



Township of Howell

(732) 938-4500 ext 2102

Manager's Office

Manager@twp.howell.nj.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT:

Julie Walsh, press contact for CUC

(609) 828-8981

jwalsh@commercialutility.com

Howell announces energy auction results:

Public meeting scheduled for July 15th

Howell, N.J. --- June 30, 2014 --- Howell residents will soon enjoy lower energy costs, as a result of an online auction for the township's home electricity needs.

State-licensed energy suppliers bid their lowest rates in the auction, conducted for Howell and two other municipalities by [Commercial Utility Consultants](#), Inc. (CUC), a leading energy consultant with 39 years of experience.

The winning bid came from TriEagle Energy LP. Each homeowner who participates in the program will see a savings in their cost of electricity. Cumulatively, Howell residents will save an estimated \$1,260,000 annually with the new rate.

JCP&L will continue to deliver residents' power, handle customer accounts, respond to outages and maintain service. The only changes are the energy *supplier* (the company that *provides* the energy), the lower energy costs, and the supplier information on your utility bill.

Under this state-supported process, known as [Government Energy Aggregation](#), Howell joined with Point Pleasant Beach and Farmingdale to boost each municipality's buying power.

"The energy auction was very successful, enabling our residents to save a significant amount of money in the coming months," said Mayor William J. Gotto. "There really is no downside, so we hope everyone will participate for their own benefit."

The change will take effect between late August and mid-September, Mayor Gotto noted. Any resident who does not wish to participate in the cost-saving program may opt out before July 23 (before the change occurs) or at any time thereafter, without any fee or penalty.

4567 Route 9 North Howell, NJ 07731-0580

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Public Meeting Planned

Representatives from [CUC](#) will attend the next Township Council meeting on July 15th at 6:30 pm to help explain the program to residents and answer their questions. The meeting will be held at its regular location: the Main Meeting Room on the 2nd floor of Town Hall, 4567 Route 9 North, Howell, NJ 07731. The Township will also be holding the following educational sessions:

- July 9th, 2:00 pm, at The Villages Clubhouse, on Dag Hammarskjold Boulevard
- July 17th, 11:00am, at The Senior Center, at 251 Preventorium Road

CUC is handling the entire energy project at no cost to the township, its partners or taxpayers. With offices in Barrington, N.J., the firm has helped many cities and hundreds of companies cut their energy costs.

“This is a natural outgrowth of our work helping towns lower their municipal power costs for many years,” said Nicholas Reynolds, chief operating officer for CUC. “Now we can provide similar benefits to the residents.”

Howell and its two partner towns are among the first in the state to implement Government Energy Aggregation (GEA). Created by the N.J. Board of Public Utilities and the Rate Counsel (formerly known as the Ratepayer Advocate), GEA is designed to help people take advantage of energy deregulation and cut energy costs.

“Aggregation” refers to customers who form a group to purchase energy.

“We’re proud to be one of the first New Jersey towns to help our residents in this way,” said Mayor Gotto. “I’m grateful to those who helped bring this project to fruition, including my colleagues at Town Hall and the staff of CUC. I look forward to helping our residents better understand this opportunity and take advantage of it.”

Under the terms of the auction, the new energy rates are guaranteed for 16 months, with no early cancellation fees, penalties or fine print. At the end of this period, another auction could be held. If JCP&L’s rates happen to drop below the new supplier’s rates, participating residents would be billed at the lower of the two rates.

All residents who have not already switched to a different (third-party) energy supplier will be automatically included. Anyone who has already chosen a third-party supplier will not be included in the program and will not receive any letters for opting out. If a resident wishes to join at a later date, they may contact CUC to do so.

Area businesses are not automatically included in the program, but may opt in.

For more information, please visit njaggregation.us or call CUC at (877) 292-3904.

Residents who wish to opt-out of the rate-lowering program can visit njaggregation.us or call (877) 292-3904.

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