



## Legislative Update: Victory!

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Throughout the first quarter of 2021, the Coalition led a successful statewide effort to defend Community Power against legislation introduced in the General Court that would have dismantled Community Power authorities (House Bill 315).

As a result of the Coalition's leadership and communications, Mayors from all New Hampshire cities, the NH Association of Counties, the NH Municipal Association and numerous other community and industry leaders from across the state coordinated efforts to oppose the bill as introduced. The public opposition and associated high-profile media attention prompted the bill sponsor to convene a series of collaborative stakeholder work sessions to re-write the bill by amendment.

In March, the House Science, Technology & Energy Committee (ST&E) voted unanimously to adopt the amendment and to recommend the amended bill "Ought to Pass" to the House Floor. Refer to [our website](#) for more information and media coverage—including highlights of the ST&E Committee Chair and bill sponsor thanking Coalition leaders for drafting the amended legislation!

The Coalition and its allies support the bill as amended, as it now improves the Community Power market in several ways including the addition of a Purchase of Receivables program.

## Regulatory Updates

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In December 2020, Public Utilities Commission (PUC) staff indicated that regulatory rules for Community Power Aggregations (CPAs) would be formally proposed in January 2021.

The introduction of House Bill 315 prompted regulators to delay the CPA rule filing. Coalition leaders met with Eversource and regulators on April 1 to discuss the plan and timeline for expediting regulatory rules.

Regulators, Eversource and Coalition members plan to revise draft rules to comport with the pending House Bill 315 (as amended) with a consensus draft expected by mid-May.

## Agency Formation Updates

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On January 14, 2021, the New Hampshire Attorney General approved the Coalition's Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) as in compliance with the laws of the state.

On January 25, 2021, the Town of Hanover became the first municipality to adopt the JPA by vote of their governing body.

On February 3, the Lebanon City Council voted to adopt the JPA, becoming the second municipality to do so.

The Coalition acquired its logo, launched its website (<http://www.cpcnh.org>) and completed an Electric Aggregation Plan (EAP) template for use by member communities.

Lebanon, Hanover, Nashua and Cheshire County are or will soon be making use of the EAP template and moving through their respective public processes towards local legislative authorization of their respective Community Power Aggregation (CPA) programs.

## **Membership Outreach and Engagement Updates**

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The Coalition published and disseminated a “Welcome Booklet” for member candidates.

As a follow-up to last June’s inaugural Community Power Summit, the Coalition hosted a “Member Candidates Event” on March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Refer to [our Members webpage](#) under “Coalition Network” for event materials.

Over 70 representatives from several dozen New Hampshire cities and towns. The updated prospective member communities on the Coalition’s formation status, discussed key sections of the Coalition Joint Powers Agreement (JPA), and explained how communities could join. Registrants included:

- City councilors from Keene and Portsmouth;
- Municipal managers and staff from Claremont, Dover, Durham, Gorham, Nashua and Peterborough;
- Select Board members from Harrisville, Newbury and Rye; Manchester’s forming Energy Commission; and
- Other community leaders representing Bristol, Canterbury, Center Harbor, Chesterfield, Concord, Derry, Enfield, Exeter, Hollis, Loudon, Lyme, Marlborough, Newmarket, Plainfield, Rindge, Somersworth, Sunapee, Swanzey, Warner and Waterville Valley.

## **Priorities for Q2 2020**

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In Quarter 2 2021, the Coalition will prioritize:

- Two phases vendor engagement: a vendor survey and solicitation for services.
- Release of the Coalition’s “Roadmap to Community Power: Manual for Electric Aggregation Committees” and engagement with prospective member communities.



<https://www.cpcnh.org/>  
[info@cpcnh.org](mailto:info@cpcnh.org)

**14 Dixon Ave, Suite 201, Concord, NH 03301**