



Village of Hartville  
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**For Immediate Release:**

**VILLAGE OF HARTVILLE SELECTS NEW SUPPLIER FOR ELECTRIC  
AGGREGATION PROGRAM**

Hartville, Ohio (**XXX XX, 2023**) – Village of Hartville officials are pleased to announce that they have selected Energy Harbor as the supplier for the next term of the Village's electric aggregation program. Energy Harbor recently won a competitive proposal process and was chosen by the Village because the company provided the best overall value for the program. The Village has set a fixed rate of 6.56 cents/kWh for a 1-year term starting with September 2023 meter reads. Residents and small businesses should look for a mailer to arrive on or about July 24th, concerning the new electric aggregation program offer from Energy Harbor.

The mailer will explain the offer the Village negotiated and the means to opt-out should a customer not want to participate in the program. Residents will have 21 days to return an opt-out card to Energy Harbor if they decide not to participate.

"The new rate will allow residents to predict their costs and will protect them from rising rates for the next year. As always, our program will have no early termination fee," said Mayor Cindy Billings. "

The default supply rate from the local utility has risen sharply and will continue to be elevated over the next year, June 2023 - May 2024. Again, the rate offered through the Village's program provides a valuable alternative for residents to consider as they seek to manage their electric bills.

Eric Burns, Director of Aggregation at Independent Energy Consultants, added that residents who have already chosen a supplier on their own will receive a similar letter from Energy Harbor inviting them to join the program and get the same rate, terms, and conditions as their neighbors. These residents will have to contact Energy Harbor to join the program, and they should review their current supply contracts to make sure there are no early termination fees.

The Village is pleased to have made this program possible but asks that you do not call the Village offices. They are not equipped to handle a large volume of calls. If residents have any questions, they should contact Energy Harbor at (866) 636-3749 after they receive their letter.



Phone: 330 995-2675  
Toll Free: 888 862-6060  
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[naturalgas-electric.com](http://naturalgas-electric.com)

be enrolled in the Village's program and you will not receive the program rate.

### **What happens if I do not send in the Opt-Out form?**

If you do not return the Opt-Out form postmarked by the required date, you will be included in the Village's Governmental Aggregation Program.

### **What are my energy supply choices if I decide to opt out?**

You can stay with your current electric utility, which will continue to supply your electricity as it always has. Or, you can shop for a new competitive electric supplier. A list of competitive electric suppliers certified by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio and their current prices is available by calling 1-800-686-PUCO (1-800-686-7826) or by visiting [www.energychoice.ohio.gov](http://www.energychoice.ohio.gov).

### **Will I get two bills?**

No. You will continue to receive one bill from Ohio Edison that shows their distribution charges and the supply charge from Energy Harbor.

### **Will I still receive a delivery charge from my local utility – Ohio Edison?**

Yes. Even though you have chosen a new supplier of electricity, Ohio Edison continues to deliver the electricity to our homes and businesses. Distribution charges and a flat monthly customer charge apply whether you choose a supplier on your own or remain supplied by Ohio Edison.

### **Can I stay on budget billing/equal payment plan or have my payment automatically deducted from my checking account as I do now?**

Yes, your local utility will continue to offer those programs. However, budget billing applies only to charges from the local utility. The budget billing program does not apply to your charges from Energy Harbor. On your monthly utility statement, you'll receive a charge from Energy Harbor for generation supply based on your actual usage and transmission.

### **Can I exit this program without penalty?**

You will be given an initial 21-day period to Opt-Out free of charge and then another 7-day period as soon as Energy Harbor enrolls you as their customer. Then, by law, you will be given a chance to Opt-Out free of charge at least once every 3 years. A nice feature of Hartville's program is that it enables you to leave free of charge at any time for any reason.

### **What if I move?**

There is no penalty from Energy Harbor for terminating your agreement if you move.

### **Who is eligible for the program?**

1. Your local utility company must be Ohio Edison;
2. You must be a resident or business owner located within the Village limits;
3. You must not be a PIPP (percentage of income payment program) customer;
4. You must not be in arrears on your bill payment;
5. You must not be a mercantile customer (electric commercial accounts using over 700,000 kWh/year); and
6. You must not be a commercial customer with a peak demand > 100kW.

### **How will I sign up for the program?**

There is no sign-up required. Residents, however, will have 21 days to Opt-Out of the program if they decide not to participate. An Opt-Out mailer will arrive from Energy Harbor explaining the rates, terms and conditions and means for Opting-Out. If you would like to remain in the program,



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simply do nothing and you will be enrolled.

**How did the Village develop such a program?**

We have retained Independent Energy Consultants, Inc., a PUCO certified broker and aggregator of electric and natural gas, without using any taxpayer money. They have designed, implemented, and administered hundreds of similar and successful gas and electric programs across Ohio. We will have their assistance and that of Energy Harbor throughout the program. We researched the process thoroughly and are pleased with the offer they negotiated. Independent Energy Consultants' efforts were instrumental in obtaining this offer for Hartville.

**Does the Village benefit from the program?**

Yes. The Village owned accounts are eligible to receive the program rate.

**Will small businesses, schools and churches be eligible?**

Small commercial accounts using less than 700,000 kWh/year and with a peak demand < 100 kW are eligible. Interested accounts using more than this amount, will need to call Energy Harbor to obtain this rate.

**Does this affect my distribution charges or the wires coming to my home?**

No. Customer Choice programs in Ohio provide residents the ability to choose an electric *supplier* other than the local utility company. Maintenance of the wires coming to a resident's home continues to be the responsibility of the homeowner.

**Can I opt out over the phone?**

Yes. You may call Energy Harbor toll free at 866-636-3749 to opt-out of the program.

**What is the toll-free number for questions?**

For answers to your questions, please call Energy Harbor at 866-636-3749, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Where can I learn more about electric deregulation and assistance programs?**

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has approved a number of additional assistance programs to help customers with their energy bills. You may be eligible to participate in other programs and this offer from Energy Harbor. Eligibility and enrollment information can be found on the PUCO's website at [www.puco.ohio.gov](http://www.puco.ohio.gov).