

Belmont Substation & Transmission Project Quarterly Update



The construction phase of Belmont's substation and transmission line project is steadily underway. With the demolition of the previous building at 20 Flanders

Road and additional site prep completed, Boston Building & Bridge Corporation has made substantial progress in the construction of the new substation building on Flanders Road. The steel frame has been erected and the building is scheduled to be weather-tight before the end of December. Building finishes will begin shortly thereafter. In mid-January, the balance of electrical equipment will arrive and contractors will commence installation and wiring of the new Belmont Light Blair Pond Substation.

The next critical element of the project will entail constructing the 115kV transmission line, which will run from the Eversource substation at Alewife along the adjacent MBTA Commuter Rail tracks to the new Belmont Light Blair Pond Substation. Planning and design work for the transmission is complete, and installation of the transmission line pipe along the railroad tracks will begin later in November. Just over one mile in length, construction of the transmission line will not require digging or disruption on any main roads in Belmont or Cambridge. Overall, the construction should have minimal impact on both communities due to the project's design and the procurement of an easement along the MBTA railroad tracks.

Construction of both the substation and the transmission line are expected to be completed by spring of 2016, with connections and energization on schedule for next summer.

Belmont Goes Solar: A Win-Win for Residents, Businesses, and the Environment

Want to generate your own clean, renewable energy and reduce your energy costs? Now is the time to evaluate if a rooftop solar system is right for your home or business. Belmont Goes Solar will offer limited-time discounts beginning in January 2016 and solar systems in service by December 31, 2016 qualify for Federal and State tax credits of at least 30%. Belmont Goes Solar is a town-endorsed, volunteer-driven initiative dedicated to helping Belmont residents make the right solar decisions.

To learn more or to volunteer, email info@BelmontGoesSolar.org. (Website coming soon.)

Belmont Recognized for Outstanding Work in Energy Efficiency & Sustainability

Belmont is one of the top municipalities in the state when it comes to energy efficiency. That's what Massachusetts' Department of Energy Resources (MA DOER) had to say when selecting the town as a 2015 Leading By Example Award winner last month. The LBE Award "recognizes outstanding efforts among Commonwealth agencies...and municipalities that have implemented policies and programs that have led to significant and measurable environmental and energy benefits." At the October 21st ceremony, MA DOER Commissioner Judith Judson congratulated Belmont for its strong commitment to energy efficiency and conservation as demonstrated by Belmont Light's innovative array of energy programs and initiatives.

Commissioner Judson announced that DOER was particularly impressed by Belmont Light's Energy Efficiency Grant Program that has now funded over 95 weatherizations and 29 efficient heating/cooling systems in town. In just the past year, 13% of Belmont's 2,000 oil-heated homes received a free home energy assessment through the program, with 50% of the homes with a weatherization opportunity moving forward with insulation work. The Belmont Energy Committee's contributions were invaluable to getting double the participation rates in Belmont compared to similar programs in the Commonwealth. The Energy Grant program also focuses on converting oil-heated homes to high efficiency heat pumps to reduce CO₂ and other emissions by up to 60%.

A successful Belmont Light peak reduction pilot program was lauded by DOER as well. In its inaugural run this past summer, the program resulted in a 10-15% reduction in energy use among participants during peak-electricity-use periods. These results are so encouraging that Belmont Light is working on unveiling a full-fledged version of the program over the next year. Before concluding her speech, Commission Judson noted that Belmont Light's new wind energy contracts and the installation of smart meters that will eventually allow customers to better assess their energy use further qualified Belmont for the award.

Accepting the award, General Manager Jim Palmer credited close collaboration with the Belmont Energy Committee, thoughtful leadership of the Municipal Light Board and Municipal Light Advisory Board, and the engaged spirit of Belmont's residents as the keys to Belmont's energy conservation successes.

More information about Belmont Light's energy efficiency programs is available at www.belmontlight.com. To participate in the Energy Grant program, visit www.BelmontLightEnergyGrant.com.

*Leading By Example Awards website: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/grants-and-tech-assistance/guidance-technical-assistance/leading-by-example/leading-by-example-awards.html>

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

November 26 and 27 – Thanksgiving

December 25 - Christmas

January 1 – New Year's Day

January 18 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

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

BELMONT LIGHT

POWERING YOUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1898

40 Prince Street

Belmont, MA 02478

617-993-2800

www.belmontlight.com

BELMONT GARDEN CLUB Greens & Bake Sale

Saturday December 5, 2015

Beech Street Center

10 a.m.- 1 p.m.

This sale features hand-made wreaths, swags, candle centerpieces, seasonal floral arrangements and plenty of home-baked goodies.

There will also be a "Green Elephant" sale of gently-used garden, holiday and floral accessories as well as a "re-gifting" table of new items.

Come early for the best selection. For images of previous years go to www.belmontgardenclub.org/

Submitted by Anne Lauriat



Representatives from Belmont Light accepted the Leading by Example Award from the Commonwealth's Department of Energy Resources (from left to right) Light Board Member Jim Williams, State Senator Will Brownsberger, MA DOER Commissioner Judith Judson, Belmont Light General Manager Jim Palmer, State Representative Dave Rogers, Light Board Chair Sami Baghdady, Belmont Light Communications Coordinator Becca Keane, and LBE Director Eric Friendman.



Belmont Light General Manager Jim Palmer (center) received proclamations from, State Representative Dave Rogers (left) and State Senator Will Brownsberger (right) during the ceremony.

Belmont Light observed Public Power Week and Energy Awareness Month with visits to the Farmer's Market and the senior center.



Belmont residents Benoit Couet, left, and Jack Shumsky stopped by the Belmont Light table at the recent Farmers' Market to learn more about energy conservation and the benefits of public power from Belmont Light Customer Service Representative Shaun Santos.



Belmont Light Customer Representative Heather Fisk, left, distributed energy saving light bulbs and informational materials to local resident Carl Brauer, right, at the recent Farmers' Market.

BELMONT LIGHT

POWERING YOUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1898

Invites you to

Celebrate the Winter Solstice

Wednesday, December 16th

3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

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

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