

My current electric utility is terrible. Is there anything I can do about it?

My electric utility is expensive, unreliable, and does not respond to community concerns. What are my other options?

Rather than operating as service providers, many private electric utilities are profit-driven businesses. They prioritize shareholder needs over the good of the community.

While 72% of households are served by private utilities, the remaining are served by public utilities.

Public utilities are owned by local governments and/or local community customers of the utility. The goal of public utilities is to provide safe, reliable, and reasonably-priced electricity to their community members.

As opposed to private utilities, whose goal is to make profit for shareholders, public utilities use profit to cover operating costs and invest back in the utility.



Municipalization

Municipalization is the process of bringing a utility from private to public ownership.

Winter Park, FL



Community Choice Power

In some states, Community Choice Power allows community members to choose where their energy comes from.

East Bay Community Energy in California



Local, community power

Communities can generate their own electricity from solar or wind sources while still staying connected to the central power grid.

Community Labor United's microgrids in Boston, MA



How can Energy Democracy address my community's needs?

Energy Democracy

supports a socially just, renewable energy system owned and governed by communities and working people.

What are the benefits?

- Local renewable electricity generation
- Good, wealth-building jobs
- Control over where facilities are built
- Affordable rates
- Clean air and water

Learn more:

powerswitchaction.org/resources/energy-democracy

