

Contact: Sandy Richter
Middleborough Gas and Electric
Department
Phone 508-946-3702
Fax 508-946-3706

32 S. Main Street
Middleborough, MA 02346
Phone 508-947-1371



Press Release

MG&E Gives Relief to Middleborough

Town Departments receive a \$39,000 credit on electric bills this month.

Middleborough, MA, July 17, 2006: On the heels of a fiscally challenging year, the school department has received a credit of \$16,100 which may help keep this year's air-conditioning costs at bay. The Public Library was credited with \$2,000 helping defray energy expenses while patrons escape the heat. Even the Park Department, whose largest electric use includes the public pool, was credited \$650 to help them get through the summer.

Middleborough Gas & Electric Department officials announced today that a credit has been issued to all Middleborough town electric accounts totaling \$39,000, allocated according to energy use. Department officials stated that MG&E currently bills the town under 68 separate accounts but, by simulating the combining of these accounts and billing the combined use under the commercial rate, the town sees a reduction of \$78,000 in annual energy bills. Last year, the Department put two of Middleboro's largest schools on a more favorable rate, saving the town \$22,000 annually. This year's savings will be credited in two installments, the second \$39,000 coming in January.

In May, MG&E dropped the Purchased Power Adjustment for all electric customers when it became apparent that supply costs were lower than the Department originally budgeted. The average MG&E electric customer using about 500 kWh per month realized a savings of \$5 per month for an average bill of \$67.27.

"In this way, the community still benefits in the greater sense because they make use of all of the town's resources as well," said Jim Collins, General Manager. "The Water Department got a credit of

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over \$13,000 and that benefits water customers as well. We believe we'll be able to issue another similar credit in January.”

The Middleborough Gas & Electric Department is owned by the town of Middleborough, serving electric and natural gas customers in Middleborough and electric customers in neighboring Lakeville. Prior to this summer relief, the five-member board of elected Commissioners recently voted to give the town a payment in-lieu-of-taxes totaling \$366,544 and contributed an additional \$50,000 in fuel costs for the snow removal the previous record-breaking winter season.