Press Release

New Program Empowers Littleton & Boxborough Electric Customers Go 100% Renewable

LITTLETON – LELWD has introduced the new Renewable Energy Choice program for customers who want their electricity generated from 100% renewable sources.

Customers who enroll will pay a special renewable energy rate, and LELWD will use the proceeds to purchase and retire Renewable Energy Certificates. Known as RECs, the certificates are sold by renewable energy providers and serve as proof the electricity consumed originated from solar, wind or other non-fossil fuel sources.

“The Renewable Energy Choice program is a great option for all our customers who want to use renewable and clean electricity in their home or business. With this program, LELWD and customers who enroll are furthering the transition to renewable energy,” said Nick Lawler, P.E., the General Manager of Littleton Electric Light and Water Departments.

LELWD customers who enroll in the program will see a slight increase in their electric rate but will know their electricity comes from 100 percent renewable energy sources. While the prices on the REC market can fluctuate, an LELWD customer can expect to pay an additional 4 cents per kilowatt hour over the ordinary electric rate.

On a shared electric grid, the electricity comes from multiple sources including fossil fuel and renewable sources. RECs are a system to track who produces and who uses the clean energy on the grid.

The system works by issuing one REC per megawatt hour of electricity produced to the renewable energy generator, such as a solar or wind farm. In addition to selling the electricity, renewable energy generators earn additional income by selling the RECs to utilities.

Utilities purchase the RECs to track how much of the energy they take from the grid originated from a renewable source. LELWD will use the proceeds from customers enrolled in the Renewable Energy Choice program to purchase and retire RECs (meaning they cannot be resold) to show it is using renewable energy sources.