

## **ARE YOU TAX-EXEMPT?**

*We're now updating our database to validate tax-exempt customers and ensure that we have all legally required documentation.*

*Customers classified as tax-exempt by CMLP were sent letters this fall asking them to complete and return the Sales & Use Tax Exemption form required for their company. Forms were due at CMLP by November 14, 2014.*

*If you missed the deadline, your account(s) has been re-set as non-exempt, although you can still apply for tax-exempt status. Find forms at [mass.gov/dor/forms/online-forms-index.html](http://mass.gov/dor/forms/online-forms-index.html).*

*Please note that customers are responsible for submitting documentation as required by law to maintain tax-exempt status. Unfortunately, once the tax is charged, state law does not allow CMLP to issue a credit or refund.*

## **Power Cost Adjustment changed December 1**



Electric costs are rising this winter, but Concord Light customers will **not** see the hefty increases widely reported for those of nearby investor-owned utilities.

The Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) rose from \$0.00000/kWh to \$0.01500/kWh on December 1.

Business customers can calculate the impact the PCA will have on their expected bill by multiplying \$0.01500 by their forecasted energy usage in kWhs.

The change is due to higher wholesale power costs caused by higher demand for natural gas-fired generation, along with New England's continued gas pipeline constraints. Also, winter natural gas price forecasts are up and there is below average natural gas storage.

Our staff continues to monitor current power costs and revenues, and a rate study has been recently performed as part of our budgeting and planning process for 2015 and beyond. For more information on the study and its results when available, visit [concordma.gov/cmlp](http://concordma.gov/cmlp).

## **Town employees cut electricity use by 5%**

The Concord Conserves Campaign recently wrapped up a year-long drive to make Concord's Town government operations more energy- and cost-efficient, an effort that cut electricity use by 5%.

"Concord's Town employees did a great job," said CMLP Energy Conservation Coordinator Jan Aceti. "If we keep electricity use at the new reduced level, Town government will save \$17,000 each year, while also preventing 65 tons of carbon dioxide emissions."

Town Manager Chris Whelan presented Concord Light with the Concord Conserves trophy for outstanding departmental effort, while CMLP Electrician Marty Boormeester was recognized for outstanding individual effort.



CMLP Energy Conservation Coordinator Jan Aceti accepts the Concord Conserves trophy from Town Manager Chris Whelan, left. Also at the presentation are, from right, Concord Light Director Dave Wood, Master Electrician Marty Boormeester, and Civil Engineer Tom Christensen.

# briefs

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• **SIGN UP FOR OUR E-NEWSLETTER.** To get our e-newsletter, send your email address to [chilton@concordma.gov](mailto:chilton@concordma.gov) with “e-newsletter” in the subject line. You can also sign up online at [concordma.gov/cmlp](http://concordma.gov/cmlp) through the newsletters link.

## CHECK YOUR THERMOSTATS

*Make sure your thermostats give true readings. If, for instance, a thermostat setting of 68 degrees is heating the air to an actual temperature of 72, your HVAC system is running more than necessary and costing you extra money. Here's how to check your thermostats:*

*Run your system until a stable temperature is reached. Next measure the real temperature by taking a reading right next to the thermostat using a thermometer you know is accurate. If you can't adjust the thermostat, have a technician adjust or replace it.*

## Use back-up generators safely

If your business has a stationary back-up electricity generator, please use it only if it was installed by a licensed electrician, and be sure that employees understand how to operate it safely.



It is especially important that all generators have a disconnect switch to isolate them from the Town's power grid before they are turned on. An improperly installed or operated generator could seriously injure our workers if it allows power to back-feed into our system.

If you use a portable back-up generator, only operate it outdoors in a well-ventilated, dry area where deadly carbon monoxide fumes will not enter the building. NEVER operate a generator indoors, in a basement, or inside a connected garage.

## Cut your heating costs with ETS

If you're looking for a way to cut heating costs, ETS—electric thermal storage—could be the answer. ETS heaters provide round-the-clock warmth at a bargain rate, using proven technology that is clean, quiet, and environmentally friendly.

ETS heaters work by using electricity during off-peak hours to store heat that can be used anytime. ETS benefits include:

- It qualifies for a low, off-peak electric rate.
- There's a rebate from CMLP of \$100 per installed kilowatt of capacity—a 35-kilowatt boiler would qualify for a \$3,500 bill credit.
- You can choose either a central furnace or individual room units.
- Whole-building retrofits can be done one unit at a time to fit budgets.
- There are no worries about fuel deliveries or carbon monoxide.
- ETS is smart grid and smart meter ready.
- It cuts overall peak demand and power costs.



**There's a guarantee.** If you are not completely satisfied with your ETS heating system during its first heating season, CMLP will remove it at no charge and reimburse you the invoice price for the unit(s) excluding installation and electric service upgrade costs.

Call Carole Hilton at 978-318-3158 or email [Chilton@concordma.gov](mailto:Chilton@concordma.gov) for more details.