

UPDATE ON PROPOSED POWER PLANT—4/4/2006

TO: Town Meeting Members and Officials

FROM: William Bottiggi, BELD GM

OPEN HOUSE AT BELD

SAVE THE DATES! 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 11, and Wednesday, April 19, 2006

**RSVP by Friday, April 7, so we can plan for your attendance
Call 781-348-2362 or email pboddie@beld.com**

Braintree Electric Light Department (BELD) will host two open houses to help Town Meeting Members and Braintree officials understand why it is in the town's best interest to construct a new power plant at our Potter Road facility. I'll conduct a detailed presentation, followed by plenty of time to answer questions. We'll discuss power supply markets, future generation requirements in New England, how a power plant helps keep BELD's power supply costs (and ultimately, rates) competitive, and the financial impact of bonding the money required to build a new generating station.

Your attendance is strongly recommended, as it will help you decide on how to vote at Town Meeting this May. We promise this will be a very informative evening, and refreshments will be served. **Please contact us by this Friday to let us know which date you will attend.**

PROGRESS TO DATE

LEGISLATION: Massachusetts State Governor Mitt Romney signed into law on March 23 the legislation you authorized as a home rule petition last fall. This legislation allows BELD to hire an Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) contractor and efficiently—with a minimum of risk—build a new power plant. Based on a successful outcome at Town Meeting in May, BELD will proceed with a competitive bid process to hire an EPC contractor.

ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITTING: After completing a Request For Proposal (RFP) process, BELD has chosen an environmental firm to help permit the new power plant. Based on a successful outcome at Town Meeting, BELD will authorize the environmental contractor to proceed with the permitting process. This is expected to take approximately 18 months and will include a siting permit, water permits, and air permits, to name just a few.

SCHEDULE: Based on favorable Town Meeting results, the power plant will be constructed over the next three years. Demolition of the retired Potter I station and site preparation will be completed during 2007, permitting and engineering will be completed during 2008, and construction and startup will be completed during the first half of 2009.

Once again, with this *Update* we have enclosed a copy of an article we think you may find interesting. We believe BELD's proposed power plant will help keep Braintree residents' electric rates affordable.

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU
AT ONE OF OUR OPEN HOUSE EVENTS!**

***** DON'T FORGET TO RSVP *****



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