

the Messenger

A newsletter from Middleborough Gas & Electric Department Special Annual Edition

Community-owned since 1893

Special Edition: A Year in Review

A message from the General Manager

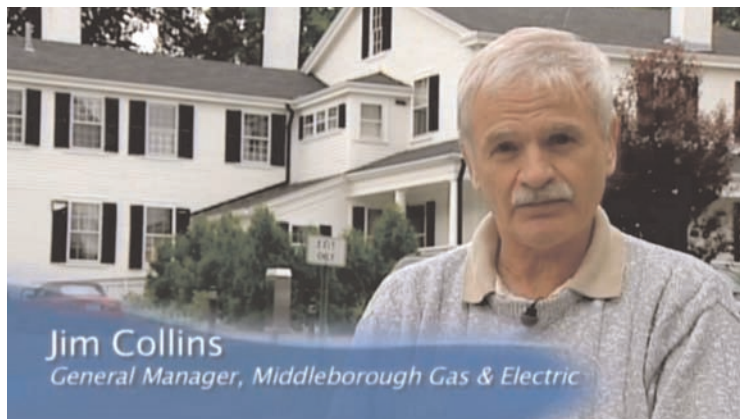
It's good to be public.

Serving only Middleborough and Lakeville, we know where our priorities lie. Stable rates and reliable service within 101 square miles. But even small town utilities need to be sophisticated energy buyers in today's jumpy wholesale market that reacts each moment to world events. MG&E managers work with industry advisors to develop a portfolio of supply purchases over time. Like any strong investment plan, it aims for steady, moderate pricing with no surprises.

New "Reliability Must Run" charges in support of regional power plants and a mandated fee to support new generation to meet projected growth have forced us to raise our purchase power adjustment on electric bills twice in the past year. While we continue to search for ways to offset this latest challenge with other diversified supply options, our customers' average costs are still 10-15% lower than in surrounding towns served by investor-owned utilities.

Right here at home, we are hard at work, improving the pipelines, poles and equipment that bring the energy to your door. On this page you will find a brief report of our work in the past year and several financial indicators for 2006. It is the best evidence of our overriding priorities in this new complex world of energy management.

Stable rates and reliable service in your hometown.



Jim Collins
General Manager, Middleborough Gas & Electric

Celebrating Public Power

Public Power Week and Public Natural Gas Week are both in October, so we're celebrating the benefits of public utility ownership all month. Check local access television throughout October to see "Neighbors Helping Neighbors," a video we helped produce that tells the story of these benefits in Middleborough, Lakeville and other communities lucky enough to enjoy public utility service.

2006 stats:

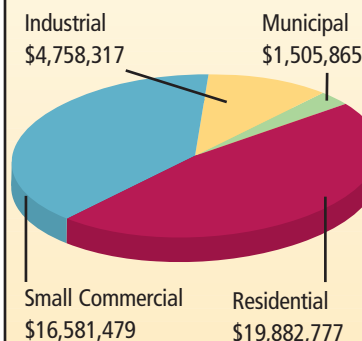
Electric

Peak demand **65.9** Megawatts
Total kilowatt-hours **256,248,568**
Total customers **14,251**
Total revenue **\$33,105,235**

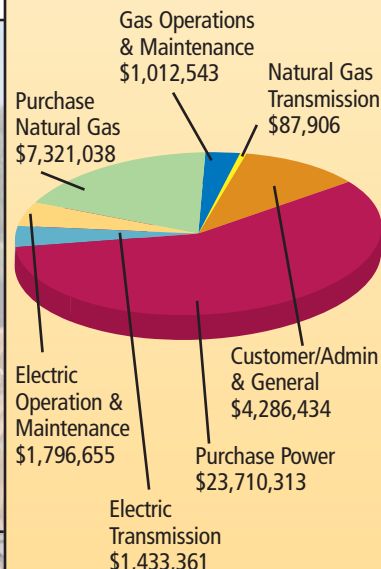
Natural Gas

Peak use **4,557** million cubic feet
Total MCF **600,252**
Total customers **4,878**
Total revenue **\$9,623,204**

Department Revenue



Department Expenses



Ongoing Improvements...

... keep our systems reliable. This year, we:

- Enhanced our customer billing system and produced a more reader-friendly bill.
- Constructed our 10th electric distribution circuit serving West Middleborough and North Lakeville.
- Installed fencing and video surveillance to improve security at our LNG storage area.

Financial Benefits of Municipal Service & Ownership

- \$366,000**
Direct cash payment in-lieu-of-taxes to Middleborough
- \$250,000**
Reduced electric expenses for municipal buildings in Middleborough and Lakeville
- \$400,000**
Interest income from MG&E operating cash in town accounts
- \$25,000**
Reduced street lighting rates to towns we serve

Your elected Board of Commissioners include, from left, Roger Parent, Edward Parks, Donald Triner, Thomas Murphy and Terrence Murphy.



If you would like MG&E's complete Annual Report audited by Nelson, Adam & Dickson, please call John Granahan at 508-947-1371.

Town Times: Jack-O-Lantern Festival

The Kiwanis Club of Middleborough and the Middleborough Youth Softball League will hold their third annual Jack-O-Lantern Festival on Saturday, October 27 on the Town Hall lawn.

Registration is from 4 to 6:30 p.m., followed by pumpkins on display from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

Registration is free, but donations are appreciated. Every registered jack-o-lantern is eligible to win a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond and everyone is encouraged to come in costume for the parade at 6 p.m. In the first year, 125 lanterns lit the night!

WARNING

If you drop your payment into one of our Payment Boxes, it will not be credited for at least 24 hours – longer on weekends, and much longer if you leave out the payment stub. Come into our office to pay if you want immediate credit to keep your Prompt Payment discount.

What you need to know: timing is everything

Our new billing system is more precise, forfeiting the Prompt Payment discount when payment is even a day or two late. And paying your bill by the

Do you do this?

Do you turn on hot tap water then add the cold water to cool it down to run your hands under it comfortably?

Do this instead:

Turn down the temperature of your water heater (ask your service technician if you need to) to 120 degrees or below. This keeps your hands safe from

scalding and

uses only the

energy

necessary

to heat

water for

home

use. Stay

safe and

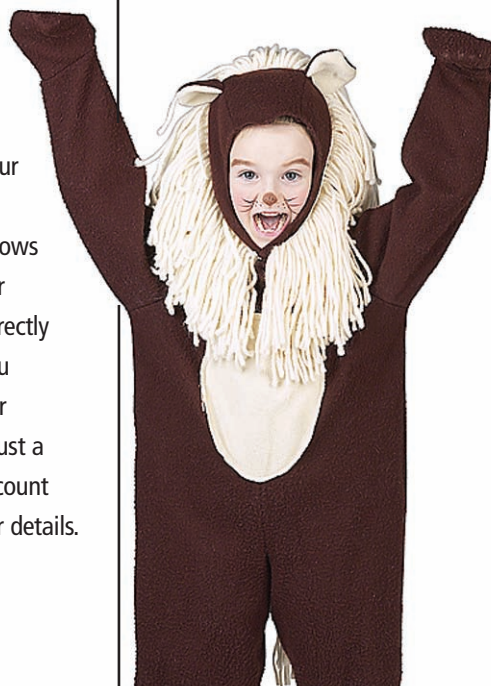
save!



HomeWorks: banish the vampires

There are vampires in your house – ordinary appliances that secretly feed on energy. These appliances use power even when switched off or not performing their primary purpose.

Cable television boxes, Tivo equipment, and cell phone and other chargers can all be energy vampires. Always unplug chargers when not in use, and check manuals to see if other things can be powered down. Find out more about identifying and banishing phantom power users at energystar.gov.



How much does it cost?

To watch my favorite monster movie marathon (10 hours)

On a 36" LCD TV

1.6 kilowatt-hours use = 23¢ (for viewing time only)

Popping it in the 40-watt DVD player

.4 kilowatt-hours use = 6¢ (doesn't count a video rental fee)

Taping it with my 40-watt VCR

.4 kilowatt-hours use = 6¢ (watching it again is extra)

Discount Date is more important than ever! Heating and electric costs are higher now and will be at their peak during the heating season. What was only a few dollars in September grows to the cost of lunch with a friend in January.

Now is the time to try our Direct Pay automatic payment service that allows MG&E to withdraw your monthly bill payment directly from a bank account you specify. No scheduling or rushing on your part – just a guarantee that your discount won't be lost. Call us for details.

Town Times: housing assistance

The local Housing Rehab Assistance program provides low interest loans to eligible single or multifamily (up to three units) homes occupied by low-to-moderate income households. For details, contact the Office of Economic & Community Development at 508-946-2402 or pick up an application at the OECD, third floor of town offices at 20 Centre St., Middleborough.

DIRECTORY

Customer Service & Billing
508-947-1371

Gas Service Questions
508-947-1535

Electric Service Questions
508-947-3023

Emergency:

Gas 508-947-1535

Electric 508-947-3023

Payment locations:

Main office:

32 S. Main St.,
Middleborough
8:45 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Pay Boxes:

Main office parking lot

32 S. Main St.,
Middleborough

Oak Point

Middleborough

Savas Plaza

Route 18, Lakeville

Stop 'N Shop Plaza

Route 28,
Middleborough

Holiday Closings:

Monday, October 8

Columbus Day

Monday, November 12

Veterans' Day

Thursday and Friday,

November 22 and 23,

Thanksgiving celebration

Commission Meetings:

Meetings are typically held the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Administrative Offices at 32 S. Main St., Middleborough. Please call 508-947-1371 to confirm dates and times.


MIDDLEBOROUGH
Gas and Electric Department
www.MGandEonline.com