

February 15, 2023

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio Docketing Division, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor 180 East Broad Street Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

# RE: Electric Governmental Aggregation Opt-Out Notice for the City of Barberton (Case Number 01-0736-EL-GAG)

Attached please find the Opt-out Aggregation Notice being sent to newly eligible residential and commercial accounts in Barberton's Electric Aggregation Program. Please file this under Case number 01-0736-EL-GAG.

The mailing is currently scheduled to begin on or after March 1, 2023 and the opt-out period is currently scheduled to end on or after March 22, 2023. Energy Harbor is the supplier to the program and the local utility company is Ohio Edison.

Independent Energy Consultants, Inc. is providing aggregation consulting services to Barberton and is filing this letter on their behalf.

If you have any additional needs or questions, please call me at 330-995-2675 or email me at <u>eburns@naturalgas-electric.com</u>

Sincerely,

Eric & Burns

Eric Burns Director, Aggregation & Sales

Attachments

### **City of Barberton**

**Community Electric Aggregation Notification** 

#### Dear Resident or Small Business,

Welcome to your community's electric aggregation program. In November 2000, members of your community voted in favor of government aggregation, a program authorizing your local officials to purchase electricity from an electric generation supplier certified by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. Your community has selected Energy Harbor to be your electric service provider.

#### **How You Benefit**

By participating in the aggregation program, you will receive the following exclusive pricing through: May 2025

	Your Electric Utility	Fixed Price	Current Term End*	Early Termination Fee
Residential	Ohio Edison	4.97 cents per kWh	May 2024	None
Small Business	Ohio Edison	4.97 cents per kWh	May 2024	None

#### Same Reliable Service

You will continue to receive a single, easy-to-read bill from your local electric utility with your Energy Harbor charges included. There is no cost for enrollment, you will not be charged a switching fee, and **you do not need to do anything to participate**.

#### **Opt Out Information**

You may choose to leave the program at any time, without penalty, and will NOT be charged a cancellation fee. If you do not want to participate in the aggregation program, you must complete one of the following by the Opt Out Deadline:

- MAIL: Return the enclosed Opt Out Reply Form
- PHONE: Call Energy Harbor at 1-866-636-3749 to opt-out over the phone
- WEB: Enter your 10-digit Opt Out Code online at <u>energyharbor.com/opt-out</u>

\*Per Ohio law, you will be presented with the opportunity to opt out at least every 3 years. At the end of your current term, you'll receive a new notice extending your exclusive pricing. You may opt out again, rejoin, or remain in the program.

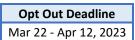
#### **Enrollment Information**

Following the opt out deadline, future bills will reflect the Energy Harbor price listed above upon your next available meter read date, which may take up to 30-45 days. If you are not currently receiving electric generation from Energy Harbor, your electric utility will send you a letter confirming your participation. **To become a member of your community's electric aggregation program, you don't need to take any action when this letter arrives.** 

Please refer to the enclosed Terms and Conditions and FAQs (reverse) for more information. Your community encourages members with questions regarding the electric aggregation program to contact Energy Harbor directly. If you have any questions or wish to opt out, please contact us toll-free at 1-866-636-3749, Monday - Friday, 8 am to 5 pm.

Sincerely,

**City of Barberton** 





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

Under government aggregation, local officials bring citizens together to gain group buying power for the purchase of competitively priced electricity from a retail electric generation supplier certified by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO). Residents voted to allow the community to contract with an electric generation supplier on their behalf. Your community has selected Energy Harbor to provide you with exclusive pricing on your electric generation.

#### Who is Energy Harbor?

Energy Harbor is a fully integrated retail energy provider and independent power producer capable of generating substantial carbon-free energy. Headquartered in Akron, Ohio, the company proudly serves nearly one million residential, commercial, and industrial customers in Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Illinois and Michigan. Your community is one of over 200 who have chosen Energy Harbor to provide electric aggregation programs.

#### What does it mean to have a fixed or variable price?

This notification states if your price is fixed or variable. With a fixed price, the price you will receive each month does not change. With a variable price, Energy Harbor provides a set % off discount each month regardless of the utility price. Because the actual price per kWh charged by your utility may change each month, your price per kWh from Energy Harbor will also vary, but your % discount is guaranteed to remain the same.

#### How will I know if I can save money in the aggregation?

You'll know you are saving money as long as your price with Energy Harbor is lower than the utility Price to Compare (PTC) communicated on your bill. To calculate your savings on a % off discount, locate the PTC on your electric bill. Divide your PTC by 100, then multiply it by the % discount (ex: 6% = 0.06) to determine your savings per kWh. Multiply this by your total monthly usage for an average monthly savings estimate.

#### Why am I receiving this letter if I'm in the aggregation?

As a current member of your community's electric aggregation program, you are given the opportunity to opt out of the program at least every three years. Whether your current contract term with Energy Harbor, or another supplier, is coming to an end, this is your opportunity to either opt out or continue the benefits of the program.

#### What does it mean to opt out?

Opt out means that you can decide to not participate in your community's electric aggregation program. If you chose to opt out via any of the methods indicated on the front of this notification, you will not be enrolled with Energy Harbor and will not receive further notifications until the end of the current term.

#### What happens if I do not opt out?

Whichever method you chose, you must do so by the Opt Out Deadline, or you will be automatically included in your community's electric aggregation program.

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

Yes, you may leave the aggregation program at any time. *You will not be charged an early termination or cancellation fee* if you choose to leave the program at later date for any reason.

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

If you opt out or leave the program at a later date you will be returned to your utility's standard service offer and might not be served under the same rates, terms, or conditions that apply to other customers served by the electric utility. You may also shop for an alternative generation supplier. A list of competitive electric suppliers certified by the PUCO and their current prices are available by calling 1-800-686-PUCO (7826).

## As part of the aggregation, will Energy Harbor continue or allow me to begin to budget bill my supplier charges?

For customers in Toledo Edison, The Illuminating Company, Ohio Edison and Duke Energy your utility includes supplier charges in the monthly budgeted amount. No action is necessary to continue that service. However, Energy Harbor will not automatically budget the generation portion of your electric bill in AEP Ohio and AES Ohio service areas. AEP Ohio and AES Ohio will continue to budget the delivery portion of your bill. If you are currently on, or enter into, a budget billing program with AEP Ohio or AES Ohio after enrolling with Energy Harbor and have at least 10 months of usage with Energy Harbor at your current service address, please call 1-866-636-3749, to determine if a budget billing offer through Energy Harbor is available in your community.

## Can I still have my payment automatically deducted from my checking account as I do now?

Yes. How you pay your electric bill will not change.

#### Who is not eligible for an electric aggregation program?

Customers on a special arrangement with the utility such as net-metering, Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP), and mercantile customers who have not provided affirmative consent to join are not eligible for the program. Mercantile and customers with usage greater than 700,000 kWh must contact Energy Harbor to opt-in to the program.

#### How can I contact Energy Harbor for questions?

If you have any other questions, please call 1-866-636-3749, Monday - Friday, 8 am to 5 pm or visit our FAQs located at: www.energyharbor.com/communityaggregation

CITY OF BARBERTON OPT OUT REPLY FORM			Mail	Return This Form
Option 1: Do Nothing to Join	OR	Option 2: Opt Out by: Mar 22 - Apr 12, 2023	Phone	1-866-636-3749
<b>MAIL TO:</b> Community Electric Aggregation	n Opt-Out	c/o Energy Harbor, PO Box 3500, Akron, Ohio 44309		
Account Holder Signature:			Web	energyharbor.com/optout



Government Aggregation – Electric Terms and Conditions				
Product	Fixed Price			
Electric Distribution Utility ("EDU")	Ohio Edison Company			
Price and Length of Agreement	4.97 ¢/kWh through your May 2024 meter read			
Cancellation/Termination Fee	None			

These Terms and Conditions apply to you because you are enrolling for electric generation service with Energy Harbor LLC ("Energy Harbor") through either (a) affirmative consent or (b) not opting out of your community electric aggregation program. If you enroll by affirmative consent, these Terms and Conditions and the enrollment information on the website are your Agreement ("Agreement"). If you choose to remain in the community aggregation program by not "opting-out" or exercising the right of rescission, these Terms and Conditions and your opt-out notification are your Agreement. <u>Please keep a copy of this Agreement for your records.</u>

Energy Harbor is certified by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("PUCO") to offer and supply electric generation services in Ohio. As a Competitive Retail Electric Service ("CRES") provider, Energy Harbor will supply the electric generation to your Electric Distribution Utility ("EDU") based on your usage. Your EDU then distributes or delivers the electricity to you. Energy Harbor sets the generation prices and charges that the customers pay. The PUCO regulates distribution prices and services.

**Definitions:** Generation Charge – Charge for the production of electricity. Transmission Charge – Charge for moving high voltage electricity from a generation facility to the distribution lines of the EDU. Distribution Service – Basic service for delivering electricity over a distribution system to a customer from the transmission system.

**Right of Rescission**: If you do not opt-out or you give your affirmative consent and are enrolled to receive generation service from Energy Harbor, your EDU will send you a confirmation letter. You have the right to rescind your enrollment within seven (7) calendar days following the postmark date of the confirmation letter by contacting the EDU by telephone or in writing as described in the letter. The Right of Rescission only applies when a customer switches to a generation supplier and not on renewal enrollments. Your EDU will not send a confirmation notice upon any renewal of this Agreement. Should you choose to opt-out of your community's program, you will be served by your EDU's standard service offer established pursuant to section 4928.14 of the Ohio Revised Code ("ORC") unless you choose an alternate supplier of electricity.

Eligibility: Only eligible residential and small commercial customer accounts not enrolled in the Percentage of Income Plan Program ("PIPP") may enroll in this offer from Energy Harbor. Net-metered customers are not eligible for this offer. Energy Harbor reserves the right to refuse enrollment to any customer with an outstanding balance.

**Basic Service Prices:** During the term of this Agreement, you agree to pay Energy Harbor a price for combined Generation and Generation Related Charges ("Retail Electric Service"), specified in the table above. Your Price to Compare ("PTC") consists of bypassable transmission, generation and transmission and generation related components, which are charges associated with the costs of purchased power and the cost to deliver the power through the transmission system. These are the charges that you would avoid for that billing period when you switch to Energy Harbor. If your product in the table above is a % Off PTC product, your monthly price per kWh will vary because the EDU's PTC may change based on any changes made by the EDU in its calculations. In addition to Energy Harbor 's charges, you will be charged by your EDU for distribution and various other charges. Your price may also include a fee assessed by a broker or agent representing your community.

Length of Agreement: As a part of your community's program, your Retail Electric Service from Energy Harbor will commence with the next available meter reading and after processing of the enrollment by your EDU and continue through the term indicated in the table above. The program may be terminated prior to the term pursuant to the terms of the master agreement between Energy Harbor and your community for the aggregation program. Should the program be terminated, you will be returned to your EDU's standard service offer or its successor. In the event that (1) the PUCO approves or implements a phase-in credit for generation and/or transmission charges of the EDU or takes any other action which affects the PTC or otherwise does not allow the EDU to reflect the full cost to procure generation and transmission in the PTC or other regulatory action; or (2) there is any change in any statute, rule, regulation, order, law, or tariff promulgated by any court, governmental authority, utility, Independent System Operator ("ISO"), Regional Transmission Organization ("RTO") or other service provider, or any change in operating procedure, which alters to the detriment of Energy Harbor its costs to perform under this Agreement, you may receive a notification from Energy Harbor. This notification will include a description of one or more of the situations described above. Energy Harbor may offer you new Terms and Conditions. You must indicate your affirmative consent to the new Terms and Conditions as specified in the notices. If you do not contact Energy Harbor to accept the new terms, this Agreement will terminate on the date specified in the notices, and you may be returned to your EDU for Retail Electric Service. Alternatively, Energy Harbor may decide to terminate this Agreement, and you will receive prior written notice of the termination, after which you may be returned to your EDU for Retail Electric Service. Whether Energy Harbor offers you new terms or terminates this Agreement under this provision, you will not be

**Billing:** You will receive a consolidated bill monthly from your EDU for both your Energy Harbor and EDU charges. If you do not pay your bill by the due date, Energy Harbor may cancel this Agreement after giving you a minimum of fourteen (14) days written notice. Upon cancellation you will be returned to your EDU as a customer. You will remain responsible to pay Energy Harbor for any electricity used before this Agreement is cancelled, as well as any late payment charges, if applicable. Your EDU may charge you switching fees. Energy Harbor reserves the right to convert you from consolidated billing to dual billing if such a conversion will facilitate more timely billing, collections, and/or payment. Furthermore, your failure to pay EDU charges may result in your electric service being disconnected



in accordance with the EDU tariff. If you have 12 months of billing history and you are enrolled in budget billing with the EDU, you are eligible to enroll in a budget billing program once per year, where available. At the end of the contract term, you are responsible for payment of any outstanding balance upon final contract true up. Energy Harbor reserves the right to adjust your monthly budget amount prior to final contract true up. If you enroll in budget billing, then choose not to be in the program or if you become two consecutive monthly payments overdue, you will be removed from budget billing, your account will be reconciled, and you will be billed for the outstanding budget balance on your next billing cycle. Budget billing exclusive offers are not available for all aggregation programs and you will not be automatically enrolled in an Energy Harbor budget billing exclusive offer unless explicitly stated in the opt-out notification materials you receive as part of the program. If you meet the eligibility requirements, contact Energy Harbor to determine if an exclusive budget billing offer exists for your community, otherwise, your EDU may be responsible for maintaining your budget billing service.

**Penalties, Fees and Exceptions:** If you do not pay the full amount owed Energy Harbor by the due date of the bill, Energy Harbor reserves the right to charge a 1.5% per month late payment fee.

**Cancellation/Termination Provisions:** You may terminate this Agreement at any time without penalty. Customer and Energy Harbor both agree that the following will constitute force majeure events under this Agreement and that Energy Harbor shall have the right to terminate or modify the agreement without liability if: (1) the Electric Security Plan (ESP), Market Rate Offer (MRO) and/or Competitive Bid Process (CBP), or other generation procurement process results in a Price to Compare ("PTC") that is equal to or less than the comparable annualized generation and transmission rates and riders in effect as of the effective date of this Agreement, or (2) the PUCO approves or implements a phase-in credit for generation and/or transmission charges of the EDU or takes any other action which affects the PTC or otherwise does not allow the EDU to reflect the full cost to procure generation and transmission in the PTC or other regulatory action. In the event that the program is terminated, you will be returned to your EDU's standard service offer. Upon termination with Energy Harbor and return to standard service offer with your EDU, you may not be served under the same rates, terms, and conditions that apply to other EDU customers.

**Customer Consent and Information Release Authorization:** By choosing not to opt-out of your community's aggregation program, or to affirmatively join it, you understand and agree to the terms and conditions of this Agreement with Energy Harbor. You authorize Energy Harbor to obtain information from the EDU that includes, but is not limited to: billing history, payment history, historical and future electricity usage, meter readings, and characteristics of electricity service. Energy Harbor reserves the right to determine if your credit standing is satisfactory before accepting your enrollment request. This Agreement shall be considered executed by Energy Harbor following acceptance of your enrollment request by Energy Harbor, the end of the seven (7) day rescission period, and subsequent acceptance of the enrollment by your EDU.

**Customer Consent to Communications:** By participating in your community's aggregation program, you agree to receive pre-recorded/artificial voice messages calls and/or use of an automatic dialing device, text messages and/or emails from Energy Harbor or its agents/assigns at any phone number or email address. You agree to be responsible for any charges you may receive on that number, including standard telephone, SMS or text message fees. You may revoke this express consent at any time by calling us at 1-866-636-3749. Such revocation has no bearing on your ability to contract with Energy Harbor.

**Contract Expiration:** At least every three (3) years, you will be given the opportunity to opt-out of your community's aggregation program at no cost. You are responsible for arranging your electric supply upon termination of this Agreement.

**Dispute Procedures:** Contact Energy Harbor with any questions concerning the terms of service by phone at 1-866-636-3749 (toll-free) from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST weekdays, or in writing at Energy Harbor, 168 E Market St, Akron, OH 44308. Our web address is <u>www.energyharbor.com</u>. If your complaint is not resolved after you have called your electric supplier and/or your electric utility, or for general utility information, residential and business customers may contact the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) for assistance at 1-800-686-7826 (toll free) from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST weekdays, or at <u>http://www.puco.chio.gov</u>. Hearing or speech impaired customers may contact the PUCO via 7-1-1 (Ohio relay service). The Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC) represents residential utility customers in matters before the PUCO. The OCC can be contacted at 1-877-742-5622 (toll free) from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, or at <u>http://www.pickocc.org</u>.

**Miscellaneous:** You have the right to request from Energy Harbor, twice within a twelve (12) month period, up to twenty-four (24) months of payment history, without charge. Energy Harbor is prohibited from disclosing a Customer's Social Security number and/or account number(s) without the Customer's written consent except for Energy Harbor's collections and reporting, participating in programs funded by the universal service fund, pursuant to section 4928.52 of the Revised Code, or assigning a customer's contract to another CRES provider. Energy Harbor's environmental disclosure statement is available for viewing on our website www.energyharbor.com/disclosure-statements. You agree that Energy Harbor will make the required annual and quarterly updates to the environmental disclosure statement electronically on our website. Energy Harbor will also provide the information upon request. Energy Harbor may assign its rights to another, including any successor, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the PUCO. Energy Harbor assumes no responsibility or liability for the following items that are the responsibility of the EDU: operation and maintenance of the EDU's electrical system, any interruption of service, termination of service, or deterioration of the EDU's service. In the event of a power outage, you should contact your local EDU. Customer is responsible for providing Energy Harbor with accurate account information. If said information is incorrect, Energy Harbor reserves the right to return any customer to the EDU if the customer's rate code is changed and the account is no longer eligible for this offer. Customer authorizes, but does not obligate, Energy Harbor to exercise customer's rate code is changed and the account is no longer eligible for this offer. Customer authorizes, but does not obligate, Energy Harbor to exercise customer's rate code is changed and the account rights.

**Warranty:** Energy Harbor warrants title and the right to all electricity sold hereunder. THE WARRANTIES SET FORTH IN THIS PARAGRAPH ARE EXCLUSIVE AND ARE IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, WHETHER STATUTORY, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ANY WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR ARISING OUT OF ANY COURSE OF DEALING OR USAGE OF TRADE.



Government Aggregation – Electric Terms and Conditions			
Product	Fixed Price		
Electric Distribution Utility ("EDU")	Ohio Edison Company		
Price and Length of Agreement	4.97 ¢/kWh through your May 2024 meter read		
Cancellation/Termination Fee	None		

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in accordance with the EDU tariff. If you have 12 months of billing history and you are enrolled in budget billing with the EDU, you are eligible to enroll in a budget billing program once per year, where available. At the end of the contract term, you are responsible for payment of any outstanding balance upon final contract true up. Energy Harbor reserves the right to adjust your monthly budget amount prior to final contract true up. If you enroll in budget billing, then choose not to be in the program or if you become two consecutive monthly payments overdue, you will be removed from budget billing, your account will be reconciled, and you will be billed for the outstanding budget balance on your next billing cycle. Budget billing exclusive offers are not available for all aggregation programs and you will not be automatically enrolled in an Energy Harbor budget billing exclusive offer unless explicitly stated in the opt-out notification materials you receive as part of the program. If you meet the eligibility requirements, contact Energy Harbor to determine if an exclusive budget billing offer exists for your community, otherwise, your EDU may be responsible for maintaining your budget billing service.

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**Contract Expiration:** At least every three (3) years, you will be given the opportunity to opt-out of your community's aggregation program at no cost. You are responsible for arranging your electric supply upon termination of this Agreement.

**Dispute Procedures:** Contact Energy Harbor with any questions concerning the terms of service by phone at 1-866-636-3749 (toll-free) from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST weekdays, or in writing at Energy Harbor, 168 E Market St, Akron, OH 44308. Our web address is <u>www.energyharbor.com</u>. If your complaint is not resolved after you have called your electric supplier and/or your electric utility, or for general utility information, residential and business customers may contact the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) for assistance at 1-800-686-7826 (toll free) from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST weekdays, or at <u>http://www.puco.chio.gov</u>. Hearing or speech impaired customers may contact the PUCO via 7-1-1 (Ohio relay service). The Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC) represents residential utility customers in matters before the PUCO. The OCC can be contacted at 1-877-742-5622 (toll free) from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, or at <u>http://www.pickocc.org</u>.

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**Warranty:** Energy Harbor warrants title and the right to all electricity sold hereunder. THE WARRANTIES SET FORTH IN THIS PARAGRAPH ARE EXCLUSIVE AND ARE IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, WHETHER STATUTORY, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ANY WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR ARISING OUT OF ANY COURSE OF DEALING OR USAGE OF TRADE.

### This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

## Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

2/15/2023 11:49:44 AM

in

### Case No(s). 01-0736-EL-GAG

Summary: Opt-Out Notice Opt-Out Notice to be sent to newly eligible customers in the City's electric aggregation program electronically filed by Eric E. Burns on behalf of City of Barberton. electronically filed by Mr. Eric E. Burns on behalf of City of Barberton