



## April, 2023 Claridon News & Notes

Hello Claridon!

I've received many calls about NOPEC and what should residents do. As I posted in my last Claridon News & Notes, it was a big part of our agenda at our last trustee meeting. We learned a lot. I did further research post meeting. I discovered that we won't be able to switch aggregate companies in any kind of timely fashion. That doesn't mean I'm not moving forward because we want to get to a point that IF we wanted to shop for and change aggregate companies, everything will be lined up for us to do so. It's prudent to be ready.

### WHY ARE WE AN AGGREGATE COMMUNITY?

In 2001, Claridon voters said yes to being an aggregate community for electric. Because of that, we must continue to be an aggregate community for electric. The ballot language did not say we must sign up with any particular aggregate company. This does not mean that residents have to be with the same company as the township. Resident's can do whatever they want however, if you are currently with NOPEC and you want to switch your provider, you must opt out of NOPEC or sign up with another company. In 2004, Claridon voters said yes to being an aggregate community for natural gas so the same applies.

### WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS

There are several options for residents. You can stay with NOPEC or you can shop around. I've been told if you sign a contract with another provider, you will automatically be opted out of NOPEC. For your convenience, I found one provider, Direct Energy, who is offering a 19 month guarantee at 6.19/Kwh.

NOPEC, starting June 23, will be 6.45/Kwh guaranteed for 6 months. I am **not** promoting the Direct Energy. I'm simply getting information out to you. Here is the link to the provider and below, for comparison sake, is the link to Energy Choice Ohio which lists all providers for comparison shopping. When you are on this website, you can click on 'Sign up' below the company. That will bring you to their website. You will usually have to type in your zip code. The site will usually list all the deals they are offering. When viewing the list, be sure to pay attention to early termination fees and monthly fees. Some companies have them and some don't. **IMPORTANT:** It's highly advisable that towards the end of any offer, have your calendar marked to remind you to discover what the next round of costs will be.

<https://www.directenergy.com/ohio/electricity-plans>  
<https://energychoice.ohio.gov/ApplesToApplesComparison.aspx?Category=Electric&TerritoryId=6&RateCode=1>

#### WILL CLARIDON SWITCH FROM NOPEC TO SOMEONE ELSE

Even if we wanted to, it wouldn't happen for quite a while. There are rules which include mandatory processing times. The good news is, according to NOPEC, residents can opt-out anytime during the 6 month period with now change fee or opt-out fee. I've asked NOPEC to share fixed rates they've been working on for after the 6 month period. I will share that with you as soon as they share it with me.

NOPEC said they sent out Opt-Out letters. They said they are being sent only to households that will be automatically re-enrolled into NOPEC. They said to respond only if you want to opt out of NOPEC. I have not seen this letter yet. Be aware because you may perceive it as junk mail.

As usual, please contact me with any questions.

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