

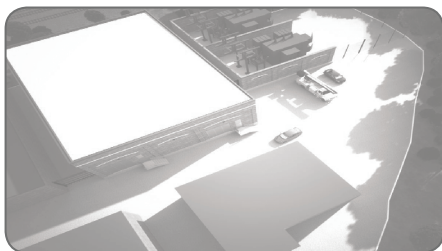
POWER Connection

Belmont Light Quarterly Newsletter

July 2013

Update on Belmont Light Substation Project July 2013

At Town Meeting in May, Town Meeting Members took the critical step of approving Warrant Article #16, which provides the authority to make land conveyances necessary on the Flanders Road sight of the new sub-



station as well as along the new transmission line route. This affirmative vote paves the way for Belmont Light's planned demolition of 20 Flanders Road and also made possible the execution of the very important Joint Development Agreement between Belmont Light and NSTAR.

The Joint Development Agreement, executed in June, describes ownership issues within the new transmission line/substation project. Under this agreement Belmont will finance the construction of a new 115kV transmission line and then sell it to NSTAR at a cost of approximately \$30 million. While the agreement allows NSTAR to own the transmission line in their transmission territory, the benefits of this ownership agreement for Belmont are substantial.

For the first time, Belmont ratepayers will be fully integrated onto the New England Grid without having to pay an intermediary for connections. Additionally, upon selling the transmission line back to NSTAR, Belmont's debt service will be cut from \$53.7 million to \$23 million. The initial rate increase to meet the cost of the project that was originally anticipated to reach 14% will now be closer to 6%.

With the Joint Development Agreement now executed, the Department of Public Utilities permitting and the Independent Service Operators – New England (ISO-NE) approval process and technical review, along with the release of the site demolition contracting package are the next major steps in meeting Belmont's future electricity needs.

As always, anyone with questions or concerns regarding the Substation Project is encouraged to contact Belmont Light directly at 617-993-2838.



Belmont Light General Manager Jim Palmer, right, distributed energy saving light bulbs and other materials to local residents at the department's table during Belmont Town Day. Jane Dougan was among those who took advantage of the opportunity to ask questions and receive energy saving light bulbs.

Belmont Light announces reduced rate hike

Belmont Light customers have received a 6% increase in rates, effective June 15th. The increase, originally estimated to be 14%, is necessary to cover debt service on the substation and transmission line project approved by Town Meeting in February 2012. The reduction in the increase was made possible by the decision to sign a Joint Development Agreement with NSTAR which drastically reduced the original cost estimate for the project. Under this agreement, Belmont will finance the construction of the 115 kV line and then sell it to NSTAR at a cost of approximately \$30 million.

Upon selling the transmission line back to NSTAR, Belmont's debt service on the total project will be reduced from \$53.7 million to approximately \$23 million.

For questions about the rate increase or details of the new substation and 115 kV transmission line project, call Belmont Light at 617-993-2800.

Belmont Light reminders...

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

Monday, September 2nd - Labor Day

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

Belmont Light Summer Hours:
(effective June 24-August 30, 2013)

Monday – Thursday 7:00AM-5:30PM

Friday: CLOSED

BELMONT LIGHT

POWERING YOUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1898

**40 Prince Street
Belmont, MA 02478
617-993-2800**

www.belmont-ma.gov/electric

COMMUNITY News...

Meet Belmont

Are you interested in learning more about Belmont? Or, do you have questions that you're not sure how to get answered? If so, you should plan to come to the 11th annual MEET BELMONT on Tuesday evening, August 27th from 6:00 – 8:30 P.M. in the cafeteria of Chenery Middle School, 95 Washington Street.

Originally organized for newcomers to town, MEET BELMONT has evolved into a fun, informational fair where all residents can learn about Belmont's government, town departments and schools, houses of worship, citizen groups, recreation and arts programs, clubs and committees, and more. New residents can register to vote and sign up for a library card. All residents can ask questions of town administrators and elected officials, discover new organizations and greet old friends!

Attendees are invited to support the Belmont Food Pantry by bringing a non-perishable food or toiletry item to MEET BELMONT.

The event is completely non-commercial; it is free, fully accessible, and open to the public. MEET BELMONT is sponsored by the Town's Vision 21 Implementation Committee and cosponsored by the Belmont Public Schools, with special assistance from Belmont Light and generous support from the Belmont Car Wash. For more information, email meetbelmont@gmail.com

Belmont Farmers' Market



The Belmont Farmers' Market is now open every Thursday from 2 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the municipal parking lot in Belmont Center, at the intersection of Cross St. & Channing Rd., behind Macy's on Leonard Street. The Market features local fresh produce, cheeses, meats, fish, wine, preserves, granola, pasta, dips, baked goods, knife-sharpening, Mexican ice pops, flowers, plants, and more. For weekly updates, subscribe to the Market e-Newsletter via belmontfarmersmarket@gmail.com.

The Market accepts SNAP benefits (formerly food stamps), which are processed quickly and easily - let your friends and neighbors know about this service so that it can better serve the community.

An all-volunteer organization now in its eighth year, the Market is a project of the Belmont Food Collaborative, whose goal is to sponsor education about food and nutrition and to help provide families in need with fresh produce. belmontfarmersmarket.org and belmontfood.org



Belmont Light staff visited the third grade students at the Daniel Butler Elementary School before the end of the school year to talk about electrical safety and the equipment used by Belmont Light lineworkers. Belmont Light Lineworker Rob Clancy (left) and 1st Class Lineworker Darren Greeley (right) demonstrated the equipment Belmont Light line crews use during their work day.

Sustainable Belmont

Excerpted from 'Principles of Heating and Cooling' at www.energy.gov and 'Air Conditioner Vs. Fan Energy Costs' at www.ehow.com.

Understanding the processes that help keep your body cool is important in understanding cooling strategies for your home.

Your body can cool down through three processes: convection, radiation, and perspiration. Ventilation enhances all these processes.

Convection occurs when heat is carried away from your body via moving air. If the surrounding air is cooler than your skin, the air will absorb your heat and rise. As the warmed air rises around you, cooler air moves in to take its place and absorb more of your warmth. The faster this convecting air moves, the cooler you feel.

Radiation occurs when heat radiates across the space between you and the objects in your home. If objects are warmer than you are, heat will travel toward you. Removing heat through ventilation reduces the temperature of the ceiling, walls, and furnishings. The cooler your surroundings, the more you will radiate heat to the objects, rather than the other way around.

Perspiration can be uncomfortable, and many people would prefer to stay cool without it. However, during hot weather and physical exercise, perspiration is the body's powerful cooling mechanism. As moisture leaves your skin pores, it carries a lot of heat with it, cooling your body. If a breeze (ventilation) passes over your skin, that moisture will evaporate more quickly, and you'll be even cooler.

All of these processes are enhanced by using a fan to move air. A fan uses significantly less energy than an air conditioner does, especially if you have an older model. Even if you use your air conditioner, turning on a ceiling fan circulates the air, cooling you more effectively. But remember, fans cool people, not rooms, so turn it off when you leave.



The Payne family of Belmont enjoyed some of the energy saving materials, including coloring and activity books that were distributed by the Belmont Light during the recent Town Day festivities. Several members of the Belmont Light staff were at the event to answer questions and distribute the energy saving materials and information.