

**Light Commissioners' Meeting
July 8, 2014**

Members present were: Gregg Edwards, Chris Stewart

Employees present were: John Driscoll

The meeting was called to order at 6:25 p.m. by Dana.

The agenda was approved on a motion by Chris, seconded by Gregg, 2-0 in favor.

The May 6, 2014 minutes were approved on a motion by Chris, seconded by Gregg, 2-0 in favor.

The June 3, 2014 minutes were approved on a motion by Chris, seconded by Gregg, 2-0 in favor.

Old Business:

The Manager, in the absence of the Superintendent, brought up the issue of the need for a new cab & chassis unit to replace the existing Light Truck #25, a 2005 digger-derrick. He had distributed copies to the Board of a letter written by the Superintendent that had explained the differences in the four (4) different price quotes for the necessary cab & chassis unit. After some further discussion on the matter, on a motion by Gregg, seconded by Chris, 2-0 in favor the Board voted to approve the purchase of the new cab & chassis unit by Freightliner under the state's DCR-461 bid for \$74,119.

New Business:

The Manager had distributed copies to the Board of power supply cost projections for July 2014 and emphasized that MMWEC had hedged roughly 27% of Templeton's portfolio for the month. He said that this was done to eliminate any unexpected power supply cost overruns in July 2014 like there were in July 2013. The Manager has estimated the power supply costs at 9.24¢ per kilowatt-hour.

There were three (3) hand-outs that the Manager had prepared for the Board that did not particularly require any specific discussion:

- May 2014 Power Supply
- June 2014 Wind Generation
- July 2014 Residential Electric Rate Comparisons

The Manager had distributed copies to the Board of some analyses done on the effects of coal-fired electric generation in the New England market. He reminded the Board that as of 2017 all of the coal-fired units at Brayton Point/Somerset, MA, Salem Harbor/Salem, MA and Mount Tom/Holyoke, MA would be out of service forever. These three New England generation assets totaled some 1,800 megawatts of base load generation for the New England load for which, as of today, there were no replacements. The Manager said that this would leave only 600 megawatts of coal-fired base load electric generation in all of ISO New England's transmission region (Bow, NH and Portsmouth, NH).

Any local resistance to a newly installed underground natural gas pipeline to alleviate the generation constraints in New England will likely exacerbate the situation, which brought the Manager to his next topic, a letter from the manager of the Groton Electric Light Department to Groton residents. In the letter this manager had described how the municipal-owned combined cycle generation at MMWEC operates from summer to winter, emphasizing both the unavailability of natural gas in the winter AND the volatility of #2 fuel oil year-round. With an unofficial war declared on the coal industry at the federal level and a general lack of willingness by private investors to bring new coal-fired generation assets on line, oil is the only other alternative to natural gas that is not widely available in New England.

There being no other Open Session business to discuss, on a motion by Gregg, seconded by Chris, 2-0 in favor the Light Commissioners' Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

John M. Driscoll
General Manager