



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 6/26/17

Town of Nantucket to Launch Solar Rebate Program for Local Residents

NANTUCKET, MA— Beginning in July, the Town of Nantucket will launch a local Solar Rebate Program intended to stimulate the adoption of solar energy systems on primary, residential properties located on Nantucket. Rebates of up to \$2,500 will be provided to cover a portion of the costs of successfully-installed solar photovoltaic (PV) systems, making ownership more affordable for local residents.

Increasing the amount of local renewable energy will not only help to “green” the island’s electric supply, but will also reduce summer peak load and costly capacity charges, resulting in lower electric supply and distribution costs for Nantucket electric ratepayers, and specifically those participating in [Nantucket PowerChoice](#)—a municipal electric aggregation program launched in March 2017.

“We are excited to soon offer a local solar rebate program to Nantucket residents, which will provide a number of key benefits to both individual homeowners and the Nantucket community,” says Lauren Sinatra, Town Energy Coordinator. “The Solar Rebate is designed to absorb some of the premium costs of installing solar-PV systems on Nantucket, and align payback periods with those achieved off island. It is our hope this incentive will encourage more local residents to invest in renewable energy.”

The Solar Rebate Program will be funded through an extra 1/10th cent per kilowatt hour (kWh) that will be included in the **Nantucket PowerChoice** supply rate. As of July meter reads, aggregation participants will see a rate increase from 9.03 ¢/kWh to 9.13 ¢/kWh. The new rate remains less than National Grid’s current basic service rate of 9.432 ¢/kWh and equates to an 80¢/month increase for an average resident using 800kWh. On May 24, 2017, the Nantucket Board of Selectmen unanimously approved the establishment of the Solar Rebate Program by authorizing the 0.1 ¢/kWh price increase.

“We are quite proud to launch the Solar Rebate Program, as it is the first of its kind in the state. The solar program is a way to boost the amount of renewable energy on Nantucket, while helping to reduce electricity costs for local constituents. It is a clear win-win scenario, which we hope other communities will follow,” says Town Manager Libby Gibson.

Nantucket PowerChoice supports local renewable energy projects and maximizes consumer protections, all at a price at or below the average price of Basic Service power from National Grid. The program is part of the Town of Nantucket's efforts to promote a more sustainable energy future for Nantucket. Residents can opt out of Nantucket PowerChoice at any time.

For more information about the Solar Rebate Program, including rebate application, terms, and eligibility requirements, please visit: www.Nantucket-ma.gov/SolarRebate or direct questions to Lauren Sinatra, Energy Coordinator at LSinatra@nantucket-ma.gov, 508-325-5379.

###

Contact:

Lauren Sinatra

Energy Coordinator

Town of Nantucket

lsinatra@nantucket-ma.gov

(508) 325-5379