



## ***A Message from the Saugerties Town Board***

Dear Neighbors,

May 2021

You may have heard something about a new community energy program, CCA, but may not be sure what it is and why you should know about it. So, here's some information about CCA: how it works, how it benefits residents and small business owners, and why the Town Board and the Climate Smart Task Force support CCA, known formally as Community Choice Aggregation.

### **What is CCA?**

CCA is a NYS program for municipalities like Saugerties to put control of its energy supply in local hands. We will join with other Hudson Valley communities to pool electricity demand to obtain clean, 100% renewable energy. Pooling electricity demand gives the communities the clout to negotiate a good deal for residents and businesses who participate. When you buy in bulk, you get a better price.

### **What are the benefits of a CCA?**

- CCA provides 100% renewable energy for residents and small businesses.
- 100% renewable energy reduces Saugerties' carbon dioxide emissions by an estimated 32,000 metric tons annually.
- There is the potential for savings during the contract period negotiated by the CCA.
- The contract rate is fixed for the contract period. Central Hudson's rates vary month- to month.
- The energy is generated in New York State from solar, wind or hydropower.
- It's easy to participate. There are no contracts for you to sign. No forms to fill out. No fees.
- Enrollment is automatic. If you choose not to participate, you opt out.
- Central Hudson remains your utility, continues to deliver the electricity, sends one bill, maintains the lines, and responds to outages.

### **How does CCA work?**

- All eligible Town of Saugerties community members will receive a letter from the town in the mail with the fixed rate per kilowatt hour, the name of the energy supply company who won the bid, the agreed upon contract length with the CCA and supply company, when and how to opt out, and answers to other frequently asked questions.
- If you like what you are offered in the letter, you will be automatically enrolled. If not, opt out.

### **Why does the Town Board and the Climate Smart Task Force support CCA?**

- CCA provides many benefits for those who choose to participate.
- CCA's 100% renewable energy reduces Saugerties' carbon dioxide emissions by an estimated 32,000 metric tons each year of the contract.
- Consumers are protected because CCA is regulated by the NYS Public Service Commission.
- Joule Assets was selected by the Town Board to administer the program. Joule partners with the Hudson Valley Community Power program communities to procure the energy.
- Saugerties will join with nine of the Hudson Valley Community Power municipalities who formed a CCA with Joule Assets in 2019 and have been pleased and continue to participate.

You may still have some unanswered questions, so here is a phone number and an email address [info@HudsonValleyCommunityPower.com](mailto:info@HudsonValleyCommunityPower.com) 845-859-9099 to contact for more information.

The Saugerties Town Board *thanks you* for supporting the Town's renewable energy initiatives.