PRESS RELEASE - AUGUST 2, 2019

MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP MAYOR AND COUNCIL UNVEIL NEW ENERGY AGGREGATION PROGRAM

On July 18, the Manchester Town Council awarded a competitive contract to **Constellation New Energy (Constellation)**. This program is authorized by the State, and gives the Township the ability to use bulk purchasing power to enter into contracts with third-party energy suppliers at a rate significantly lower than that charged by Jersey Central Power and Light (JCP&L). The contract with Constellation is our second Manchester Community Energy Aggregation (MCEA) contract and replaces the Township's original contract with TriEagle Energy that expired last month. This program saved Manchester residents more than \$4 million over the last two years. The contract with Constellation will run for a period of 24 months, beginning with the October 2019 billing. Throughout the new contract, JCP&L is still responsible for delivering the electricity to your residence as well as mailing all future bills.

In February 2019, the Township received proposals from energy companies to allow the town's Energy Aggregation program to continue after the TriEagle contract expired. The township received only one bid at a price that was 5% less than JCP&L's rate. The Council felt this bid did not offer enough savings for our residents, and the town repeated the process for new bids in June. On July 18th the town received bids from three energy providers, with Constellation having the lowest price at 8.11 cents per kilowatt hour (KWH). Not only was Constellation the lowest bidder at 10.5% lower than JCP&L's rate, they also received the highest customer satisfaction rating. The rebidding process delayed the continuity of Manchester's Energy Aggregation program, but will create larger savings for our residents.

The Township and Constellation will both be sending out information to all residents currently receiving their electricity from JCP&L. This includes all residents who were participating in the first contract with TriEagle. Additionally, the Township will hold several information meetings during August to provide additional information and answer any questions. All of the meeting dates have not yet been set, but will be advertised in local papers and on the Manchester Township website. In the meantime, there are several points to remember about this program, and some answers to frequently asked questions:

- 1. JCP&L is still responsible for the delivery of electricity to your home. If there is an outage or other problem, JCP&L is responsible to fix it.
- 2. You will still receive a single bill from JCP&L and send your payment to them. JCP&L will then pay Constellation.
- 3. If you are on a budget plan you will automatically be put on a budget plan by Constellation, at their lower rate.
- 4. If you are receiving any energy assistance funding from the state or other source, this program will have no effect on your assistance.
- 5. There are no hidden costs or fees, EVER. You can opt-in or out of the program at any time with no charge by either Constellation or JCP&L.
- 6. You will automatically be opted into the program. Unless you choose to opt-out, you will then receive a letter from JCP&L confirming that you have changed your provider to Constellation. If you do not receive this letter, you are not entered in the program.
- 7. This program is designed to save you 10.5% on the electric generation portion of your bill.

Please watch your mailbox for an envelope that looks like this.

Manchester's Community Energy Aggregation Program with Constellation Energy goes into effect on October 1, 2019.

Important information will be mailed to you in August.

