



Preguntas Frecuentes de Westchester Power

P: ¿Qué es el programa de energía comunitaria de Westchester Power?

R: Westchester Power permite a las comunidades participantes de Westchester unirse y comprar suministro eléctrico 100% renovable al por mayor. Agregar consumidores a gran escala crea el poder de compra necesario para dictar los términos de nuestra compra de energía limpia. Westchester Power ha asegurado tarifas fijas de suministro eléctrico para 27 municipios de Westchester, que representan aproximadamente 115,000 hogares y pequeñas empresas. Desde 2016, el poder de la agregación del programa ha reducido las emisiones de CO₂ en todo el condado, lo que equivale a sacar 142,600 automóviles de la carretera durante un año. ¡Gracias a su participación, podemos lograr este impacto!

P: ¿Cómo ayuda Westchester Power a construir comunidades saludables y resilientes?

R: Westchester Power es el principal contribuyente de la reducción de emisiones de CO₂ en las comunidades individuales, ayudándolas a lograr sus objetivos climáticos y mitigar los efectos ambientales asociados con el cambio climático. La capacidad y el éxito de este programa es la base sobre la que se han construido otros programas. Por ejemplo, Community Solar y las soluciones limpias de calefacción y refrigeración han podido aprovechar positivamente del impacto del programa y reducir el uso de combustibles fósiles. Estas iniciativas aceleran la transición hacia un futuro de energía limpia en su comunidad y el condado, donde más importa.

P: ¿En qué se diferencia Westchester Power de una empresa de servicios de electricidad (ESCO)?

R: Westchester Power es un programa sin fines de lucro (no un esfuerzo comercial) que ha sido examinado y aprobado por sus funcionarios elegidos locales y es parte de una cartera de soluciones de energía comunitaria. Para obtener más información comparativa de Westchester Power y ESCOs, visite <https://sustainablewestchester.org/wp>

P: ¿Quién administra Westchester Power?

R: Westchester Power es un programa de Sustainable Westchester, en asociación con los municipios participantes del condado de Westchester. Sustainable Westchester es un consorcio 501 (c) (3) sin fines de lucro de los gobiernos locales del condado de Westchester. Sustainable Westchester ha sido autorizado por la Comisión de Servicios Públicos del Estado de Nueva York como el primer programa de Agregación de Opción Comunitaria (CCA) en el estado de Nueva York y actúa como gerente, coordinador y administrador del programa.

P: ¿Westchester Power reemplaza mi empresa de servicios eléctricos actual?

R: No, su empresa de servicios eléctricos actual (Con Ed/NYSEG) continuará entregando su energía, manteniendo líneas y respondiendo a cortes de servicio. La ley requiere que Con Ed proporcione el mismo servicio al cliente a todos los residentes, independientemente de la inscripción en este programa. Recibirá solo una factura de Con Ed; en la cual verá líneas separadas para el **suministro** (a través del proveedor de Westchester Power) y la **entrega** de electricidad (a través de Con Ed). ¿Quiere aprender más? Nuestro video "Cómo leer su factura de Con Edison" es una guía útil: <https://sustainablewestchester.org/wp/education-and-resources/#bills>

P: ¿Cómo Westchester Power adquiere energía?

R: Westchester Power administered a competitive bidding process, soliciting responses from all registered New York suppliers. Constellation New Energy is the supplier for the current contract, beginning January 1, 2021.

P: ¿How can I be sure Westchester Power will provide energy consistently?

R: Electricity is a highly regulated industry and there are many safeguards against service interruption from supplier error. There is a "grid operator" (called the NYISO) that monitors the grid at the high-voltage level to ensure the proper power is flowing at all times. In addition, the utility remains the "provider of last resort," which means they are

obligated to serve any customers whose supplier has failed to buy the requisite power for those customers.

P: ¿Will I save money by participating in Westchester Power?

R: The program's fixed rates provide rate protection and insurance against utility rate spikes as well as higher energy rates from Con Edison, which may result from the volatility and unpredictable nature of energy trading prices. However, **savings cannot be guaranteed**, and can only be assessed over the entire period of individual participation, not on a short-term basis. In any given month, Con Edison rates can be higher or lower than our fixed rate.

P: ¿How does the enrollment process work?

R: Residential and small commercial (those not charged for their peak demand) customers that currently receive electric supply from the utility are automatically enrolled as a default from the municipal participation. Residents or small businesses that are presently under contract with a third party electricity supply company (ESCO) are not enrolled. If you are already signed up with an ESCO, but want to switch to Westchester Power, look at the terms of your existing contract to see when it expires and what (if any) penalties apply for early termination. **If you choose to terminate your contract with the ESCO, you can then “Opt In” to join the Westchester Power program.**

P: ¿ What happens if I do not want to participate?

R: **It is absolutely your choice. You can opt out at any time** by filling out the form enclosed, going online to sustainablewestchester.org/wp or by calling Westchester Power directly at 914-242-4725. They will ask you for the same information seen on that form.

P: ¿ Why am I automatically enrolled if I do not opt out?

The Public Service Commission rules establish “community choice aggregation” programs, such as Westchester Power, as the default supply for participating municipalities, replacing utility supply (Con Edison). Previously, if you took no action, you would end up with variable rate utility supply. The starting point is the community-selected supply option (as detailed in the letter), but you can switch supply options, switch back to utility supply, or to a private ESCO at any time without any fees or cancellation charges.

P: ¿ Is there a fee for opting out of Westchester Power?

R: No, there is never a fee or penalty for opting out.

P: ¿ If I opt out after the contract has taken effect, how will that affect my service?

R: Service will not be interrupted whatsoever. Note that the switch back to utility supply may take one to two billing periods depending on your billing cycle.

P: ¿ Does Westchester Power supply “green” power?

R: Yes. In fact, 25 of the 27 participating municipalities have set 100% renewable power supply product as the default option helping reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate climate change. The 100% renewable power supply product consists of delivered power matched with NY State hydropower Renewable Energy Certificates (“RECs”).

Your municipality chose either standard power or green power as the default supply, but you can freely choose to switch supply options at any time. (Refer to details on the enclosed letter).

P: ¿ How can I learn more or have my specific questions answered?

Sustainable Westchester is a part of the community, and we stand behind our commitment to the program and its long-term benefits. If you have questions or want further information, please give us a call; we will happily spend as much time as you need.

For additional information,
email WestchesterPower@SustainableWestchester.org or call (914) 242-4725.

