



Renewable Communities

Massachusetts cities and towns
leading the way to 100% renewable energy

Cape Light Compact: Regional energy efficiency and clean energy programs

The Cape Light Compact (CLC) is a utility provider that has served communities on Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard since 1997, working to make energy efficiency and renewable electricity programs more accessible.

CLC offers free energy audits for residents and businesses.¹ After receiving an audit, customers can take advantage of a number of incentives and rebate programs to install technologies like heat pump water heaters, solar hot water systems, air source heat pumps, and efficient ENERGYSTAR appliances.²

The Compact also works closely with municipalities to reduce energy consumption. CLC has helped convert more than 15,000 street lights to efficient LEDs, which use 70% less energy than the previous fixtures.³ In Wellfleet, CLC provided incentives and guidance to make the new police and fire department buildings more efficient. The fire and rescue facility includes window shading, efficient insulation, and a solar hot water installation, which help reduce annual energy costs by approximately \$13,000.⁴

CLC has also worked to increase renewable electricity generation in the communities it serves. In June 2017, CLC announced its first low-income solar grant program. Grant recipients had 100% of the equipment and installation costs for their solar arrays covered.⁵

CLC's Local Green Power package allows customers to choose to choose 50% or 100% Class I renewable electricity for their homes and businesses. The renewable

electricity for this program comes from New England facilities, including solar installations on Cape Cod.⁶

In October 2018, CLC filed a proposal with the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (DPU) for its next three-year energy efficiency plan.⁷ CLC proposed to cover the cost for 700 customers to install battery storage systems, and provide increased incentives to install solar panels and heat pumps alongside energy storage. While the DPU rejected these programs, CLC will continue to offer special incentives for certain categories of customers to improve the efficiency of their homes and businesses.⁸

1. "Home Energy Assessments," Cape Light Compact, <<https://www.capelightcompact.org/home-energy-assessments/>>.

2. "Residential Rebates," Cape Light Compact, <<https://www.capelightcompact.org/home-energy-assessments/resrebates/>>.

3. "Energy Efficiency for Municipalities," Cape Light Compact, <<https://www.capelightcompact.org/municipal/>>.

4. "Energy Efficiency Programs in Action: Case Study: Wellfleet Fire and Rescue Facility," Cape Light Compact, <<https://3jy14ha9u771r7qzn35g0s6c-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/Case-Study-Wellfleet-Fire-Department.pdf>>.

5. "Cape Light Compact announces grant program for low income solar," Cape Light Compact, 21 June 2017, <<https://www.capelightcompact.org/low-income-solar-grant-program-announced/>>.

6. "Cape Light Compact announces local renewable power supply option," Cape Light Compact, 14 February 2019, <<https://www.capelightcompact.org/cape-light-compact-announces-local-renewable-power-supply/>>.

7. "Cape Light Compact Files Three-Year Energy Efficiency Plan," Cape Light Compact, 31 October 2018, <<https://www.capelightcompact.org/cape-light-compact-files-three-year-energy-efficiency-plan/>>.

8. "D.P.U. 18-110 through D.P.U. 18-119," Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities, 29 January 2019, <https://3jy14ha9u771r7qzn35g0s6c-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/18-110_through_18-119_Order_1-29-19.pdf>.