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**NOTICE OF MEETING**

**CITY COUNCIL**

**Joe Frank**  
*President*  
**Sara Continenza**  
**Joe Frank**  
**Chanell Elston**  
**Jane Goodman**  
**Ruth Gray**  
**Susan Hardy**  
**Justin Tisdale**

**MEETING OF:** PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE  
**CALLED BY:** JOHN FAHSBENDER, CHAIRMAN  
**DATE:** February 14, 2022  
**LOCATION:** Virtual WebEx Meeting  
**TIME:** 7:00 P.M.  
**RE:** Res. 04-22 NOPEC Green Community Choice Program.

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**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

SARA CONTINENZA  
JUSTIN TISDALE

**MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:**

JOE FRANK  
CHANNEL ELSTON  
RUTH GRAY  
SUSAN HARDY

**ADMINISTRATION:**

KEITH BENJAMIN, COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO

RESOLUTION NO.: 04-22  
INTRODUCED BY: Gray  
REQUESTED BY: Mayor

January 10, 2022

A RESOLUTION

APPROVING THE CITY OF SOUTH EUCLID'S NOTICE TO THE NORTHEAST OHIO PUBLIC ENERGY COUNCIL ("NOPEC") TO ELECT NOPEC'S GREEN COMMUNITY CHOICE PROGRAM FOR THE CITY'S ELECTRICITY AGGREGATION PROGRAM STARTING JANUARY 2023.

WHEREAS, the City of South Euclid, Ohio ("City") is a member of the Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council ("NOPEC") and participates in NOPEC's electricity aggregation program ("Aggregation Program"); and

WHEREAS, the City has adopted or may be considering adopting a sustainability plan, a part of which includes or may include increasing the renewable content of the electricity consumed in the City; and

WHEREAS, NOPEC has developed a new green program offering for its member communities with a 100% renewable energy content standard default electricity aggregation product, that includes Renewable Energy Credits ("RECs") for 100% of the customer's energy usage, to any current or new NOPEC member community that selects this program for the upcoming three (3) year NOPEC electric aggregation term (from the January 2023 until January 2026 utility meter reads) ("Green Community Choice Program"); and

WHEREAS, the Green Community Choice Program will include the additional cost of 100% RECs for 100% of the City's eligible customers' energy usage; and

WHEREAS, the additional cost for the REC content included in the Green Community Choice Program price will be no higher than .425 cents/kWh or about \$3.55/month for the average residential household over the term of program; and

WHEREAS, the City's eligible customers will have the option to opt-in to the standard NOPEC default product not containing additional RECs at the lower Standard Program price or choose another NOPEC product offering; and

WHEREAS, the NOPEC Green Community Choice Program offering requires that a member community notify NOPEC in writing of its election to choose the Green Community Choice Program (100% REC standard default electricity aggregation product) for the upcoming three (3) year NOPEC Aggregation Program term with legislation adopted by the legislative authority of the community making the election.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of South Euclid, Ohio:

Section 1: This Council hereby approves the City's election to participate in NOPEC's Green Community Choice Program for the upcoming three (3) year NOPEC Aggregation Program term (from the January 2023 through January 2026 utility meter reads). This Council hereby authorizes and ratifies all actions of the Mayor in connection with execution of the City's election to notify NOPEC to participate in NOPEC's Green Community Choice Program.

Section 2. This Council hereby acknowledges that the City's election to participate in NOPEC's Green Community Choice Program for the upcoming three (3) year NOPEC Aggregation Program term (from the January 2023 until the January 2026 utility meter read(s) is binding and irrevocable for such three (3) year Aggregation Program term.

Section 2: That it is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees on or after November 25, 1975, that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 3: This Resolution shall take effect and be in full force from and after the earliest period allowed by law and upon signature of the Mayor.

Passed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ruth I. Gray, President of Council

Attest:

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keith A. Benjamin, Clerk of Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
Georgine Welo, Mayor

Approved as to form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael P. Lograssó, Director of Law



## NEW NOPEC GREEN COMMUNITY CHOICE DEFAULT PROGRAM SUMMARY

NOPEC's new Green Community Choice Program:

1. Is available to any current or new NOPEC member community that chooses to elect this option by December 31, 2021, for the upcoming 3-year NOPEC electric aggregation program term.
2. Starts with the 3-year NOPEC electric aggregation program term in January 2023 until January 2026 (meter reads).
3. Consists of an electric supply with EarthEra® RECs for 100% of customer's energy usage as the NOPEC standard default electric aggregation program product for communities that elect the new product.
4. Assists NOPEC communities in achieving their individual community sustainability plan goals. NextEra annually will retire and report RECs equivalent to 100% of the community's aggregation load for customers enrolled in NOPEC products that include 100% REC content.
5. Will include an "adder" on top of the NOPEC standard aggregation program product to cover the increasing costs of the 100% REC content for this load. We have seen REC market prices increase exponentially over the past few years largely because of increased demand from governmental and commercial customers. However, the bulk buying strength of the NOPEC aggregation, combined with our relationship with NextEra, will allow NOPEC to lock in a favorable market price to mitigate the anticipated REC price increases. **The incremental cost for the RECs will be no higher than .425 cents/kWh or about \$3.70/month for the average residential household over the term of program.**
6. Given the projected future demand and price volatility of the REC market, combined with Ohio's current renewable energy development policies, RECs for the total load of the participating communities for this term will be hedged and priced in 3 year cycles coinciding with the NOPEC Aggregation program term.
7. In all communities that elect the new Green Community Choice Program, customers also will have the option to opt into the NOPEC standard program product or any other of NOPEC's variable or fixed term electricity offers for those that may choose to continue in the standard program or select another NOPEC electricity offer.
8. Requires any NOPEC community that selects the new Green Community Choice Program to notify NOPEC in writing by December 31, 2021, together with a duly adopted Resolution of the legislative authority of the community making the election, acknowledging that the City's election is a binding and irrevocable commitment for the upcoming three (3) year NOPEC Aggregation Program term. This advance notice is necessary for NOPEC to plan for the procurement of the necessary RECs in advance of the January 2023 opt out term start date.
9. Continues to operate under all other provisions of the NOPEC governance documents and the NOPEC electric aggregation program rules.

For your community to participate in the NOPEC Green Community Choice Program, you will need to:

- Notify NOPEC of your community's election of this program in writing by December 31, 2021.
- Pass a duly adopted Resolution of the legislative authority of your community making the election by December 31, 2021. A copy of the form of Resolution is attached.
- Continue to operate under all other provisions of the NOPEC governance documents and the NOPEC electric aggregation program rules.

**THE DEADLINE FOR NOTIFYING NOPEC OF YOUR COMMUNITY'S ELECTION IS DECEMBER 31, 2021.**

Questions? Please call The NOPEC Green Community Choice Program Answerline at 440-249-7632.

**More About EarthEra® & NOPEC**

Additional renewable energy content in NOPEC's electric program are EarthEra® RECs, which are national voluntary RECs created by North American wind or solar projects. The EarthEra® program was established by an affiliate of NOPEC's electric supplier, [NextEra Energy Resources](#), to provide an innovative way for businesses and consumers to support the development of renewable energy resources with confidence that the proceeds from the purchase of EarthEra® RECs are going to the development and construction of new wind and solar energy projects in North America.

The proceeds from the purchase of EarthEra® RECs are deposited in the EarthEra® Renewable Energy Trust, a fund overseen by an independent third-party trustee, which invests 100% of the proceeds it receives in the development and construction of new renewable energy projects in North America. Proceeds from the sale of EarthEra® RECs are already being directed to renewable energy projects under development in the Northeast, and may be directed to similar projects in Ohio in the future.

(1) EIA published data from forms EIA-861- schedules 4A-D, EIA-861S and EIA-861U.  
2019 Average Residential Ohio monthly consumption 874 kWh (or 0.87 MWh)  
[https://www.eia.gov/electricity/sales\\_revenue\\_price/pdf/table5\\_a.pdf](https://www.eia.gov/electricity/sales_revenue_price/pdf/table5_a.pdf)



# Green Community Choice Program

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is Green Community Choice through NOPEC?

Green Community Choice is an optional program in which NOPEC member communities can choose to participate. Through this program, communities elect a default electricity product for their community's residents and small businesses that provides electricity backed by 100% Renewable Energy Credits (RECs).

### If a community joins the Green Community Choice Program, do residents and small businesses have to enroll into the 100% renewable electric program?

No. All eligible residents and small businesses will automatically be enrolled into the 100% Renewable Standard Program Price option. However, all residents and small businesses can choose to participate in any of NOPEC's other electric program options including our Standard Program Price, Monthly Variable Rate, and 12- and 24-month Fixed Term options.

### Does NOPEC currently offer 100% renewable electric options for its customers?

Yes. NOPEC offers residents and small businesses in member communities many options to support renewable energy whether or not their community joins the Green Community Choice Program. The Standard Program Price and Monthly Variable Rate products currently include EarthEra® RECs equal to 200% of the quantity of RECs required by the Ohio Renewable Portfolio Standard. Customers can also choose a Standard Program Price + 100% renewable content or 12- and 24-month Fixed Term 100% renewable content products. Rates for these options can be viewed at [nopec.org/pricingrates](http://nopec.org/pricingrates).

### How much will the Green Community Choice Program cost customers?

REC market prices have increased exponentially over the past few years because of increased demand. The Green Community Choice Program will include an "adder" on top of the NOPEC standard aggregation program product to cover the increasing costs of the 100% REC content. However, the bulk buying strength of the NOPEC aggregation, combined with our relationship with NextEra, will allow us to lock in favorable market prices for 3 years to help mitigate the anticipated REC price increases. The additional cost for the RECs will be no higher than .425 cents/kWh or about \$3.70/month for the average residential household over the term of the program.

### Why is NOPEC offering the Green Community Choice Program option?

The Green Community Choice Program was developed through collaboration with a Sustainability Task Force made up of community leaders from NOPEC member communities. Green Community Choice was created to provide member communities with another option that would help them achieve their community-wide sustainability goals while also allowing individual residents and small businesses the flexibility to choose the program that best meets their needs.

### How will NOPEC source this renewable content product?

The Green Community Choice Program provides communities with electric supply with EarthEra® Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) for the full amount of electricity used by enrolled residents and small businesses. NOPEC relies on our supply chain partner, NextEra Energy Services Ohio, LLC., to source 100% REC content and confirm competitive wholesale REC prices in the marketplace.

### What are EarthEra® RECs?

EarthEra® RECs are national voluntary RECs created by North American wind or solar projects. One REC represents the environmental attributes associated with 1 megawatt-hour (MWh), or 1,000 kilowatt-hours (kWh), of electricity generated by a renewable energy resource. The EarthEra® program was established by an affiliate of NOPEC's electric supplier, [NextEra Energy Resources](#), to provide an innovative way for businesses and consumers to support the development of renewable energy resources with confidence that the proceeds from the purchase of EarthEra® RECs are going to the development and construction of new wind and solar energy projects in North America. Proceeds from the sale of EarthEra® RECs are already being directed to renewable energy projects under development in the Northeast and may be directed to similar projects in Ohio in the future.

In addition, a portion of the proceeds from the purchase of energy by NOPEC customers is deposited in the EarthEra® Renewable Energy Trust, a fund overseen by an independent third-party trustee, which invests 100% of the proceeds it receives in the development and construction of new renewable energy projects in North America. Since 2017, NextEra has contributed over \$55.4 million from NOPEC's aggregation programs into the EarthEra Trust.

### Why were communities given a deadline to participate?

NOPEC member communities wanting to enroll in the Green Community Choice Program must notify NOPEC of their interest in writing and pass a resolution committing to their election for the upcoming three-year NOPEC aggregation program term by December 31, 2021. This advanced notice is necessary for NOPEC to procure the required RECs before the January 2023 opt-out term start date as well as to allow time for compliance with PUCO requirements. Communities were informed of the end-of-year deadline in July.

### Are there other ways my community can support green energy?

NOPEC is committed to supporting the sustainability agendas of its member communities, regardless of whether they participate in the Green Community Choice Program. NOPEC communities have the option of enrolling in NOPEC's Preferred Pricing Program for wholesale pricing on their electric municipal and street lighting accounts including 100% renewable energy credits. Contact your NOPEC Relationship Manager to enroll.

For more information on NOPEC's collective organizational efforts to support sustainability and renewable energy development, visit [nopec.org/sustainability](http://nopec.org/sustainability).