



---

# City of Nashua

Energy Manager/ Sustainability Department  
229 Main Street - Nashua, NH 03060

---

(603) 589-3265

Date: 4/29/2024

To: Senator Kevin Avard (kevin.avard@leg.state.nh.us)  
Fr: City of Nashua  
Subj: City of Nashua Supports HB 1600

Dear Senator Avard,

I write today on behalf of the City of Nashua to express support for House Bill 1600, with adoption of the amendment proposed by the Community Power Coalition of NH (CPCNH).

Last April, Nashua Community Power launched service through CPCNH. In the first 10 months of service, we have helped our customers save \$4.1 million and have created \$8.7 million in total community value.

The City of Nashua is interested in exploring the opportunity to use the power produced from our hydropower dams to offset Nashua Community Power as an aggregation. HB 1600 would provide the City with this additional option, which currently does not exist in statute for facilities like our hydro dams whose sizes are between 1 and 5 megawatts.

HB 1600, with the CPCNH amendment, would create a new option that is separate and in addition to the Municipal Host construct, which allows the output from the Host to offset individual municipal accounts through Group Net Metering. Passing this legislation would give the City of Nashua the opportunity to leverage its community power program to drive down rates and provide access to locally-sourced, clean generation made by the community – thereby, maximizing total community value for the City and its residents.

HB 1600 proposes a market-based pathway for CPAs to offer net metering programs in a way that retains the costs and benefits within the CPA itself. In other words, the construct proposed by the bill would neither add to utility stranded costs nor result in cost shifting to the general utility ratebase. It is because of these reasons that the bill was unanimously recommended OPA by the House Science, Technology & Energy Committee earlier this year, and which afforded passage by the House on the consent calendar via voice vote on March 7th.

Ultimately, the bill will allow Nashua Community Power to continue to provide affordable power supply options to our customers, which is a top priority for the City. I encourage you to allow an additional week so that we can work with the Department of Energy to find a resolution on this topic. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

**Doria Brown, Energy Manager**



City of Nashua – Sustainability

Phone: 603-589-3265 Email: [brownd@nashuanh.gov](mailto:brownd@nashuanh.gov)