

# What you need to know about the Pierce Township Aggregation Program.



We are pleased to announce that Pierce Township is providing you with an opportunity to join other citizens to gain “buying power” on your electric rates. On November 6, 2018, your community will have the issue of electric aggregation on the ballot. **By voting FOR electric aggregation, you will allow your locally elected officials to purchase electric generation at a discounted rate for your community.** This letter will provide answers to questions most frequently asked by residents. To ask additional questions, a town hall meeting has been scheduled. **The meeting will take place October 9<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00pm at the township hall, 950 Locust Corner Road, in Pierce Township.** A representative from the Township’s energy consultant, Trebel, will be present to answer questions.

## FACTS about AGGREGATION

- **Aggregation = More Choice**

Approval by voters provides more choice to decide what’s best for your electric and gas needs.

- **Opt-In or Out At Any Time**

Aggregation programs simply give you more choices when it comes to your utilities. Participation is completely voluntary and there are no contracts or added fees.

- **No Interruption of Service**

Simple as that. Whether you opt-in or opt-out, your service continues as usual. No change.

**Voting for aggregation does not mean you have to participate. If you have already chosen an alternate supplier and aggregation is approved by the voters you will stay with your chosen supplier. You will have the option to join the aggregation program when you decide it’s best. It’s your choice.**

**TOWN HALL MEETING  
October 9th, 6:00pm  
Pierce Township Hall  
950 Locust Corner Rd.,  
Cincinnati, OH 45245**

## Questions?

See the back side for additional information about your aggregation program. You can also contact us at the number below and we will be glad to speak with you.

**1-877- 861-2772** Monday-Friday 8am-5pm.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

### Q. What is aggregation?

A. Governmental aggregation is an easy and effective way for a large group of consumers to save money on their energy bills. Under governmental aggregation, local officials bring citizens together to gain group buying power for the purchase of competitively priced electricity or natural gas from a retail generation supplier certified by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio.

### Q. How is my community able to choose a certified generation supplier on my behalf?

A. Residents must vote to allow the community to contract for a certified generation supplier on their behalf.

Example Ballot Question: "Shall the Township of Pierce have the authority to aggregate the retail electric loads located in the township of Pierce, and for that purpose, enter into service agreements to facilitate for those loads the sale and purchase of electricity, such aggregation to occur automatically except where any person elects to opt out?"

### Q. How do residents join a governmental aggregation program?

A. First, the governmental aggregation issue must be placed on the ballot and then passed by a majority of the voters. Once passed, all eligible residents and small businesses in the community will be enrolled and will begin receiving the discounted generation pricing under the program. Residents do not need to do anything to join the program. However, anyone who does not want to participate in the program can easily opt out by returning a form, which will be mailed to all eligible members.

### Q. What does opt-out mean?

A. "Opt out" means that you can decide not to participate in your community's governmental aggregation program. By returning the opt-out form, sent to you approximately 90-120-days AFTER approval, by the opt-out deadline you will not be enrolled as an electric or natural gas generation customer with your community's competitive generation supplier, and you will not receive the discount.

### Q. What happens if I do not send in the opt-out form?

A. Governmental aggregation is designed so it is easy for residents to participate. So, if you do not return the opt-out form postmarked by the due date, you will be included in the community's governmental aggregation program and will begin receiving competitively priced electricity or natural gas from the community's competitive generation and or transmission supplier.

### Q. Can I opt-out of the program at a later date?

A. Yes, once enrolled. PUCO rules require you receive a notice every three years (electric), two years (natural gas) asking if you wish to remain in the program. If your local aggregation term ends prior to the PUCO requirement, you will be given an opportunity to opt out at that time. However, you can leave the program at any other time for any reason with no cancellation fee from the supplier.

### Q. What are my energy supply choices if I decide to opt out?

A. You can stay with your current utility who will place you with a supplier of their choice, and will continue to supply your electricity or natural gas as it always has, or you can shop for an alternative generation supplier.

### Q. What if I've already selected an alternative generation supplier?

A. Voting for aggregation does not mean you have to participate. If you have already chosen an alternate supplier and aggregation is approved by the voters you will stay with your chosen supplier and you will not be sent an Opt-out letter. Again, since you are currently in a contract we simply remove you from the program at the beginning. You will have the option to join the aggregation program when you decide its best, the choice is yours.

### Q. If I join the community's electric aggregation program, who will deliver my power, read my meter and respond to emergencies, such as power outages?

A. Your local electric utility will be responsible for the delivery of power to your home or business. Since your local electric utility still owns the wires and poles that deliver power to you, it will continue to read your meter and restore power after an outage. The aggregation program will have no impact upon the reliability of service you receive. The same goes for natural gas.

### Q. How will billing be handled?

A. You will receive one bill from the utility that contains your charges for distribution and maintenance service from the utility as well as the new supplier charges for generation and/or transmission. Depending on the Supplier chosen for your program you can remain on budget billing. However not all Suppliers offer budget billing at this time. If a supplier is chosen that does not offer budget billing then your total charges with the new supplier will fluctuate from month to month according to your usage. You can continue to budget the utilities portion of the bill.