

Westchester Power: Top 10 Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. What is Westchester Power?** Westchester Power is a new energy program intended to provide choice and lower pricing for all Bedford residents and small businesses. It is also intended to accelerate the use of 100% renewable energy in Westchester County.
- 2. Who's participating?** Under the leadership of Sustainable Westchester, twenty Westchester municipalities, including the Town of Bedford, joined together to negotiate a bulk purchase of electricity on behalf of residents and small businesses.
- 3. Who are Constellation Energy and Con Edison Solutions?** After a competitive bidding process, two thoroughly vetted and reputable companies were selected to procure energy on behalf of Westchester Power: 1) **Constellation Energy**, a subsidiary of Exelon and a publicly traded company, for customers currently serviced by NYSEG. 2) **Con Edison Solutions**, a subsidiary of Con Edison, for customers currently serviced by Con Edison.
- 4. Does Westchester Power replace my utility?** No. While Westchester Power will procure your energy, you will still receive one electric bill and it will still come from Con Ed or NYSEG. Con Ed or NYSEG will still deliver your power and provide service for power outages.
- 5. How will this affect my rates?** The goal of the program is to provide fixed, stable rates that do not fluctuate on a monthly basis. As of today, Westchester Power rates are lower than last year's trailing 12-month average.
- 6. What are my choices?** 1) **Do nothing** and you will enjoy stable, lower rates and participate in bringing 100% renewable energy to Westchester County. 2) **Opt-out** and return to Con Edison or NYSEG as your electric power supplier. You can do so at any time without penalty.
- 7. How is Westchester Power providing 100% Renewable Energy?** Fourteen of the participating municipalities, including the Town of Bedford, choose 100% renewable sources, including solar, wind and hydro (no fossil fuels), for their default energy supply. The renewable energy procured on behalf of Westchester Power is certified by Green-e certificates and is a national product.
- 8. What if I have solar panels?** If you have rooftop or ground-mounted solar panels, you will be enrolled in Westchester Power like other residents and small businesses in participating communities. You will continue to receive net metering credits at the retail rate from Con Ed or NYSEG. If you use more power than your solar panels generate, that power will come from Westchester Power.
- 9. What if I already purchase energy from an Energy Supply Company (an ESCO)?** You can consider switching to Westchester Power by looking at the terms of your existing contract to see when it expires and what (if any) penalties apply for early termination. You can choose to terminate your contract with the ESCO and fill out an "opt in" form to join the Westchester Power program at any time.

10. How do I get more information about Westchester Power? The Town of Bedford is holding a public information session on the Westchester Power program at the Katonah Village Library on Wednesday, April 20th at 7:00pm. All are welcome. Detailed program information, including *frequently asked questions* and *Opt-in and Opt-out forms* are available at: www.westchesterpower.org.