

Substation & Transmission Project Update



On September 23, 2014, Belmont Light presented the Belmont Municipal Light Board (Light Board), the Municipal Light Advisory Board, and the public with a summary update on the status of Belmont's Substation and Transmission Project. Belmont Light General Manager

Jim Palmer told board members that much has already been accomplished on the project and the project team is now poised and eager to move into the construction phase.

"The first thing we had to do, at the direction of Town Meeting, was to work collaboratively with NSTAR and the Light Board to thoroughly analyze costs, efficiencies, and feasibility of all potential transmission solutions," said Palmer. As a result of this research, in May of 2013, the Light Board announced that the 115kV single-loop alternative was the best solution for Belmont and that a joint development agreement with NSTAR was also in the best interest of the Town.

According to General Manager Palmer, it was important that Belmont Light took the time to investigate all options, from transmission to ownership, using a cooperative and transparent process to deliver the best possible solution for Belmont. He explained that a Joint Development Agreement has been negotiated and signed between Belmont and NSTAR. A transmission plan and project designs are also in place and all the property and easements necessary to complete the project have been secured.

In summarizing the progress to date, Palmer broke the project into three different elements: the substation site, the transmission line, and the regulatory process. After highlighting some of the achievements made on each front, he reflected that, "in two short years we have made tremendous progress on this project. From voltage and ownership determinations, to site identification, negotiations and design work, the project team has accomplished a number of challenging milestones and we are closer to a permanent solution to our current electricity challenges. As we move into the construction phases, marked by our recent Request for Proposals for construction of the new substation, the public will now begin to see the tangible results of all the work that has been accomplished to date and should look forward to full energization in 2016."

For more details on the progress to date and to view Belmont Light's presentation to the Light Board, please visit: www.belmontlight.com > Energy Solutions > Projects.

New Program Offers Customers Energy & Cost Savings

Belmont Light has launched the Belmont Light Energy Grant Program, a program that provides a limited number of grants for insulation and heat-pump systems to Belmont residents.

As part of the grant, Belmont Light customers can save energy and lower their heating costs by taking advantage of two new opportunities:

100 Weatherization Grants are available to Belmont residents whose homes are heated with oil, electricity, propane, pellets, or other fuels. Recipients receive \$1,500 worth of weatherization products and services for a co-pay of just \$299. (Residents who heat their homes with natural gas may be eligible for weatherization benefits through their gas provider and the Mass Save® program).

50 Heat Pump Grants are available to Belmont residents for high efficiency heating and cooling heat pump systems. These grants range from \$500 and \$1,500 depending on the size of the system and are available for homes currently heated with any fuel type.

Belmont Light received the funding via a competitive grant process through the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources. Grants will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis and applicants must be pre-approved. Grants will remain available until they are all claimed, but customers are urged to apply quickly to ensure availability.

Belmont residents who are interested in learning more or applying for weatherization and heat pump grants should visit www.BelmontLightEnergyGrant.com or call **Sagewell, Inc.**, the program administrator, at 617-963-8141 or via email at support@sagewell.com.

The award from the state will also fund the installation of 100 new LED streetlights in Belmont in 2015.

Belmont Light's business office will be closed on the following dates:

November 11th – Veterans Day
November 27th and 28th – Thanksgiving
December 25th – Christmas
January 1st – New Years Day

If you have an emergency, please call Belmont Light at 617-993-2800.

BELMONT LIGHT
POWERING YOUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1898
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COMMUNITY News...

Belmont DPW Recycling Event

Saturday, November 15th is America Recycles Day, sponsored by Keep America Beautiful. On this day citizens are encouraged to learn what items can be recycled in their communities and make a renewed effort to recycle more. (Find out more at <http://americarecyclesday.org/>.)

In celebration of this day, please follow the below points for successful recycling.

Point 1: Belmont is a dual stream community.

Belmont residents need to separate paper and cardboard from plastic, tin, aluminum, and glass. Please place paper in paper bags or flat in one bin. The other bin can hold the plastic, glass, and aluminum containers. Have a lot of container recycling? Place them in a barrel no larger than 32 gallons marked with 2 recycling stickers (free at DPW or Town Clerk's Office). To learn more visit, <http://www.belmont-ma.gov/dpw-highway-division/pages/recycling-trash-information>.

Point 2: Plastic grocery bags or plastic film should not be recycled curbside.

Plastic bags and film are recyclable, and can be brought to supermarkets to be recycled, but not at the curb. Also, don't use to put recyclables in them. The bags get caught in the machines and conveyor belts where the recyclables are sorted and shut down production. To learn more visit, <http://www.plasticfilmrecycling.org/s01/s01dropoff.html>.

Point 3: Cardboard must be recycled.

Please flatten all cardboard and make sure it is smaller than 3' x 3'. If you stack and tie cardboard, it can't be higher than 9 inches. These dimensions allow the cardboard to fit in the recycling truck.

The Belmont Recycling Coordinator can be contacted at 617-993-2689 or mcainan@belmont-ma.gov.



Sustainable
Belmont

Make your Home More Efficient and Breathe Easier with an HRV!

Consider installing a heat-recovery ventilation (HRV) system in your home to help improve both air quality and energy efficiency. According to ENERGY STAR's website, "an HRV (also called an air-to-air heat exchanger) is a ventilation system that consists of two separate air-handling systems—one collects and exhausts stale indoor air and the other draws in fresh outdoor air and distributes it throughout the home."¹ One of the key features of the HRV is its ability to use exhaust air to heat fresh air. As described by One House Green, "...exhaust and fresh air streams are sent through the unit and heat from the exhaust air is used to preheat the fresh air stream. Only the heat is transferred; the two air streams remain physically separate. Typically, an HRV is able to recover 70-80% of the heat from the exhaust air and transfer it to the incoming air. This dramatically reduces the energy needed to heat fresh incoming air."²

A heat recovery ventilator also serves to circulate the air in your home. This is important because as you take steps to lessen heat loss from your home, you also restrict air flow which can lead to poor indoor air quality.

Think about installing an HRV today!

Excerpted from:

1. http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=bldrs_lenders_raters.pt_manufactured_plants_design_features
2. <http://onehousegreen.com/heat-recovery-ventilator/>



After entering Belmont Light's raffle at the 12th annual Meet Belmont, Barbara, left, and Libby Mason, center, were the lucky winners of an energy-savings gift basket full of fun and useful items they can use to make their homes more energy efficient. Belmont Light Senior Customer Service Representative Heather Fisk,

right, was at the event to talk to residents about the utility and the programs and services available to its customers.



BELMONT LIGHT

Invites you to

Celebrate the Winter Solstice

Thursday, December 11th
3 pm to 6 pm
40 Prince Street

Share the warmth!

Bring your donation of new and gently used blankets, bedspreads, comforters, and quilts for those in need this winter

Brighten your day!

Stop by for a mug of hot chocolate, warm apple cider, and a special appearance by

Frosty the Snowman

Light up the night!

Receive a FREE CFL light bulb and a LED nightlight
LED lights will also be available for purchase at a special price of \$5.00 per bulb (cash or check), while supplies last. Limit 2 per customer account.

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