



PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

May 13, 2025

6:00 p.m.

The Whitehouse Village Council is encouraging citizens to consider accessing public meetings remotely. You may do so by phone at 1-567-318-0438. You will then be prompted to press the following Meeting ID 708107151#. You may also access the meeting online by going to the Village website at www.whitehouseoh.gov and clicking on the link from the home page. Please make sure you mute your microphone.

The Village of Whitehouse Council will conduct a Public Hearing at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, May 13, 2025, at Whitehouse Village Hall, 6925 Providence Street, Whitehouse, OH 43571, to allow for public comment on the following matter:

To Hear A Presentation From Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council (SOPEC) and To Permit Public Comments and Questions Regarding the Electric Aggregation Program Plan of Operation and Governance.

All interested parties are invited to be heard.

Jordan D. Daugherty
Municipal Administrator



SOPEC

Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council



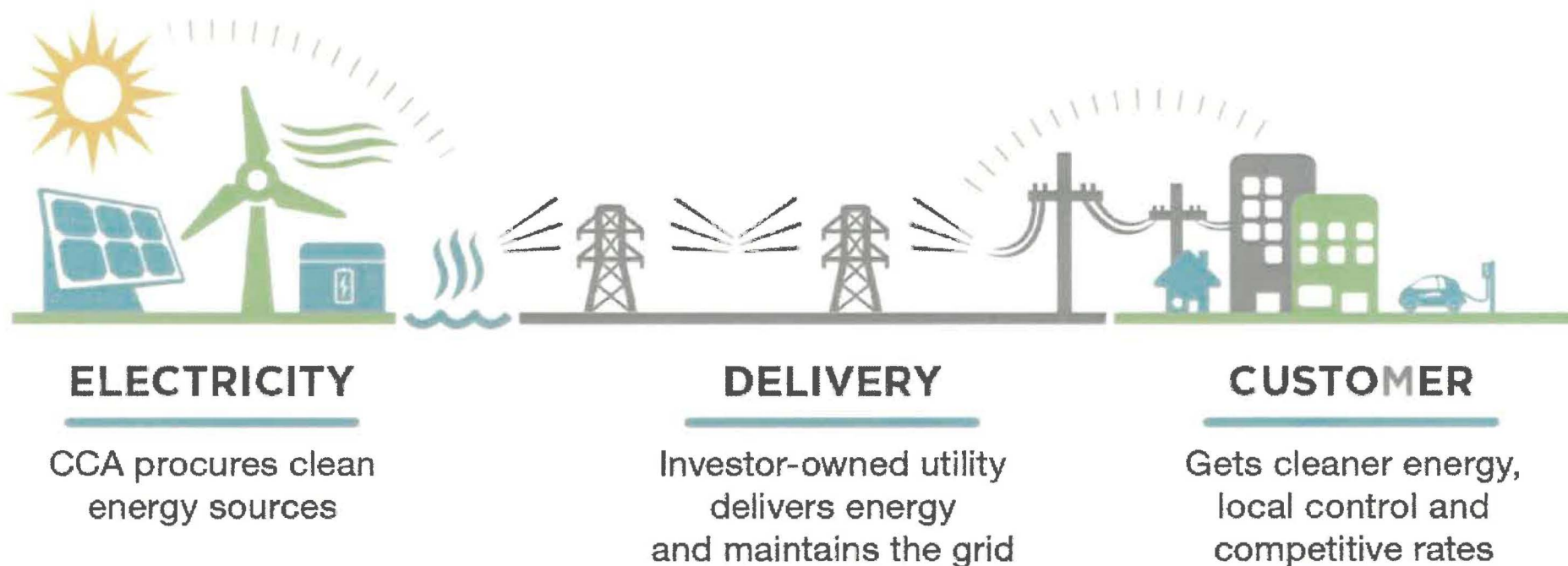
Electric Plan of Operation & Governance



SOPEC 

sopec-oh.gov

How Community Choice Aggregation Works



Section 4928.20(C) of Ohio Revised Code.

“Upon the applicable requisite authority under divisions (A) and (B) of this section, the legislative authority or board shall develop a plan of operation and governance for the aggregation program so authorized.

Before adopting a plan under this division, the legislative authority or board shall hold at least two public hearings on the plan.”

The Village of Whitehouse is holding the 2 required public hearings on:

May 13, 2025

&

May 20, 2025

Section 4928.20(C) of Ohio Revised Code.

“Before the first hearing, the legislative authority or board shall publish notice of the hearings once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the jurisdiction or as provided in section 7.16 of the Revised Code.”

About Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council

- **Regional Council of Governments under Chapter 167 of Ohio Revised Code:** provides public energy services to member communities, political subdivisions, nonprofits & faith based organizations, & other public agencies across Ohio.
- **Governed by the communities it serves:** General Assembly & Board of Directors made up of elected officials & representatives from member communities.
- **Formed to increase efficiency in local government:** Shared administrative, financial, grant writing, & legal services for high-value public energy programs & projects supporting sustainable communities.
- **Commitment to Renewable Energy:** SOPEC member communities' electric aggregation programs feature **100% renewable energy**.

- **SOPEC membership:** Now 40 communities & political subdivisions throughout Ohio, including Athens, Cleveland, Dayton, Gahanna, Marble Cliff, New Concord, Riverside, Upper Arlington, Dayton Metro Library, & Five Rivers MetroParks.
- **Collective buying power:** SOPEC is AEP Energy's 2nd largest customer in Ohio.
 - Over 1.2 TWh (1,200,000,000 kWh) per year of annual load.
- **Mission:** Provide simple, valuable, and reliable public energy programs that help our communities achieve their local energy and sustainability goals.
- **Transparency:** Subject to Public Records & Sunshine Laws. Audited every 2 years.

Introduction to the “Plan”

- Plan of Operation & Governance (the “Plan”) prepared by SOPEC for current members and any future members for SOPEC's governmental aggregation of electric customers.
- The Plan contains information on:
 - Structure,
 - Governance,
 - Operations,
 - Management,
 - Funding, and
 - Policies.
- The Plan is certified by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO).

Description & Goals of the Opt-Out Electric Aggregation Program

- Participation is **voluntary** for each individual customer in a member community.
- Individual customers will be notified of their inclusion in the Program and **will have the opportunity to decline service, or opt-out.**
- **Leverage the bargaining power** of a pool of customers.
- Secure clean and sustainable energy sources.
- Ensure quality & reliable customer service is provided.
- Advance economic & energy development goals.

Price & Program Stability

- SOPEC & AEP Energy have never terminated, canceled, or suspended an aggregation program prior to completion of engagement or expiration of full term.
- Fixed-term pricing for 1 to 3 years.
- SOPEC closely watches energy markets on daily basis & receive daily pricing information from AEP Energy.
 - Nimble & responsive to fast-moving energy market based on a commodity.
- **Competitiveness:** SOPEC team pays close attention to local utility auctions.

Opt-Out Electric Aggregation Program Process

- Who can participate?
 - Residential & small commercial electricity accounts.
 - Opt-out electric aggregation excludes the following categories of customers:
 - PIPP customers;
 - Anyone who has shopped for power (without rejoining program);
 - Large industrial customers; and
 - Anyone who opts-out during the program.

- Eligible residents & small businesses will receive an opt-out notice letter via U.S. mail.
- The initial opt-out period is 21 days.
 - However, you can choose to leave the program at any time.
 - SOPEC does not charge any early termination fees.
- Those that do not return the opt-out form within 21 days or do not call AEP Energy within the 21-day period to opt-out shall be automatically included in the Program.
- Customers can also join at any time for no fee.

Sample Opt-Out Notice Letter



PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
AEP ENERGY

PO Box 340
Zelienople, PA 16063-2300

Regarding Your Electricity Service



**Important Governmental
Aggregation Information Enclosed**



sopec-oh.gov



April 21, 2025

<First> <Last> or Current Resident

<Mailing Address>

<Mailing City>, <Mailing State> <Mailing Zip>

Dear <first> <last>:

Your community previously voted in favor of electric aggregation, a program authorizing your local officials to negotiate an electricity supply rate and terms from a retail electric service provider. The elected officials of the Village of McConneltsville represent you through SOPEC, a council of governments aggregator. AEP Energy is SOPEC's preferred electricity service provider that serves the community through the SOPEC Electric Aggregation Program. Join your neighbors in the program to begin enjoying the benefits!

How the Program Works:

1 This program is simple, and you do not need to do anything to enjoy the perks of the program. There is no cost to enroll and there are no switching fees.

2 Beginning with your next available meter read date, you will receive a fixed rate of \$0.09754 per kWh continuing until your June 2026 meter read date with 100% renewable energy.²

3 Your local utility, AEP Ohio will send you a confirmation letter after your enrollment has been completed.

4 Individual customers have the option to select a non-renewable product for the same term. To select this option, you should call 1-877-648-1937.

How to Opt Out of the Program:

We've got you covered, and you are automatically enrolled in the program. However, if you do not want to participate in the program, you must opt out by May 12, 2025. There are three ways to opt out:



Visit us online at
AEPenergy.com/McCon-optout



Call 1-877-648-1937
Monday - Friday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. ET



Mail form
Complete and mail the Opt Out
Election Form below.

For more information, please see the Frequently Asked Questions on the back of this letter.



Welcome to the SOPEC Electric Aggregation Program!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM
THE SUSTAINABLE OHIO PUBLIC ENERGY COUNCIL
AND AEP ENERGY REGARDING YOUR ELECTRICITY
SERVICE AT

<Service Address>

CUSTOMER CODE: <CUSTOMER CODE>

How You'll Benefit:

Fixed Pricing

Get price protection against fluctuating local utility rates.

Clean Energy & Sustainability

Shift to clean energy to help reduce emissions and improve our environment.

Convenience

Continue to receive and pay one bill from the local utility. Your local utility will continue to provide emergency and maintenance service.

Customer Choice

Get the same service with better rates. If you are not satisfied with the program, you can leave at any time without any fees.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the SOPEC Electric Aggregation Program? Under the SOPEC Electric Aggregation Program, SOPEC acts on behalf of its electricity consumers to select an electricity supply provider who, through the power of volume buying, is able to secure electricity at competitive prices. The PUCO has taken steps to ensure that Ohio's competitive electricity environment is consumer-friendly. Voters in each of the SOPEC member communities (including your community) approved this aggregation program and each SOPEC member community also passed an ordinance adopting SOPEC's Electric Aggregation program. SOPEC has selected AEP Energy as its preferred electricity supply provider to serve the residents of SOPEC's member communities beginning with your next available meter read date and will continue to your June 2026 meter read date.

Who is AEP Energy? AEP Energy is a certified Competitive Retail Electric Service (CRES) provider that provides electricity supply to customers at market-based prices rather than regulated rates offered by your local utility.

Why did SOPEC select AEP Energy as its provider? SOPEC selected AEP Energy because they were able to propose a program that in SOPEC's judgment, offered the best overall value for eligible households and businesses in SOPEC communities.

How do I enroll? You don't have to do anything to enroll. All eligible customers will be automatically included in the program unless you choose to opt out. If you opt out, you will continue to be served by AEP Ohio's standard service offer or until you choose an alternative electric service provider. However, if you do not respond to this letter, AEP Ohio will complete the enrollment process. **As a part of the enrollment process, you will also receive a notice from AEP Ohio confirming your decision to enroll with AEP Energy. Simply review the letter - if you are pleased with the SOPEC Electric Aggregation Program, simply ignore that letter.** No deposits are required to enroll.

Is budget billing available? A Budget Billing Plan is available for AEP Energy's charges (Generation charges) for residential customers only. The Budget Billing Plan levels your monthly payments to even out the seasonal highs and lows of your monthly bills. You'll have more certainty and can better manage your electricity expenses. Please visit www.AEPenergy.com for more information. Your local utility may also offer a Budget Billing Plan for all other charges not related to AEP Energy's charges.

Can I cancel at any time? Yes, you may cancel without penalty and switch to another provider or revert back to the local utility. Should you cancel your service with AEP Energy and return to standard offer service with your local utility, you may or may not be served under the same rates, terms and conditions that apply to other utility customers. At least every three years, AEP Energy will provide you notice of your ongoing right to opt out, rejoin or remain in the SOPEC Electric Aggregation Program.

If I opt out initially, can I choose to join the program at a later date? Yes, if you opt out initially and change your mind later on, you may join by calling AEP Energy at 1-877-648-1937. **There are no fees to join the program at a later date.**

What happens if I move? If you move to another location within the Village of McConneltsville, you will be able to continue participating in the program. If you leave the Village of McConneltsville, you will no longer be eligible to participate.

Is net metering available? Net metering is available to SOPEC customers. If you have on-site generation located on your premise and meet all the eligibility requirements, you can qualify for SOPEC's net metering billing program. During any billing cycle if your on-site generation exceeds your consumption, you will receive a credit for the excess generation multiplied by the locational marginal prices for the hours posted 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. During any billing cycle if your on-site generation does not exceed your



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Contact us

Learn more about SOPEC at www.sopec-oh.gov or by scanning the QR code.

support@sopec-oh.gov

740-597-7955

Follow us on social media!



sopec-oh.gov