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## An era ends in Taunton

### *Joe Blain steps down after three decades of leadership*

For many people, the decision to retire after a long career is a difficult one, full of conflicting emotions, nostalgia for the past, and apprehension about the future.

For Joe Blain however, it is a simple matter. After 43 years in the electric utility industry, Joe explains his decision in two words: "It's time."

In April, 32 years after assuming his duties as the manager of transmission and distribution for the Taunton Municipal Light Department, Joe Blain will officially retire. He will turn over leadership of the utility to Michael

Horrigan, his long-time operations manager, who has been appointed interim general manager by the Taunton Light Commissioners. In so doing, Joe Blain will close out a long and distinguished career in public power, which includes nearly 30 years as general manager of New England's largest municipal electric system.

For most of those three decades, he has greatly enjoyed the challenges of utility management in the public arena. Trained as an electrical engi-

neer at Northeastern University (and later obtaining a Masters in Engineering Management), he has guided TMLP with a steady hand as deregulation and technology have fundamentally changed the industry that he joined as a young distribution engineer for the Massachusetts Electric Company in 1964.

Reflecting on his career at Taunton, Joe speaks with justifiable pride of the challenges that have been met in managing a large municipal organization within an active political community. One of his biggest challenges came just a few years after his appointment as general manager. It was 1980 and the utility lineworkers union voted to strike over proposed changes in their daily work schedules and other working conditions. After much publicity and the intercession of the city's Mayor, both parties agreed to binding arbitration and the strike was ended. The arbitrator found in favor of management, and the changes were implemented, along with concessions on some employee benefits. Today, says Joe, the union would never agree to take back what they "lost" in that dispute.

While the daily management of TMLP was a full time job, Joe also recognized the importance of collaboration and group action in sustaining and strengthening public power in New England. He was one of NEPPA's longest-serving Board

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*"It's time." says retiring TMLP general manager Joe Blain.*



# Executive Director's Report

## On the road with the NEPPA trainers



by Patrick Hyland

For me, it was a chance to see the city where I went to school a long time ago, and see if some of our old haunts were still standing (they're not). For the rest of the group, it was the annual meeting of the NEPPA training staff, held this year in Syracuse, New York, to accommodate the long driving trips required by our New York trainers when we meet here in Massachusetts.

For a good number of years now, we have been holding this meeting in mid-January, as our training schedules are being finalized for the coming year, to go over programs, calendars, equipment needs, and various complaints that come up in the course of twelve busy months on the road. For NEPPA members, even though they are not aware of it, this is an important meeting, because it provides the only opportunity for our field training staff to share ideas, suggestions and constructive criticism of the programs that they teach throughout the year. It is also the time that

they receive feedback from our members, as we take the time to review all criticism of our programs – constructive or not – in the hopes of addressing any shortcomings or accommodating specific requests that we receive during the year.

NEPPA is fortunate to have six outstanding field trainers on its payroll, along with our safety and technical director Dave Fabrizius and training coordinator Lori O'Donoghue. The field staff represents well over a century of experience in the electric utility industry, and some of the most committed trainers you can find anywhere. They are also individuals who are willing to spend large amounts of time on the road in order to present NEPPA training programs on site – within the garages and fire halls and lunch rooms of public power systems all over New England and New York. In February, Wyn Braun, one of our field trainers, even went to Florida to pres-

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The Northeast Public Power Association is an organization representing and serving consumer-owned electric utilities in New England.

# Morrisville names Myotte manager

Craig Myotte, who has been serving as interim manager of the Morrisville Water & Light Department for the last five months, has been named manager.



He replaces former manager Scott Corse who resigned to take the helm of the Vermont Public Power Supply Authority (VPPSA) in 2006.

Myotte has 30 years of experience in the Vermont utility business. He served as manager of Vermont Operations for EPRO Engineering and Environmental Consulting since 2000. He was responsible for marketing and a wide array of management, engineering and environmental consulting services.

Previously, he worked for the Green Mountain Power Corporation (GMP) where

he held a number of management positions. His experience includes system planning, power supply planning, power contracts, transmission contracts, plant maintenance, electrical maintenance, hydro relicensing and managing engineering activities. Myotte has a BS in Electrical Engineering from the University of Vermont. He currently resides in Montpelier with his wife and two sons.

A utility spokesperson said that the department faces "significant challenges and opportunities...over the next few years and Craig's experience will allow MW&L to successfully navigate through these challenges and take advantage of the opportunities to the benefit of MW&L."

## ***NEPPA Annual Conference 2007 - be there!***

***August 19 - 22, 2007  
Samoset Resort  
Rockport, Maine***

*Interested in receiving unparalleled exposure to the region's public power decision makers? Consider becoming a sponsor for this event.*

*Call Mary Harrington at 508 482-5906 or e-mail [mharrington@neppa.org](mailto:mharrington@neppa.org) for details.*

NEPPA's 2007 Annual Conference promises to be a stellar event, both for the location and the content.

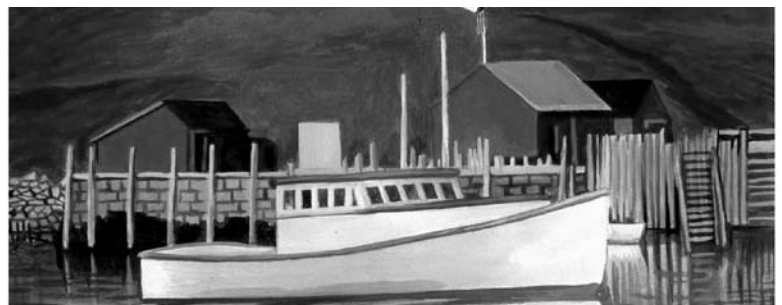
For over a century, The Samoset Resort has been considered the premier coastal resort location in Maine, renowned for spectacular and expansive views of Penobscot Bay and distant islands, with the soft Camden Hills rising to the east, and the spacious grounds of Jameson Point to the west. It has emerged as a golf vacation destination and conference center for people from all over the world. The resort offers something for everyone in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere.

The three days of sessions will include Dr. Paul Powers of Powers & Associates who will introduce new approaches to employment

recruitment and retention. A combined business meeting and board meeting will give participants a better understanding of the workings of NEPPA and an opportunity to be more proactive in the association.

Roundtable discussions on legislative and regulatory issues, effective training, and governance issues for utilities will provide networking opportunities and foster idea building among utility managers.

There's a lot more in the planning stages. Watch your mail for more information on this exceptional event.



# **MMWEC forms partnership to launch energy price risk management program**

As part of its effort to address energy price risks for municipal utilities, the Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC) has entered into an agreement with The Energy Authority (TEA), a public power energy trading and risk management organization.

MMWEC is in the process of implementing an Energy Price Risk Management Program that offers municipal utilities an organized, disciplined and objective approach to managing the financial risks that come with energy and fuel price uncertainty. The program's price risk management plans, tailored to reflect the risk tolerance levels of individual municipal utilities, will involve the use of futures, swaps, insurance and other financial and physical hedging tools to manage fuel and energy price risk.

Under the agreement, TEA will serve as MMWEC's trading partner and provide support for MMWEC's financial hedging transactions. TEA was founded in 1997 in response to changes in the electric utility marketplace and today provides a wide

range of energy trading, risk management and other services to 39 public power utilities throughout the United States.

"MMWEC's Energy Price Risk Management Program will bring greater stability and more consistently competitive prices to the municipal utility power supply," said MMWEC General Manager Glenn O. Steiger. "TEA will be providing valuable support and assistance as MMWEC gets this program up and running," Steiger said. "Over time, we will be able to provide the full range of program services with MMWEC staff resources."

Development of the Energy Price Risk Management Program has required the coordinated efforts of MMWEC's Supply and Trading Division, the Financial and Risk Management Services Division and the Information Systems Department. The Risk Oversight Committee of MMWEC's Board of Directors has monitored development and approved various components of the program, which is scheduled for implementation in March 2007.

## **Learn the basics of electricity**

*9:00 am to 3:00 pm  
April 24, 2007  
Central Massachusetts*

*9:00 am to 3:00 pm  
May 1, 2007  
Stowe, Vermont*



This one-day workshop is an introduction to the basics of electricity generation, transmission and distribution for non-technical public power employees.

NEPPA will offer this program at sites throughout New England with a minimum of 12 students. Call Sheila Boone at (508) 482-5906 for more information or register at [www.neppa.org](http://www.neppa.org).

## **Crew Leadership 2007**

*March 27-29, 2007  
October 16-18, 2007*

*Locations: TBA*



An intensive training program in supervisory and leadership skills for new or experienced public power field supervisors (superintendents, foremen, working foremen, lead linemen, crew leaders).

Participants will determine the locations. Call Sheila Boone at (508) 482-5906 for more information or register at [www.neppa.org](http://www.neppa.org).



# Mandatory reliability standards compliance required in June

In August of 2005, Congress passed the Energy Policy Act (EPAcT 2005). Among its many provisions, it amended the Federal Power Act (FPA) to require all “users, owners and operators” of the bulk-power system to comply with mandatory electric reliability standards. In July of 2006, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“FERC”) certified the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (“NERC”) as the “electric reliability organization” charged with developing and enforcing these mandatory standards. On Oct. 20, 2006, FERC issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (“NOPR”) on NERC’s proposed mandatory reliability standards. FERC proposes to make the vast majority of these standards enforceable as of June 1, 2007. It is anticipated that FERC will issue a Final Rule addressing NERC’s proposed reliability standards in March or April 2007.

EPAcT 2005 provides for significant financial penalties and other sanctions to be imposed on entities that violate NERC’s standards. NERC rules provide for the public disclosure of all confirmed violations of reliability standards, subject to FERC’s

regulatory oversight. New FPA Section 215, which implements this reliability regime, applies to all public

power utilities that are determined to be “users, owners and operators” of the bulk-power system. NERC intends to execute Regional Delegation Agreements with new Regional Entities (“REs”) formed out of NERC’s Regional Reliability Councils (“RRCs”). These REs will be the primary enforcers of this new regime of mandatory standards. Subject to FERC approval, NERC and its REs may impose fines of up to \$1 million per day per violation, and order going-forward changes to system operations to ensure compliance.

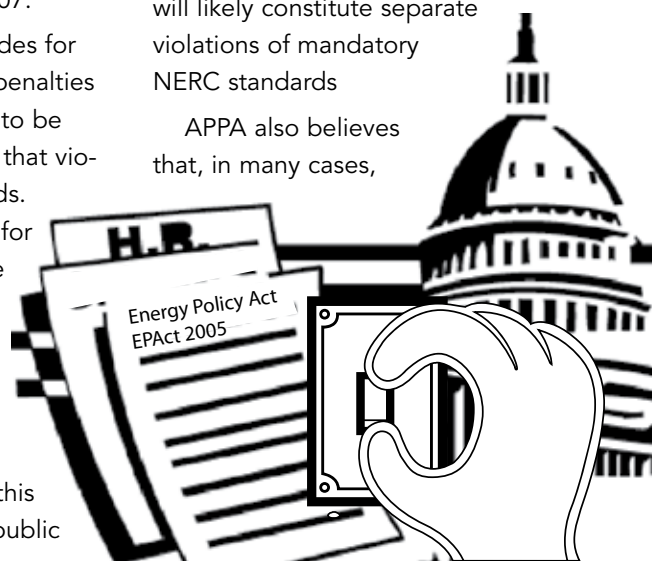
The American Public Power Association anticipates that NERC and the regions will not begin levying financial penalties for violations of mandatory reliability standards until June 1, 2007. Nonetheless, it is essential to begin the process of bringing your utility into compliance now, by determining the mandatory reliability standards that may apply to your facilities and operations and the steps that must be taken to document compliance. Indeed, failure to properly document your use of proper bulk-power system-related operating procedures, facilities maintenance, and operator training/staffing practices will likely constitute separate violations of mandatory NERC standards

APPA also believes that, in many cases,

## MMWEC plans forum to review compliance responsibilities

On April 4, the Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company will host a day-long forum on NERC reliability standards at its administrative offices in Ludlow, Mass. The forum will include presentations by representatives of the Northeast Power Coordinating Council, ISO-New England, and the region’s largest transmission owner, National Grid. Compliance issues for public power systems will also be addressed by MMWEC staff as well as the American Public Power Association. Details on the forum are being finalized and will be sent to all public power officials in New England.

**All New England public power officials are invited to attend.**



*Continued on page 6*

## Blain

*Continued from page 1*



*Blain, 1983 file photo right, Joe and his wife, Cindy*

members, and was elected President of the association in 1994. He also played leadership roles on several other NEPPA committees, and provided a home for NEPPA's apprentice lineworker school for nearly 15 years. Outside of New England,

Joe was also an active member of the American Public Power Association, participating in APPA's annual legislative meetings, and serving on the association's Executive Committee and Board of Directors in the late 1980s.

Joe's partner in life, Cindy (Bayer), was his high school sweetheart from Thompson, Conn. They were married on Thanksgiving Day in 1963, and have raised two children, Jonathan and Melanie. They are now the proud grandparents of Kaia, and are happily expecting their second grandchild in August.

As he prepares for a new chapter in his life, Joe's plans for the coming years are still a little uncertain. In the immediate future, he is preparing to sell his home in Taunton and move to Uxbridge, Massachusetts, where a new Blain home

is under construction. While he is looking forward to lowering his golf handicap, he also may continue to be involved in the construction of a new power plant in Taunton, if it goes forward and if the Board wants to use his knowledge and experience as a consultant. First and foremost however, is more time with his family and grandchild Kaia, who brings a smile to his face whenever he speaks of her.

For Joe Blain, it has been a rewarding career and a well-deserved reputation of high standards and professional integrity that will accompany him into retirement. He will leave large shoes to fill, both in Taunton and within the entire public power community of New England.



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## Reliability mandate

*Continued from page 5*

the compliance obligations of small public power systems can be delegated to their municipal joint action agencies or even to their host transmission operators or balancing authorities. But this will likely require development of carefully written

contractual arrangements that address the responsibilities of the parties to ensure ongoing compliance with NERC standards, as well as liability for financial penalties should NERC impose such a penalty or other sanction.

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## NEPPA trainers

*Continued from page 2*

ent the Crew Leadership program that he developed for NEPPA members last year, and has been invited to Wisconsin to do the same later this spring.

These road trips to northern Maine, southern Connecticut, western New York, and everywhere in between, are long, lonely and often dangerous, when winter weather freezes roads and ices windshields. They are the least enjoyable part of being a NEPPA field trainer, and the

reason that many individuals have left these positions in the past.

So the next time that a NEPPA trainer shows up early in the morning to teach a class at your utility, remember that they have often come a long way to be there. A warm welcome, along with a cup of coffee, is surely appreciated. Our road warriors do a great job, both in the classroom and behind the wheel.

## Adding Value To Your Organization



*Rick Dacri is an organizational development consultant, coach and president of Dacri & Associates, LLC. Since 1995 his firm, Dacri & Associates, has worked with employers to help them manage their workforce. Dacri & Associates is a business partner of NEPPA and works with a number of NEPPA members. Rick can be reached at 1-800-892-9828, rick@dacri.com or www.dacri.com*

Many general managers have distinguished themselves by tightly managing their operations, focusing heavily on engineering in operational efficiencies, while always maintaining a close watch on their budgets. Often they will do whatever it takes to keep rates down while maintaining good service to their customers. And isn't that what they are hired to do?

While cutting costs and focusing on the bottom line is important, it may not be the best way to create long-term value for your organization. Innovation and improved performance don't happen by accident. It requires investment and managers who are always focused on reinvesting in their organization.

Good managers identify problems and then solve them. If there is a defect, they fix it. If there is a deviation, they right it. While this is essential, it merely maintains the status quo and frankly, in an ever-changing environment, those who stand still, fall behind.

Great leaders are always looking around the corner, identifying emerging trends and potential opportunities, and then are seeking ways to take advantage of these for the betterment of the business. They are raising the bar - driving the performance of their organization and their people to the next level.

Leaders zero in on activities that create real value for the organization by investing in those

things that add value - whether it's people, systems or equipment. While systems and equipment are important, we must first focus on people. Without people, we have no operations. Yet recently, I spoke with a general manager who strongly believed her job was to vigilantly search for ways to cut costs - a task at which she was very adept. Unfortunately, her good work has resulted in an organization that struggles to recruit and retain people, and the employees she has are unprepared for the challenges of the 21st century.

By investing in your people, you will get better performance and increased employee capability. Trained employees develop better insights and make smarter decisions. And finally, the quantity and quality of your recruits will improve, resulting in employees who can make an immediate contribution. The best managers are taking control of their operations. They are focusing on opportunities to create real value by investing in their people.

### *So where should you make your investments?*

- Develop your talent through continuous training and development. Technical training and interpersonal skills training are essential in a world experiencing rapid technological changes that require people to work in a collaborative team environment.
- Pay and treat your people well. If you want the best and the brightest, you have to treat them as such.
- Invest in performance management systems. Employees must be focused on the things that are important to the business.
- Invest in recruitment initiatives. Placing ads simply does not work. Creative, "outside the box" approaches must be developed.

# Member Notes

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## *ElecComm offers temporary power services*

ElecComm, a seven-year old provider of underground electric services including cable installation and removal and high voltage splicing, announced recently that it has entered the temporary/backup power market and will provide this service to utility companies, municipalities and private businesses throughout the Northeast.

ElecComm's debut into this market coincides with the departure of GE Energy, which had provided backup to a number of utility companies. A number of technicians previously affiliated with GE Energy have signed on as ElecComm employees.

ElecComm is ready to begin providing this backup, 24/7, via generating equipment immediately and is currently in talks with several of New England's large regional providers of electricity.

ElecComm Corp, an associate member of NEPPA since 2000, was founded by partners Steve Martin and Joseph Sullivan. The firm has been in business since 1999, employs 40 workers, and provides a variety of specific services that include cable

installation and removal, and high voltage splicing. The firm also specializes in telecommunications construction and preventive maintenance and restoration, i.e. fiber optic cable installation and splicing.

Martin said that they recently completed a significant capital investment in the power generator equipment necessary to provide this backup.

"If a utility provider experiences a power outage...this generating equipment will help keep businesses, hospitals, colleges and neighborhoods supplied with power while the provider repairs the problem."

Martin said that the backup generators can also be used to assure no-end user interruption in service during "planned" outages for maintenance .

ElecComm is located at 785 Woburn Street, Wilmington, MA 01887. For additional information, please call 978-657-0091. Their emergency number is 866-933-3221.

## *Massachusetts officials celebrate "green" bank*

Massachusetts state officials, along with representatives from Century Bank and National Grid, were on hand to showcase several new energy-efficiency measures recently installed at the bank's headquarters in Medford, Mass. The measures include installation of energy-efficient lighting, enhanced air conditioning systems, efficient window glazing, and heat-reflective roofing at headquarters. Century Bank, a long-time member of NEPPA, expects to save annually approximately \$35,000 in electricity costs and more than 190,000 kilowatt-hours – enough to power

nearly 30 homes for one year. Energy-efficient lighting also has been installed at other branch locations in the greater Boston area, achieving even greater overall savings. During the event, Osram Sylvania presented Century Bank with Sylvania's "Ecologic" Award.

Under the direction of National Grid, DMJM Harris of Boston served as engineering support and project manager for Century Bank, which has demonstrated its unwavering commitment to energy savings and improving the environment.



# Houlton Water Company announces retirement of Stephen M. Socoby

Effective January 25, 2007, the Houlton Water Company (HWC) regretfully announced the retirement of Stephen M. Socoby. Steve was a long time employee, beginning in 1971 in the hand digging/pole setting crew of the electric line department. Steve's intelligence and

work ethic were quickly recognized and by 1984 he had moved up "through the hawespipe" and become the superintendent of the electric department. Steve was responsible for keeping the lights on in the HWC service territory. Over Steve's

twenty-three years as Superintendent, he was instrumental in improving system technology, reliability and cost of service. At the same time, Steve took good care of customers and the HWC personnel that reported to him. In recent years, to save customer cost, the pumping and metering department personnel were shifted into the electric and water departments and the supervisor eliminated. Steve enthusiastically took on the extra responsibilities

necessitated by this merger.

Throughout his years with the HWC, Steve was formally recognized for his achievements. In 2000, the Northeast Public Power Association presented Steve with its Distinguished Service Award for service to his community. In 2001, the Maine State legislature recognized Steve for his public service to a consumer-owned electric utility.

A retirement party in Steve's honor, took place the evening of January 23, 2007 at the Courtyard Café in Houlton. Approximately 45 people consisting of HWC personnel, HWC Directors, vendors, contractors, Steve's wife Ann and his father Russ showed up to roast and toast Steve.

At the end of the evening, several gifts of appreciation were presented to Steve and he received a standing ovation from all those in attendance.

According to HWC General Manager John Clark, Socoby will be doing some consulting for the utility in the future.

"We will miss Steve on a day-to-day basis but are fortunate to have the opportunity to stay in contact with him," said Clark. "He has always been a tremendous contributor and a valued member of our organization."



## Operations and Safety Conference

*Holiday Inn Boxborough Woods  
Boxborough, Mass.  
April 12 & 13, 2007*

**To register go to [www.neppa.org](http://www.neppa.org).**

This is the first-ever joint conference between the Northeast Public Power Association and the Energy Council of the Northeast. Conference activities will include several outstanding keynote speakers, along with a series of discussion roundtables on topics of interest to electric utility operations personnel. In addition, a vendors' trade show will be held in the hotel Exhibit Hall throughout the day Thursday, with time reserved for all conference participants to meet with vendors and view their products and services.



# Employment

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*Employment advertising in News Line is \$30 with a maximum of 50 words or is free to NEPPA members. Deadline for the next issue is March 16.*

## **PEABODY MUNICIPAL LIGHT PLANT SUPERINTENDENT OF ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION**

The Peabody Municipal Light Plant (PMLP) is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Superintendent of Electric Distribution. The position is responsible for planning, designing, coordinating, scheduling and supervising the construction, maintenance and operation of the transmission, distribution and metering systems. Additional areas of responsibility include fleet maintenance and tree trimming.

The qualified applicant should possess extensive skills in project management as well as an extensive background in the construction and maintenance of electrical distribution systems and related equipment. A minimum of five (5) years experience in managing electric utility line construction projects and supervising electric utility operation and maintenance personnel is preferred. Experience as a First Class Lineman and possession of a CDL is also preferred. The PMLP provides an excellent salary/benefit package and is an EOE. Annual salary range is \$82,983-\$103,285. Please submit your resume to William Waters, Manager at 201 Warren St. Ext., Peabody, MA 01960 or e-mail to [wwaters@pmlp.com](mailto:wwaters@pmlp.com).

## **KENNEBUNK LIGHT AND POWER DISTRICT FIRST CLASS LINEWORKER**

The District located in Kennebunk, Maine, a coastal town in southern Maine, is seeking an experienced first class line worker. Responsibilities of this position include but are not limited to, the construction, maintenance, and repair of the underground and overhead electric distribution system. A valid Commercial Drivers License (CDL) is required. A pre-employment physical and drug screening will be required of the successful candidate. KLPD is a non-union employer offering an excellent benefits package and a competitive wage. Applications should be sent to M. Dufoe, General Foreman, 4 Factory Pasture Lane, Kennebunk, ME 04043.

## **PEABODY MUNICIPAL LIGHT PLANT FIRST CLASS LINEWORKER (TROUBLEMAN)**

The Peabody Municipal Light Plant is seeking a 1st class Lineworker (M/F). Responsibilities of this position will include, but not be limited to the construction, maintenance, and repair of the underground and overhead electric distribution system. The candidate must have the ability to work on energized lines up to 23,000 volts. This person shall be required to work

variable shifts including evening and weekends. Must be able to respond to emergency calls within 30 minutes. A complete job description is available for viewing on the PMLP website (PMLP.com). A minimum of two years experience as a Lineman (First Class) is required, and the position is subject to pre-employment and random drug testing, as required by DOT regulations and a CORI and Registry of Motor Vehicles record check. A valid Commercial Drivers License (CDL) is required, as well as a MA Class 1B/3A Hoisting License. PMLP offers a competitive benefits package and is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Please send resume to William F. Waters, Manager, 201 Warren Street, Extension, Peabody, MA 01960.

## **CHICOPEE ELECTRIC LIGHT ELECTRIC SYSTEM ENGINEER**

Chicopee Electric Light is accepting applications for the position of Electric System Engineer. This position is responsible for oversight of engineering projects, studies and programs designed to enhance the distribution system reliability, performance and efficiency. In this position, responsibilities include short & long range planning, preparation of installation plans, design drawings and specs, design & test procedures for overhead and underground distribution system, electric system analysis and power system studies such as protective relay coordination, short circuit fault studies, power flows, etc. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering or power engineering and 3+ years electric utility experience or an associates degree in electric engineering and 8+ years electric utility experience. In addition, high-level computer competency including CAD is required. Qualified applicants should send their resume to HR Manager, Chicopee Electric Light, 725 Front St., Chicopee, MA.

## **SWAN'S ISLAND, MAINE LINE SUPERINTENDENT**

The Swan's Island Electric Cooperative, Inc. is seeking to fill its Line Superintendent position (M/F). Swan's Island Electric Cooperative is a member-owned utility with 350 year-round and 247 seasonal customers located 6 miles off the Maine Coast near Mount Desert Island and Acadia National Park. Swan's Island is a 7,000-acre island with its own K-8 school and is served daily and year-round by the Maine Department of Transportation Car Ferry Service. Requirements include a High School

# Employment

*For an up-to-date list of classified ads, go to [www.neppa.org](http://www.neppa.org).*

diploma/GED, and a minimum of four years line experience in overhead and underground electric distribution, including all phases of line construction, maintenance, & troubleshooting. A valid Commercial Drivers License, Class B, is required. Qualifications in transmission line work is preferred. An interest or experience in alternative or renewable energy (wind and solar) is a plus. Full-time residency on Swan's Island is required of the successful applicant. Compensation: \$45,760 base salary, plus bonus on-call and emergency pay, telephone subsidy, and medical benefits for employee and family. Additionally, a relocation allowance is available to assist in relocating from the mainland. Interested applicants are invited to contact the Swans Island Electric Cooperative at 207-526-4336, for details and application forms.

## **MMWEC**

### **PROJECT MANAGER**

This new position will assume overall responsibility for the management and coordination of all aspects of major projects under the purview of the Director of Generation Services. Accountabilities also include financing and accounting. Projects include constructing a new generation facility and may also include other facilities such as gas or oil pipelines, transmission or distribution substations, transmission lines, etc. Projects vary in scope and normally consist of engineering, permitting, and financing and construction phases. Responsible for facilitating all communication with staff, project participants, consultants, regulatory agencies and government officials. Experience: Advanced degree in business or engineering management preferred. Fifteen years of total power experience with 5 years involved as a principal in central power station construction management. Send resume to: Human Resources, Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company, P.O. Box 426, Ludlow, MA 01056. At MMWEC, you'll enjoy a highly competitive salary and a wide range of benefits. An equal opportunity employer, M/F/H/V.

## **HUDSON LIGHT AND POWER DEPARTMENT**

### **BUSINESS MANAGER**

The Town of Hudson Municipal Light Department is seeking a Business Manager with a minimum of five years of office supervision. Responsibilities will include supervision, general ledger, preparation and analysis of monthly and annual financial statements, prepare monthly and annual budgets, cash flow projections, annual federal and state reports, statistical

growth projections, overview of the billing/receivables, payroll, inventory functions.

The successful candidate must have a minimum of a BS in Accounting. Computer literacy is required. Spreadsheet proficiency a must. Municipal utility experience a plus.

Salary range - \$84,200 to \$100,440.

Send resume showing work, educational background and salary history to Manager, Hudson Light and Power Department, 49 Forest Avenue, Hudson, MA 01749.

## **HUDSON LIGHT AND POWER DEPARTMENT**

### **ELECTRICAL ENGINEER**

The Hudson Light and Power Department is conducting a search for a candidate to fill the position of Electric Engineer who will assist the Manager in the day-to-day operations of the Department.

The successful candidate must have a minimum of a BS in Electrical Engineering. Experience in Distribution is required. Knowledge of Transmission, Generation, and Power Resource Management a plus. The Hudson Light and Power Department operates an electric system with two 115 kV interconnections and a 20 MW generating plant, a 70 MW load, and serves over 13,000 customers. The Hudson Light and Power Department is an EOE, offering competitive salary and benefits.

The salary range is \$69,800 -- \$81,350.

Send resumes, including salary history, references, and educational background to: Manager, Hudson Light and Power Department 49 Forest Avenue, Hudson, MA 01749

## **LITTLETON ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPARTMENT**

### **ELECTRIC SYSTEMS GIS OPERATOR**

The Littleton Electric Light Department, a progressive municipal owned public utility, located 35 miles west of Boston at the intersection of Route 495 and 2, is seeking applicants for an Electric Systems GIS Operator. Working under the direct supervision of the Electric Engineer, the successful applicant will have CAD experience, possess a minimum 2 year technical degree, a high level of computer competency and knowledge of the electric utilities industry. Please submit or email resume to Savas C. Danos, General Manger, Littleton Electric Light Department, PO Box 2406, Littleton, MA 01460 (sdanos@lelwd.com).

# Mass. Good Neighbor Energy Fund launches 2007 campaign

Anticipating another year of helping thousands of families in need of energy assistance across the Commonwealth, the Massachusetts Good Neighbor Energy Fund recently kicked off its 2007 “Give the Gift of Warmth” campaign and welcomed

Wellesley Municipal Light and Westfield Gas & Electric as new Fund sponsors this year.

“We’ve seen how the Fund has positively impacted the lives of many of our customers over the years and we now look forward to playing a more active role in the process,” said Suzanne M. Newark, customer service supervisor at Wellesley Municipal Light. Melissa Brastow, Chairman of this year’s campaign and customer collections representative at North Attleborough Electric added, “This is the third year in a row that we’ve added energy sponsors to the Fund. It certainly is an encouraging sign and shows that the Fund’s solid reputation for doing good continues to grow.”

The Massachusetts Good Neighbor Energy Fund is available to any Massachusetts resident who, because of temporary financial difficulty, cannot meet a month’s energy

expense and is not eligible for state or federal energy assistance. Sponsoring gas, electric and oil companies support their respective customers’ generosity

through various giving programs and is administered by the Salvation Army.

Since 1985, the Fund has raised more than \$13.8 million and assisted over 66,250 needy families. Last year, the Fund helped more than 3,800 families pay electric, gas or oil bills.

“The high costs of living we’re all facing these days presents a challenge for this year’s campaign but I’m confident that we’ll continue the good work of the Fund,” said James Moynihan, general manager of the North Attleboro Electric Department. “The key barometer as to the effectiveness of the Fund each year is the difference it makes in the lives of families in need of energy assistance across the state.”

The goal for the 2006-07 MA Good Neighbor Energy Fund campaign is \$700,000.

To qualify for assistance from the MA Good Neighbor Energy Fund, an applicant’s gross household income must fall between a specified percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. This year’s maximum Fund disbursement is \$275 per eligible household per heating season.

**To find out how your utility can participate in this program, call the Salvation Army at (617) 542-5420 and talk to Captain Terry L. Shaffer, financial secretary of Massachusetts Region.**

## Sponsoring Companies

Ashburnham Municipal Light  
Bay State Gas Company  
Belmont Municipal Light  
Berkshire Gas  
Braintree Electric Light  
Concord Municipal Light  
Groton Electric Light  
Holyoke Gas & Electric  
KeySpan Energy Delivery  
Littleton Electric Light  
Mansfield Municipal Electric  
MA Oilheat Council  
Middleborough Gas & Electric  
NSTAR  
National Grid  
New England Gas Company  
North Attleborough Electric  
Reading Municipal Light  
Unitil/Fitchburg Gas & Electric  
Wellesley Municipal Light Plant  
Western Massachusetts Electric  
Westfield Gas & Electric



# Committee Meetings

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March 9

Executive  
NEPPA Office  
Milford, Mass.  
10:00 a.m.

March 23

Board of Directors  
Attitash Grand Summit Hotel  
Bartlett, N.H.  
9:00 a.m.

## Upcoming Events

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March 12–15

APPA Legislative Rally  
The Mayflower Hotel  
Washington, DC

March 27-29

Crew Leadership 2007  
Location TBD

April 12 – 13, 2007

Operations & Safety Conference  
Holiday Inn, Boxborough, Mass.

April 24 and May 1

Electric Utility Basics  
(Exact locations TBD)

August 19 - 22, 2007

Annual Conference  
Samoset Resort  
Rockport, Maine

September 11

Benevolent Fund Golf  
Tournament  
Heritage Golf Club  
Charlton, Mass.

October 16-18

Crew Leadership  
Location TBA

October 24 – 26

Public Utility Management  
Program  
Fall Session  
New England Center  
Durham, N.H.

December 7

Annual Membership Meeting  
Devens Conference Center  
Devens, Mass.