

## What is electric choice?

Connecticut has a restructured energy market, meaning companies can compete with the utility, and customers are empowered to shop for the supply portion of their energy bill.

In Connecticut, there are four types of charges that are typically broken out as “Supply,” “Transmission,” “Local Delivery,” and “Public Benefits” on your electric bill. Customers can shop and compare offers for the “Supply” portion of their bill and choose a supplier other than their local utility. Customers who do not actively shop are enrolled in the “default” or “standard” service supply provided by their local utility.

## What are some of the reasons for shopping?

**Price** – These services entail paying a price per kilowatt hour (kWh), which may fluctuate periodically throughout the year. Alternatively, customers can explore offers from competitive suppliers. They can opt for less expensive short-term rate contracts or choose to lock in a rate for a long-term contract, which might be slightly higher than their current rate but still lower than the rate that the utility will charge in the subsequent term.

**Renewable Energy** – In Connecticut, both utilities and competitive suppliers are required to source renewable energy for 35% (as of 2023) of the supply they offer to ratepayers. Additionally, certain competitive suppliers provide products with 100% renewable energy.

**Special products** – In competitive markets, companies can provide unique and innovative products and services based on a customer’s individual energy needs. Some examples of special products include free nights and weekends for residential electric vehicle charging, home warranty products, smart home devices, and digital tools to help customers control their energy usage.

## How to Shop

Using your utility bill, you can determine your current electric supply cost and price per kilowatt hour (kWh) by looking at “Your Supply Cost,” “Supplier Rate,” “Supply,” “Supply Charge,” or “Your Supplier Charge.” This price is then multiplied by the kWh’s you consume monthly to calculate your overall “supply” charge.

**Amount Now Due by 05/15/23** \$264.54

**Current Charges for Electricity**

Category	Amount
Supply	\$164.57
Transmission	\$23.70
Local Delivery	\$79.41
Public Benefits	\$11.36 cr

**Supply Cost Comparison**

Your supplier charge	\$164.57
Standard Service Comparison	\$196.07

**Your Supplier Information**

Supplier Rate: 21.9429¢/kWh Fixed Term: 6 Month(s) Expires: Jun 2023 Meter Read Jun Cycle rate: 21.9429¢/kWh

**How Your Use Changed**

This Month's Electric Use: 750 kWh

This month you used 10.23% more than at the same time last year.

**Amount now due by MM/DD/YY** \$196.57

**Current Charges for Electricity**

Category	Amount
Supply	\$96.12
Transmission	\$28.67
Local Delivery	\$59.09
Public Benefits	\$12.69

**Supply Cost Comparison**

Your Supply Cost	\$96.12
Standard Service Cost	\$96.34

**Your Supplier Information**

Supplier Rate: 23.79¢/kWh Fixed Term: 36 cycles Meter Read MM Cycle Rate: 23.79¢/kWh

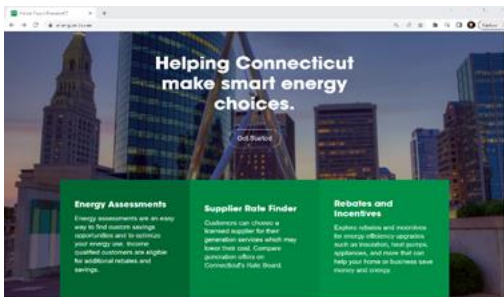
**How Your Use Changed**

This month you used 697 kWh

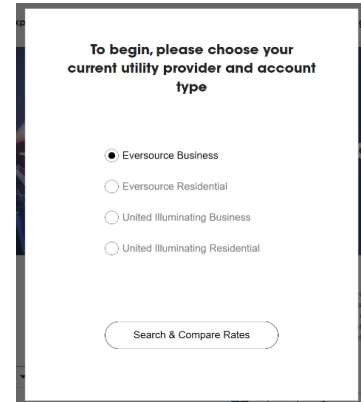
This month you used 6.7% more than at the same time last year

6.7% ↑ (BRACE)

2 Visit [www.EnergizeCT.com](http://www.EnergizeCT.com) and select “Supplier Rate Finder.”



3 From the pop-up on the next page, choose your utility with “Residential” after the name and click “Search and Compare Rates.”



4 On the “Rate Board” page, you’ll find a list of offers. Use the “Narrow Your Search” filters on the left side of the page to refine your search according to your preferences. Explanations of the filters are below.

### Narrow Your Search:

**Utility**

Eversource

**Account Type**

Residential

**Supplier**

Supplier

**Current Monthly Usage**

750 kWh

**Additional Filters**

**Minimum RECs**

33% 50% 75% 100%

**Maximum Rate**

0 10 20 30 40 50 50 ¢

**Type of offer**

Fixed

Fixed-Tiered

**Term of Offer**

Term of Offer

**Acceptable Fees**

Enrollment Fee

**Utility** – If you haven’t already chosen your local utility from the pop-up on the previous page, select it here. This will show the utility’s rate at the top of the search results.

**Supplier** – To view only offers from or filter specific suppliers out of your search results, you can select those here.

**Current Monthly Usage** – The estimated energy costs and savings in the results are calculated based on the average home’s monthly usage of 750 kWh. If you wish to customize this number according to your specific energy consumption, you can locate your precise usage details on your utility bill under the section “Usage History.”

**Minimum REC’s** – All electricity sold in Connecticut includes a mandatory minimum amount of 35% renewable energy credits. Use this to filter for offers with a higher renewable energy percentage than the minimum.

**Maximum Rate** – Moving the toggle to the left or right will filter out offers up to a certain rate per kWh.

**Type of Offer** – Fixed rates remain constant for the length of the contract. These rates are structured in tiers and remain unchanged for a minimum of four billing cycles. Then, change to another fixed rate for at least four billing cycles or for the remainder of the contract.

**Term of Offer** – This is the length of the contract. Contract terms and price adjustments commence based on your meter reading date. It’s advisable to enroll or switch at least ten business days before your next meter reading date. You can find the next meter reading date on your utility bill. For UI customers, it’s typically found in the “Your Account Information” section, while for Eversource customers, it’s typically presented in the blue box alongside your Meter Number and current read information.

**Acceptable Fees** – In Connecticut, there are no early termination fees. Some contracts will have an enrollment fee. This fee and the amount will be noted in the search results.

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On the right side of the page, you can use the sort function to order the results from top to bottom.

“Supply Rate” will sort from least to highest cost per kWh. “Supplier” will sort the supplier offers by name in alphabetical order. “Energy Certificates” will sort the offers by the renewable energy makeup of the supply.

Your “Standard Service” will always remain at the top for reference.

Consider upcoming rate increases that have been announced by your utility and what your utility rate will be in the coming months.

Once you have decided on your offer, click “Enroll Now,” and you will be directed to the supplier’s website.

If you are not immediately directed to a page with the offer you selected, review the supplier’s available offers and select the exact product you chose on the Energize CT website.

Viewing 1 - 6 of 15 Results

Sort Results: Supply Rate ▼

EVERSOURCE Eversource - Standard Service		
<b>Offer Rate</b> 24.17¢ per kWh  <i>Compare savings and/or additional costs below</i>  <b>Monthly Cost</b> \$181.29 at 24.17¢ per kWh  <a href="#">View Offer Details</a>	<b>Plan Description</b> Fixed Jan. 1st - June 30th  <b>Energy Certificates</b> 35.0% RECs Exceeds CT's requirement	Fixed until June 30, 2023.  <a href="#">Enroll Now</a>
Constellation Constellation NewEnergy, Inc. <input type="checkbox"/> Compare & print		
<b>Offer Rate</b> 16.59¢ per kWh  ↓ \$56.87 / less per month  <b>Monthly Cost</b> \$124.42 at 16.59¢ per kWh  <a href="#">View Offer Details</a>	<b>Plan Description</b> Fixed 36 Billing Cycles  <b>Energy Certificates</b> 33.0% RECs Meets CT's requirement	<a href="#">Enroll Now</a>
Direct Energy Direct Energy <input type="checkbox"/> Compare & print		
<b>Offer Rate</b> 16.89¢ per kWh  ↓ \$54.62 / less per month  <b>Monthly Cost</b> \$126.67 at 16.89¢ per kWh  <a href="#">View Offer Details</a>	<b>Plan Description</b> Fixed 33 Billing Cycles New Customers & Online Enrollment  <b>Energy Certificates</b> 33.0% RECs Meets CT's requirement	<a href="#">Enroll Now</a>

Carefully review the terms and conditions before signing up. You will still receive your bill from your local utility. If you are in the middle of a billing cycle, your updated rate and supplier information will be reflected on the bill following your next meter read.

### Additional Considerations:

- Automatic Renewal** – An automatic renewal will renew your contract with the same supplier. However, that product may no longer be available, and the renewal may include different terms or a different price. Your supplier is required to provide a renewal notice and renewal terms for your review prior to the expiration of the original contract. This will include any updated terms, including changes to your rate.
- How to Cancel** – If you want to return to utility service, you must contact your retail energy supplier to cancel the contract. If you want to switch suppliers, you do not need to call your current supplier to cancel. Simply enroll with the new supplier, and you will be switched in your next billing cycle.

### **Smart Shopper Tips:**

- When you sign up with a new supplier, note the contract end date and set a reminder on your calendar well in advance of that date to review the terms of the contract (if it will be automatically renewed) or shop for a new supplier.
- Despite being on a long-term contract, it's recommended to regularly monitor the Energize CT site monthly. This allows you to stay informed and potentially discover more favorable offers that may better suit your needs.
- If you are shopping for cost savings, consider your local utility's upcoming rate changes (typically in the winter and summer) in addition to the current rates. Many suppliers provide long-term, fixed-rate contracts. While the price might not be lower than the current utility rate, it may be lower than the utility rate in the upcoming term and worth switching for future savings.

### **Unhappy with your Service?**

If you find yourself dissatisfied with the service provided by your supplier or note discrepancies between the rate you agreed upon and the rate you're currently paying, start by reviewing the terms outlined in your contract and reaching out to your supplier directly. Should you encounter difficulties in resolving the issue with the company, you have recourse to state resources below for further assistance.

Contact:

[Connecticut Office of Consumer Counsel](#)

10 Franklin Square  
New Britain, CT 06051  
860-827-2900  
[occ.info@ct.gov](mailto:occ.info@ct.gov)

[Public Utilities Regulatory Authority](#)

10 Franklin Square  
New Britain, CT 06051  
800-382-4586  
[pura.information@ct.gov](mailto:pura.information@ct.gov)

### **About this Guide**

The Retail Energy Advancement League developed this guide to provide customers with valuable insights into the advantages of selecting a competitive electric supplier and equipping them with the knowledge to make well-informed decisions within the market.

If you have any questions, please email [info@retailenergychoice.org](mailto:info@retailenergychoice.org).