



BONUS to GELD Ratepayers!

Many of you may notice that the dollar amount for the August 2017 bill is lower than typical for a summer electric bill.



There is a one-time billing credit on your August 31, 2017 which is shown as a rate reduction on the generation portion of your bill. This is because on August 20, GELD received a check in the amount of \$409,649.20. Almost all of this check is due to the fact that the bonds for "Seabrook Project 6" have been reduced to a level that allows for the release of our security deposit.

As part of the bonding for our ownership interest in the Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant, we were required to keep a substantial amount of cash in a bond reserve account until the bond balance reached a certain point. We reached that point in mid-August and GELD received this nice bonus.

At the July 11th Board meeting, the GELD Board voted to disburse the funds as follows: Approximately \$200,000 would be a direct credit to customers on the August 31 bill; \$100,000 would be earmarked for substation investment; \$50,000 would go towards our long-term liabilities to be placed in our OPEB trust account (bringing the trust balance to approximately 69% of the total liability); and the balance would be deposited into GELD's cash account.

The \$200,000 is being distributed based on July's actual kWh sales. Our kWh sales in July were 6,357,831 which determined the credit for this month's bill to be 3.15 cents per kWh. This credit should reduce your August bill by about 23%. The 3.15 cent credit has been applied to the generation rate portion of your bill.

Solar Farm Update

We have a full year of data from our solar farm on the town landfill on Cow Pond Brook Road. We are thrilled to announce a capacity factor of 17.2%. This is higher than anticipated. A capacity factor of 100% would be the result of electric generation operating at capacity 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

We have had solar contribution during the peak hours of May, June and July saving us nearly \$30,000 in transmission costs over the last three months. For more information on the solar farm go to our website at grotonelectric.org, click on the "information" section, select newsletters from the drop down and look at the April 2017 issue.

You can also view real time solar data by clicking on the "view GELD's solar farm data" link on the home page of our website.



Farewell Elaine!

GELD wishes Elaine well as she prepares for her retirement.



Thank you Elaine for your fifteen years of dedicated service. Have lots of fun in retirement!



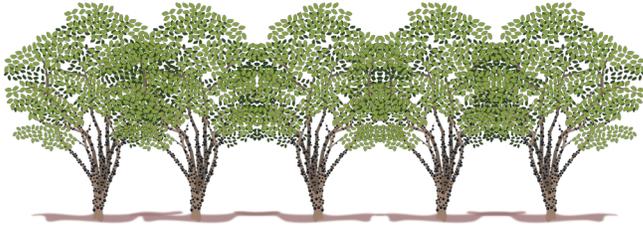
Barbara Cronin has worked for GELD as the Customer Accounts Representative for the past 9 years and was the Assistant Accountant for the Town for 11 years before coming to GELD. Barbara will be leaving the front desk to take over the GELD accounting position. We wish Barbara the best in her new position.

Welcome Sherrie!

GELD welcomes Sherrie DiGeronimo as our new Customer Accounts Representative.



Sherrie comes to Groton Electric with over 25 years of customer service experience. She lives in Fitchburg, MA with her husband Tom, sons Jamison and Shawn and dog Yogi. She also has a daughter Jordan and son-in-law Alex who live in Boston. Sherrie will be handling our billing, collections, and customer service (and everything in between). She is an exceptional addition to our small team. Please join us in welcoming Sherrie to Groton Electric.



Tree Trimming Update

The company that won our tree trimming contract this year is Northern Tree Service, Inc. out of Palmer, MA. This fall and winter you will see their trucks trimming along Groton's tree-lined streets.



Be Prepared for Emergencies and Power Outages

Even with the best planning, occasional power outages do occur. Prepare now so you'll be ready in a hurry if the unexpected happens:

Make a storm kit with things you will need if the power goes out. Keep enough supplies for at least three days. Include a battery-powered radio and a flashlight, along with a supply of batteries to run them. Also gather nonperishable food, a manual can-opener, bottled water, matches and candles, personal medications, and a first-aid kit. Don't forget baby formula and pet food, if needed.

You can find detailed information about preparing for the unexpected online at fema.gov. Click "Search" on the homepage (in the top left) and type "How to prepare" to find in-depth guides to citizen preparedness.

GELD Holiday Schedule

September

Monday, September 4, Labor Day: closed

Tuesday, September 5, offer extended hours: 7:30 a.m.–7 p.m.

October

Monday, October 9, Columbus Day: closed

Tuesday, October 10, offer extended hours: 7:30 a.m.–7 p.m.

November

Friday, November 10, Veteran's Day observed: closed

Thursday, November 23, Thanksgiving: closed

Friday, November 24, regular hours: 8 a.m.–1 p.m.

December

Friday, December 22, Christmas Eve observed: ½ day
(7:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.)

Monday, December 25, Christmas Day: closed

Tuesday, December 26, offer extended hours: 7:30 a.m.–7 p.m.

Friday, December 29, New Year's Eve observed: ½ day
(7:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.)

