

Substation & Transmission Project Update



After months of intensive project organization, design work, voltage research, ownership negotiations and non-construction site preparation, Belmont's new substation project reached a significant

milestone in the second quarter of 2014, as demolition of the current building at 20 Flanders Road has begun. McConnell Enterprise, Inc. is on site and has begun dismantling the building's interior and constructing a new wall between 20 Flanders Road and its adjacent building. Demolition of the existing building is expected to be completed in August.

While the demolition is happening this summer, Belmont's project team expects to complete the Contractor's bid package for construction of the new Substation building and issue bid solicitations late this summer. Additionally, the procurement of major equipment for the project has started and will continue through the end of 2014.

Also, this past quarter, NStar filed their regulatory application with the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (DPU). DPU hosted a public hearing to review details of the project in Belmont on July 8th and will conduct a site visit later in the month.

Technical efforts remain on target to issue contractor bid solicitations for the construction of the new Transmission System (different than the construction of the new Substation building), as well as to achieve the necessary approval of the Independent Systems Operators – New England (ISO-NE) and to qualify for Transmission Cost Allocation funding by the end of 2014.

Belmont Light Receives Energy Efficiency Grant

Belmont Light has been awarded a \$240,250 grant from the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER) Green Communities Division. The grant will be used to expand residential and municipal energy efficiency programs in Belmont.

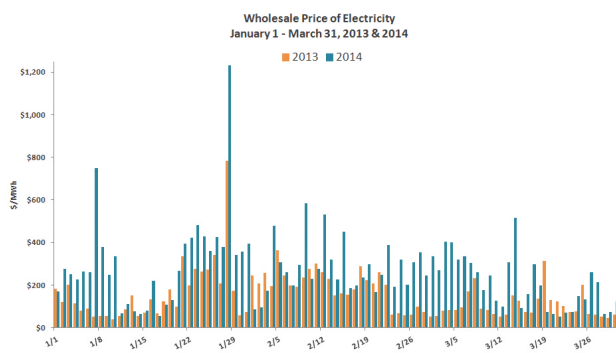
Belmont Light's business office will be closed on the following dates:

Monday, September 1st in observance of Labor Day

Monday, October 13th in observance of Columbus Day

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

Summer Energy-Savings Tips: Manage Rising Electricity Costs



Real time locational marginal price for the NEMASSBOST load zone, January 1 – March 31, 2013 and 2014. Source: ISO New England SMD Hourly Data, available at http://iso-ne.com/markets/hstdata/znl_info/hourly/index.html.

Belmont Light customers may notice that electricity prices have increased in 2014. The graph above shows the wholesale electricity price in the winter of 2014 compared with the winter of 2013. Market forces in New England, including higher natural gas prices throughout the region, led to markedly higher electricity prices this year over last. As a result, many electric utilities in New England, including Belmont Light, have increased rates to cover rising supply costs. Customers can help keep their electric bills low by conserving energy and installing energy efficient lights and appliances in their homes. Here are a few more tips for conserving energy and saving money this summer:

- Turn off lights, appliances, and electronics when you're not actively using them. Unplug electronic devices and chargers that have a block shape transformer on the plug when they are not in use.
- Clean clogged air conditioner filters so they operate more efficiently. If possible, install room air conditioners on north-facing walls or on a shady side of the house. Close all windows and doors when operating an air conditioner and set your air conditioner thermostat as high as possible.
- Unplug any spare refrigerators. A second refrigerator can add 10-25% to your electric bill.
- Use a microwave to cook. Doing so will add less heat to your kitchen than using an oven.
- Reduce the operating time of swimming pool filters and automatic cleaning sweeps.

BELMONT LIGHT

POWERING YOUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1898

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COMMUNITY News...

All Are Invited to **MEET BELMONT**

Are you interested in learning more about Belmont? Or do you have questions that you're not sure how to get answered? Plan to come to the 12th annual **Meet Belmont** Event on Tuesday, August 26, 2014, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Cheney Middle School cafeteria, 95 Washington Street.

Originally organized especially for newcomers, **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, clubs, committees, and more. New residents can also register to vote, get pet licenses, sign up for a library card, ask questions of Town department heads and elected officials and join an impressive array of community organizations. Many residents come to greet old friends and "check out" what's new in town.

The event is completely non-commercial, so leave your wallets at home. 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 the generous support of Belmont Car Wash. For more information, email meetbelmont@gmail.com.



The Belmont Light table at Belmont Town Day was popular among local residents like Sue Tudisco, right, who picked up a backpack from General Manager Jim Palmer during the day-long festivities. In addition to the backpack, Belmont Light staff distributed materials and information to help customers reduce their electric consumption.

Community Helpings Cookbook to benefit Food Pantry

The **Community Helpings Cookbook**, now in its second printing, is raising money for local food pantries, including the Belmont Food Pantry. The cookbook, which is published by Plymouth Congregational Church in Belmont Center, contains recipes from local chefs and community organizations. Each cookbook costs \$15 and can be ordered through the church office at office@plymouthchurch.net or 617-484-5257. Summer hours are 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Wed-Fri.

Your community and your stomach will thank you for your support!



Increasing your Home's Energy Efficiency through Vapor Barrier and Ventilation Control

(Excerpted from http://www.bpa.gov/energy/n/energy_tips/weatherization/vaporbarrier.cfm)

Insulation in your home provides resistance to heat flow. The more heat flow resistance your insulation provides, the lower your heating and cooling costs will be. A properly insulated home gives the added benefit of improving your personal comfort.

Effective vapor barriers and good ventilation are important factors in a well-insulated home. For instance, they can help combat excess moisture. Daily activities like cooking, cleaning, and breathing all produce excess moisture in a heated house. Too much moisture can damage your home in a variety of ways. If moisture overly saturates insulation it can drastically reduce the insulation's ability to resist heat loss, creating mold, mildew, and other decay in building materials and insulation. In addition, wet insulation, which is heavier than dry insulation, can overload your ceiling, causing sagging or more serious damage.

Effective vapor barriers ensure that too much moisture doesn't pass through the walls, ceiling, or floor of the building.

Additionally, adequate ventilation, particularly in attics and crawl spaces, will prevent moisture from condensing on the insulation or the building structure.

To find out more about how proper ventilation and vapor barriers can keep your home heating and cooling costs manageable, visit the website listed at the beginning of this article.

Belmont Farmers' Market

The Belmont Farmers' Market is now open for its ninth season. The Market is held every Thursday, from 2 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. June through October, rain or shine! Located in the rear parking lot behind Belmont Center, the Market offers a variety of organic and conventionally produced food at a range of prices. Visit www.belmontfarmersmarket.org for vendors and updates.

The Market will feature Storytime for preschoolers again this year, thanks to a partnership with the Belmont Public Library and children's librarian Denise Shaver. Market Music will be back along with chefs' tastings, art, and more. The Market accepts SNAP benefits (food stamps) and matches up to \$25 for each snap shopper each week, because of generous donations to the Market. Benefits are processed quickly and easily at the blue Market tent. To receive our weekly e-newsletter or for more specific questions, contact: belmontfarmersmarket@gmail.com.



Belmont Line Worker Pat Fallon cuts power as Belmont firemen work to quell the flames of a house fire that occurred on Horne Road in Belmont on June 30, 2014. No one was injured during the incident thanks in part to the quick thinking of Belmont Light employees Paul Hession and Brian Ricci, who spotted the flames while driving past the house on Horne Road. Hession and Ricci immediately reported the incident and were able to assist in safely evacuating the homeowners from the building.