



A Customer Owned Utility
Serving Our Community Since 1894

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American Public Power Association

October 1, 2017

NAED is one of only forty (40) municipal electric departments within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. We are committed to promoting the interests of "Public Power" on behalf of the citizens of this community

Monthly Update of North Attleborough Electric Department's Activities

Dear Friends:

This month's newsletter offers the opportunity to update you about the planned forthcoming change in our community's street lights during the forthcoming year.

I. SHERMAN SUBSTATION UPGRADE PROJECT HAS STARTED!!

The upgrade of the Sherman Substation, a \$5.5 million effort, which includes the purchase/installation of a new substation transformer, new switchgear and updated controls has commenced on-site this month. The upgrade is designed to improve NAED's system reliability, redundancy and safety while integrating new technologies. The last major upgrade of the Sherman Substation occurred circa 1994.

During the past months the Board of Electric Commissioners has reviewed and awarded bids relating to:

Transformer
Switchgear
Infrastructure & Equipment
Construction Services

The on-site work will be very involved and is expected to occur through the middle of calendar year 2018.

II. "LED STREET LIGHT PROJECT" - LEDs are COMING!!

At its September 19, 2017 meeting the Board of Electric Commissioners awarded the contract for the installation of new LED street lights to Pine Ridge Technologies, Inc. More than 2,700 streetlights and rental lights will be replaced by NAED through this effort. The work is expected to commence by the end of October, 2017 and is expected to be completed by the middle of calendar year 2018.

The abbreviation "LED" is short for "Light Emitting Diode". The new LED lights will help reduce energy and departmental maintenance costs because they are more energy efficient than the current lights and longer-lasting than the current high pressure sodium street lights.

As noted in a previous update, NAED received a grant, through Energy New England, from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for the installation of new LED street lights. The grant award was for \$236,947 to assist the department in converting municipal street lights to LED (light-emitting diode) technology.

At the time of the award, **Governor Charlie Baker** stated, "Investing in LED streetlight conversions will lead to reduced energy costs and better road safety for motorists and municipalities across Massachusetts," he also said "The partnership between the Commonwealth and our regional planning authorities and municipal light plants will help maximize the positive benefits of this grant funding." **Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito** stated, "Converting municipally owned streetlights into energy efficient LEDs will help cities and towns across the Commonwealth realize thousands of dollars in annual energy savings while reducing emissions," LED streetlights help reduce energy usage during peak demand times, lessening the burden on our regional electric grid and reducing costs for all ratepayers."

NAED is currently working with municipal officials to coordinate its efforts and will soon be providing additional information on its web site, www.Naelectric.com about the LED replacement program, location of where work is occurring and project timetable.

III. RATE 5 - NAED's "LOW INCOME RESIDENTIAL RATE" – UPDATE/REMINDER

As you may be aware, NAED offers a "Low Income Residential Rate". We want to bring to your attention that, effective **October 1, 2017**, that Rate 5 will be available, "...to customers based upon notification from Self Help, Inc. of eligibility for the "Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), or its successor program."

LIHEAP eligibility is based upon the "**Fiscal Year 2018 LIHEAP** income eligibility requirements. Also, please note that rate eligibility must be renewed annually.

Please be advised that NAED will keep all current Rate 5 customers on Rate 5 until **December 31, 2017**. However, to remain as a Rate 5 customer after **December 31, 2017**, customers will need to provide NAED with documentation that you meet the Rate 5 eligibility income requirement listed above.

By **December 31, 2017**, inclusive, a Rate 5 customer will need to have contacted Self Help, Inc. and secured the appropriate documentation that verifies the customer's eligibility for the "Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). If the required documentation is not provided to NAED by **December 31, 2017** then the customer will become a "Residential Rate A1" (Rate 1) customer, effective **January 1, 2018**.

For your information, Self Help, Inc. - a community action organization - has an office in Attleboro, Ma.

Self Help, Inc.
95 Pine Street, #6, Attleboro, MA 02703
508-226-4192 or www.selfhelpinc.org

Should you have any questions please feel to contact NAED's customer service personnel at 508-643-6300.

IV. NAED PLANNING & BUDGETARY PROCESS NOW BEGINNING

NAED staff has now commenced its planning and budgetary process for FY 2018. NAED's fiscal year commences on January 1, 2018.

NAED's process relative to budgetary planning includes divisional managers developing "3 Year Strategic Plans", and tying those plans into their Capital Improvement and Operating Budget requests.

The Managers will meet not only with the General Manager and Business Division Manager, but also make public presentations of their plans and requests to the Board of Electric Commissioners in November and December. It is expected that the Board of Electric Commissioners will vote to approve the FY 2018 Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Plan by early January, 2018.

Please continue to remember our fellow citizens who are defending our country throughout the world. Our thoughts and prayers are also with all those that have been affected by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, Jose and Maria. As always, should you have any questions at any time, please feel free to contact me at 508.643.6300.

Sincerely,
James C. Moynihan
General Manager