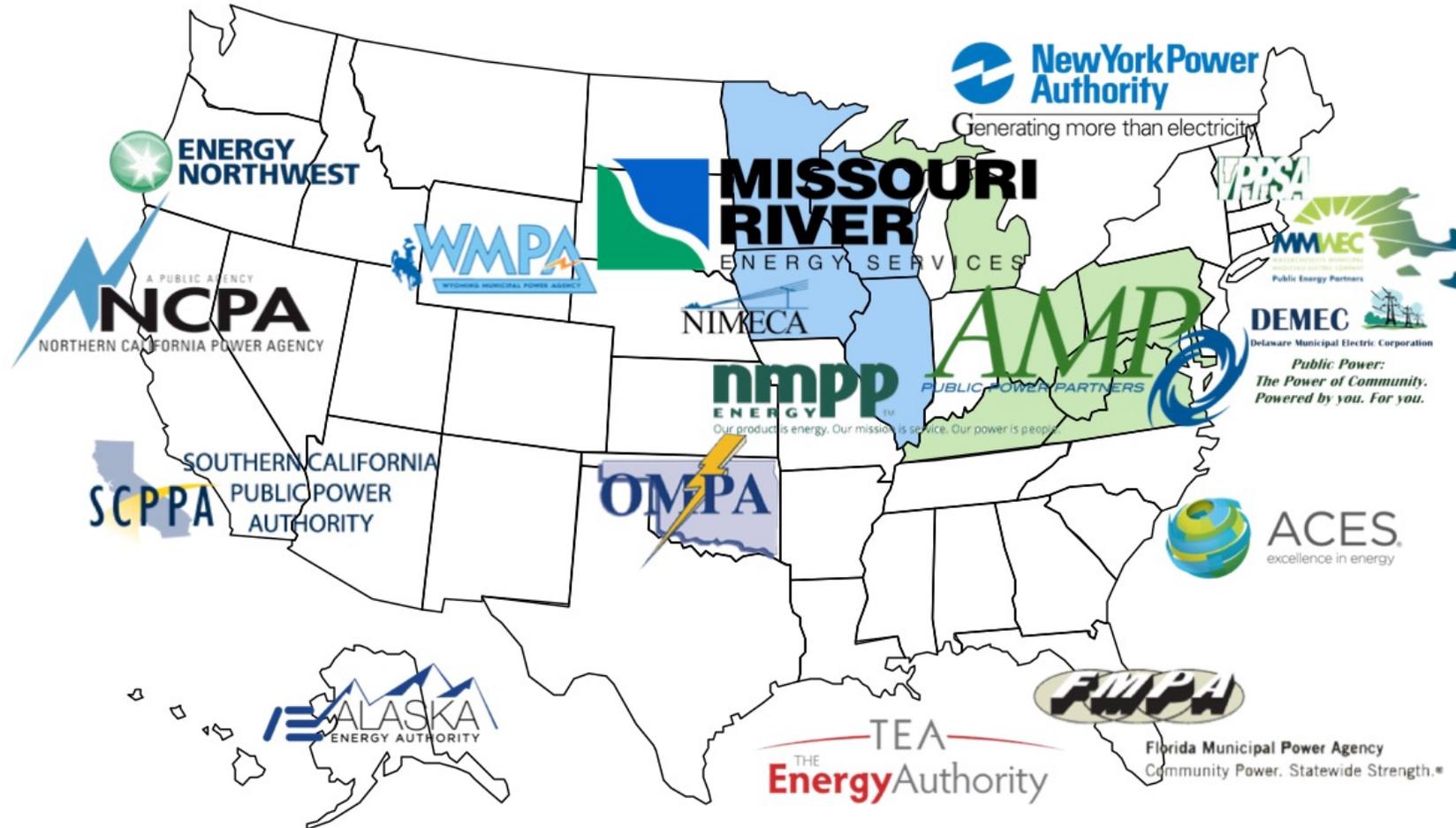
Joint Powers Agreement

PUBLIC POWER JOINT ACTION AGENCIES

Over 70 joint action agencies have formed in the past ~50 years.

They provide power supply services for many of the more than 2,000 municipal electric utilities in the U.S.

There are another 63 power supply cooperatives serving many of the more than 800 retail electric cooperatives.



CPCNH LEGAL ADVISOR

In summer 2020, working in conjunction with the Town of Hanover and the CPCNH Organizing Group, the City of Lebanon issued an RFQ for legal services to support development of a Joint Powers Agreement to formally establish CPCNH. Duncan, Weinberg, Genzer & Pembroke was selected out of six respondents.

DUNCAN, WEINBERG, GENZER & PEMBROKE PC

Founded in 1971: core focus on utility, energy and municipal law

Provides legal services to locally-owned utilities and power providers nationwide, as well as to top energy trade associations such as: the American Public Power Association (APPA), the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), and the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO).

Extensive representation of multiple Community Power Joint Action Agencies & other public power Joint Action Agencies



Michael Postar
Esq.
President



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RSA 53-A – AGREEMENTS BETWEEN GOVERNMENT UNITS

- **Purpose (53-A:1):**

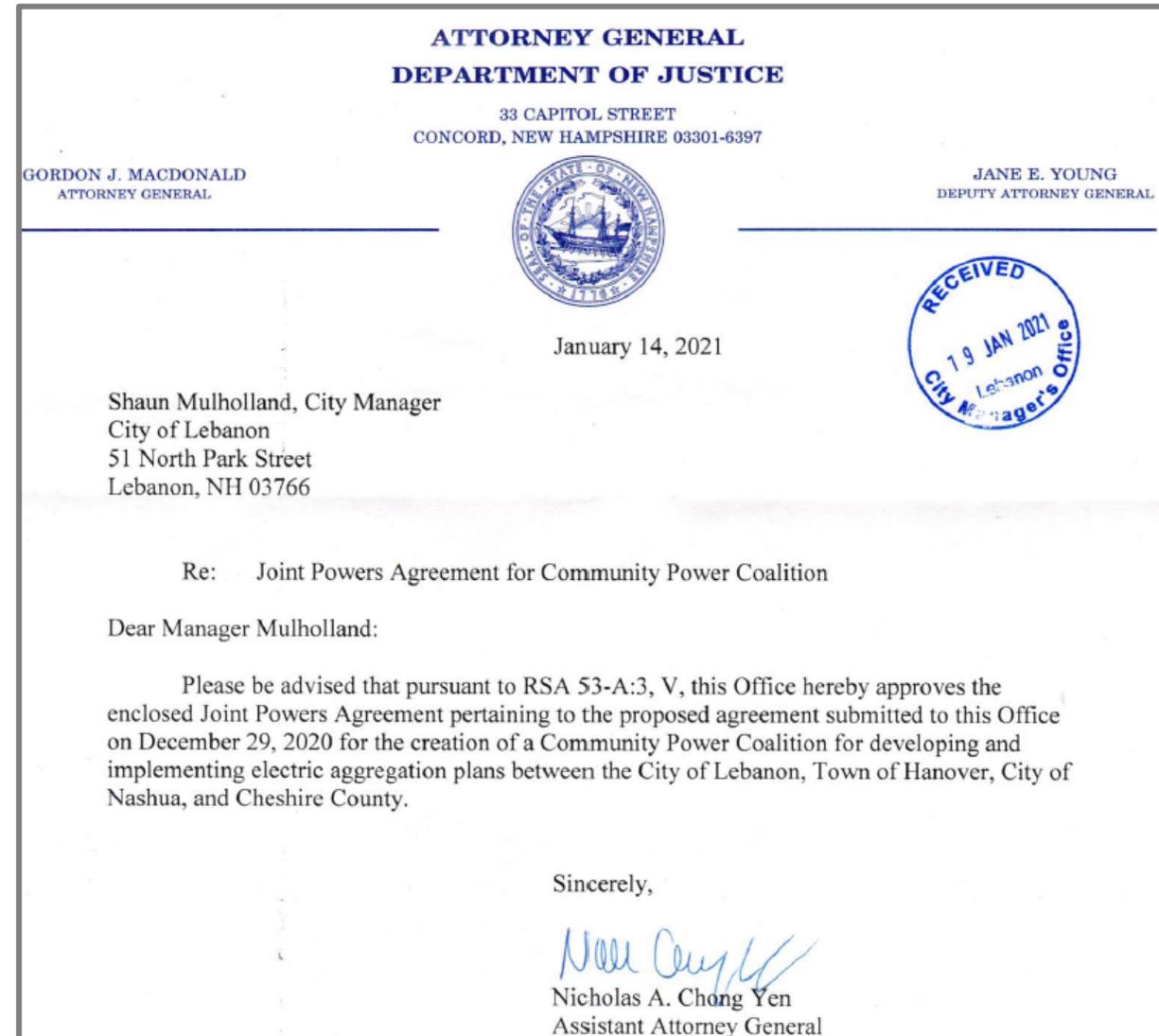
*“to permit municipalities and counties to **make the most efficient use of their powers** by enabling them to cooperate with other municipalities and counties on a basis of mutual advantage and thereby to provide services and facilities in a manner and pursuant to forms of governmental organization that will **accord best with geographic, economic, population and other factors influencing the needs and development of local communities.**”*

- **Joint Exercise of Powers (53-A:3):**

“Any power or powers, privileges or authority exercised or capable of exercise by a public agency of this state may be exercised jointly with any other public agency of this state.”

- **Review by Attorney General (RSA 53-A:3, V):**

To *“determine whether the agreement is in proper form and compatible with the laws of this state.”*



CPCNH Joint Powers Agreement

Approved by NH Attorney General for proper form & compatibility with NH law

Adopted by Lebanon & Hanover – not yet incorporated

- The JPA is a contract among communities and the corporate charter for the Coalition.
- It details the purpose, structure, Board of Directors, provisions for cost sharing, committees, liability, and other aspects of the Coalition.
- The JPA includes both Articles of Agreement for the corporation and initial By-Laws of the Coalition.
- Purpose:
 - Enable joint exercise of authorities to promote common good, general welfare & economic vitality & prosperity
 - Provide supportive services & technical assistance to Community Power Aggregations
 - Promote public education & civic engagement
- **Structured to be tax-exempt as a governmental instrumentality.**

A local governing body (e.g., city council, select board) votes to adopt the JPA to join the Coalition. This can be done before an Aggregation Plan is adopted.

Benefits of Joint Action: Overview

The Coalition was created so that towns, cities and counties across New Hampshire could

- 1 Jointly solicit and contract for the **third-party services and staff support** required to implement and operate Community Power programs
- 2 Thereafter participate in **joint power solicitations and project development** opportunities
- 3 Facilitate **knowledge-sharing** and **regional collaborations** on clean energy and resilient **infrastructure development** at the community-level throughout the state
- 4 Represent the interests of member communities in **state policy affairs** relating to Community Power and electricity (both legislative and regulatory).

Coalition Benefits & Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) (1)

• Economies of Scale

- Coalition expected to launch with scale comparable to Liberty Utilities, in terms of electricity load and number of accounts
- May expand to be larger than Unitil default service within within first two years of operation

• Voluntary Participation

- Members may take full service for launch and operation of programs through the Coalition
- Members may pick and choose from a “menu of services”
- Local governing bodies retain the authority to contract for services and electricity supplies independently of Coalition

Coalition Benefits & Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) (2)

● Community Governance

- Members may appoint Board Directors
- After 21 members join, Directors will be elected by vote of the members at annual meetings.
- Board oversees initial startup and implementation activities of the Coalition (e.g., hiring management staff, solicitation and contracting with vendors, committees)
- All Coalition meetings will comply with the **Right-to-Know law**.

● Cost Sharing & Liability

- Three cost categories:
 - (1) project costs;
 - (2) member services;
 - (3) general/administrative costs
- Cost Sharing Agreements to be developed
- Debts, liabilities and obligations of the Coalition, and of other participating Community Power programs, will be non-recourse to member municipalities and counties

Coalition Benefits & Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) (3)

• Member Services & Management

- Contracts with qualified vendors and credit-worthy suppliers to launch & operate programs
- Third parties fund the upfront cost of implementing member programs
- Coalition will hire several qualified staff for management, oversight and transparency (as services evolve over time)

• Member Reserve Funds

- **Near-term:** maintain competitive rates
- **Medium term:** collateral for power purchase agreements (incl. new project development) + credit enhancements to lower overall cost of service
- **Long-term:** may supplement direct funding of projects and programs (subject to member governing body approval)

• Financial Stability, Advocacy & Local Policy Goals

Energy Risk Management & Financial Reserve policies:

- Balance financial trade-off decisions between rates, renewables, and financial reserves
- Ensure long-term stability (for member programs to achieve their local policy goals)

Regulatory & Policy Advocacy:

- Guard members against adverse changes
- Expands Community Power authorities

Wrapping Up

NH cities, towns and counties are invited to join us on the Roadmap to Community Power, 2022

- **Timeline**

- Most likely scenario, Coalition begins supplying power in early spring 2022
- Legislative session has delayed completion of regulatory rules until Fall 2021

- **Vendors**

- The Coalition plans to issue vendor solicitations over the next three months

- **Upcoming Resources**

- Welcome Booklet for local governing bodies
- Roadmap to Community Power: Manual for Town Meeting 2022 (Web-based guidebook for Electric Aggregation Committees)
- Technical assistance & networking for early-adopter communities



Mission:

To foster resilient New Hampshire communities by empowering them to realize their energy goals through civic engagement, public education and technical assistance

Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire

@ info@cpcnh.org

🌐 www.cpcnh.org