

## The Belmont Substation & Transmission Project is in the Homestretch

### Substation

After a long process that involved the identification and purchase of property at 20 Flanders Road, the complex design, permitting, and regulatory phases of the new substation, the demolition of an existing building and the construction of the new building, Belmont's new, state-of-the-art substation is substantially completed.

All transformers, switchgear and protective equipment have been delivered and installed. While final landscaping will be completed in the more favorable weather of the fall, the substation's occupancy permit was granted in June 2016.

### Transmission Line

The final phase of the project includes the installation of a new 115 kV transmission line running from the Alewife Grid, along the Fitchburg Commuter Rail Line, to the new substation on Flanders Road. All construction design submittals have been approved by the relevant state agencies and work on the transmission line has begun.

The construction process involves the installation of a transmission line pipe and includes five complex micro-tunneling locations. The transmission line will then be pulled and connected at each end. All construction on the transmission line is expected to be completed by the end of the summer, marking the end of all major construction for the project. After that, the energization process for the new substation will take place beginning mid-September and finishing in October 2016.



## 2016 ENERGY STAR® Residential Appliance Rebate Program

If you are considering purchasing a new appliance for your home this year, Belmont Light wants to reward you for making a smart energy choice through the 2016 ENERGY STAR® Appliance Rebate Program. The program offers rebates of up to \$200 annually per residential account for certain ENERGY STAR-labeled products.

"Appliances like refrigerators and air conditioners account for a noticeable portion of our customers' monthly usage," said Becca Keane, Belmont Light Energy Resources Analyst. "Upgrading old appliances is one of the most sure-fire ways to reduce your electricity bills."

Older models, and even newer products that haven't earned an energy-savings label, can add hundreds of dollars per year to your costs compared to ENERGY STAR equipment. For example, a refrigerator produced circa 1990 can use upwards of triple the amount of electricity needed to run modern ENERGY STAR models.

While the upfront costs of newer, highly efficient appliances are generally recouped after a few years of electricity bills, Belmont Light's appliance rebate program aims to further incentivize customers to swap out or dispose of the "energy hogs" lurking in their homes.

The 2016 program includes the following rebates and appliances:

- \$100: • Refrigerator** 15.0 cubic feet or larger, with proof of Belmont DPW or vendor disposal.
- \$100: • Central air conditioner** with a SEER rating greater than 14.
- \$100: • Room air conditioner**, with proof of Belmont DPW or vendor disposal.
- \$75: • Dehumidifier.**
- \$25: • Room air conditioner**, without proof of disposal.

To participate in the 2016 program, residential customers must complete an application and submit required documentation by January 31, 2017. Applications are available on the "Energy Solutions" page on the Belmont Light website by clicking on "Residential Programs," or at Belmont Light, 40 Prince Street.

For additional information, please call Belmont Light at 617-993-2800 or email [EnergyResources@BelmontLight.com](mailto:EnergyResources@BelmontLight.com).

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

**Labor Day – Monday, September 5th**

**Columbus Day – Monday, October 10th**

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

## BELMONT LIGHT

POWERING YOUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1898

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## Redesigned Website, Social Media Efforts for Belmont Light

Belmont Light recently launched a complete overhaul of its website, with an eye on delivering a faster, more convenient and overall better experience for its customers. Belmont Light customers can also now rely on social media to get updates and information about the utility.

According to Belmont Light General Manager Jim Palmer, Belmont Light has upgraded its website to serve as an online hub for Belmont Light customers to pay their bills, access information and learn about everything that Belmont Light is doing to create a better community. Belmont Light has also created Twitter and Facebook accounts, which enable the department to instantly share information by sending messages to a follower's mobile phone or computer via Twitter and Facebook.

Belmont Light customers who want to receive updates can follow the Twitter account @BelmontLight. Customers can also like the Belmont Light Facebook page at facebook.com/BelmontLightMA to get more information.

"Once a customer has created a Twitter account, they can follow Belmont Light by searching @Belmontlight," General Manager Palmer said. "Everything that they are looking for will then be available right at their fingertips."

"Twitter and Facebook are great tools for us," the General Manager continued. "While the Belmont Light website provides important information about the department, social networking tools like Twitter and Facebook will enable us to engage directly with our customers on an up-to-the-minute basis. They allow Belmont Light to remain as transparent as we can while showcasing everything that we are doing around Belmont. I hope everyone will be able to follow us for updates."



*Belmont Light Line Workers Tom Carey (front) and Nick Kacoyanis (right) ensured that customers had reliable power in July.*

## COMMUNITY News...

### *You are cordially invited to* **MEET BELMONT**

Are you interested in learning more about Belmont? Or, do you have questions that you need answered? Then please join us for the 14th annual Meet Belmont community information fair on Tuesday, August 30th, 2016. The event will be held in the cafeteria at Cheney Middle School, 95 Washington Street from 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Meet Belmont is a fun, community information fair where all residents can learn about Belmont's government, town departments, 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 wallet at home. It is free, fully-accessible, and open to the public. Attendees are encouraged to support the Belmont Food Pantry by bringing a non-perishable food or toiletry item to donate.

Meet Belmont is sponsored by the Town's Vision 21 Implementation Committee and co-sponsored 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](mailto:meetbelmont@gmail.com).



*Selectmen Sami Baghdady (second from left) and Mark Paolillo (second from right), along with Johnny Baghdady (front), were welcomed to the Belmont Light table at Town Day by Belmont Light Senior Customer Service Representative Debbie Bottiglio, (left) and Records Management Specialist Teodolinda DaRosa. Belmont Light distributed energy saving materials and information, as well as hard hats and sunglasses to local residents who stopped by the Belmont Light table.*

## Farmers' Market in Belmont



*Children from the Belmont Day Camp stopped by the Belmont Light table at the recent Farmers' Market to pick up some Belmont Light sunglasses and bags containing energy saving information and materials from Belmont Light Executive Assistant and Communications Coordinator Aidan Leary, right.*