AEENE Newsletter Archive: May 2000

Meeting: Wednesday, May 3, 2000

## **Spouses Night Dinner**

Museum of Science, d'Arbeloff Conference Suite.

For directions: www.mos.org

4:30 Board Meeting

5:30 Social Hour

6:30 Dinner and Awards

8:00 Omni Show

Space Limited - Reserve ASAP

Call the Reservation Line Today: 781-446-0125 Or email reservation to: arthur1771@aol.com

\$40 per person; Spouses free

#### **Spouses Night Dinner**

Bring your spouse or come solo for AEE New England's annual spouses night celebration. Heading into our summer break from formal meetings, we slow the pace a bit with a more socially oriented event.

A sponsored social hour and dinner buffet will be held overlooking the Charles River in the d'Arbeloff Conference Suite at the Museum of Science. A brief annual chapter awards presentation will follow the dinner.

The admission fee includes dinner, validated parking, and the 8:00 Omni Theater show. There is no charge for your spouse to join you.

Don't miss this chance to show appreciation for your spouse's support of all your professional endeavors.

# A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR SOCIAL HOUR SPONSORS

Please join us in extending thanks to the generous support of Belimo Aircontrols and Automated Logic, which have underwritten complimentary beer and wine service for our annual Spouses Night social hour.

Automated Logic Corporation Carl Barnard, NE Regional Manager 770-795-5102 Belimo Aircontrols, Inc. Fred Ferrara, District Sales Manager 800-543-9038, 978-658-2340

#### **CEM Course**

The New England Chapter is planning to organize and help sponsor a two day Certified Energy Manager course and exam sometime in the fall. These seminars are regularly held around the country by AEE, however, none are planned in our area for 2000. The chapter ran this course two years ago and over 35 energy professionals participated.

We have scheduled November 2 and 3, 2000 for the CEM course, with the exam to be held on November 4, 2000.

If this is of interest to you, please let us know. Please call (781) 446-0125 and leave a message indicating your interest and how you may be reached. We will keep you informed.

### Industry Highlights

Boston based **NSTAR**, the parent company of Boston Edison, Commonwealth Electric, Commonwealth Gas and Cambridge Electric Light, has been named "Electric Utility of the Month" by Electric Light and Power Magazine (EL&P). NSTAR subsidiary Boston Edison was also recently honored by being named a finalist for the prestigious Edison Award presented annually by the Edison Electric Institute (EEI) in Washington, DC.

PG&E Corporation's National Energy Group today announced one of the largest plant modernization projects of its kind - an investment of over \$400 million - to significantly reduce airborne emissions from its 760 megawatt electric generating plant, Salem Harbor Station. Before starting the upgrade, PG&E Corporation must acquire a series of local, state, and federal approvals that could take over a year to secure. PG&E Corporation with 1999 operating revenues of nearly \$21 billion and operations in 27 states, markets energy services and products throughout North America through its National Energy Group.

A consortium of 15 leading U.S. electric and gas companies plans to launch an Internet marketplace for the purchase of goods and services between the energy industry and its suppliers this year. The 15 companies include American Electric Power, Cinergy, consolidated Edison, Inc., Duke Energy, Edison International, Entergy, FirstEnergy corp. FPL Group, PG&E Corp., Public Service Enterprise Group, Reliant Energy, Sempra Energy, southern company and Unicom.

Governor Howard Dean, M.D. today unveiled a unique new public utility, the first of its kind in the nation. Dean introduced Efficiency Vermont, a utility dedicated solely to providing energy efficiency programs for Vermont businesses and citizens. "The new energy efficiency utility will replace most programs previously run by 22 electric utilities statewide so that every Vermonter will have access to the same programs and services," Dworkin said. The utility will be operated by Vermont Energy Investment Corporation, a non- profit organization with a 14-year record of providing energy efficiency programs in the state.

**Enermetrix.com**, the leader in Internet commerce for energy, today announced that **Select Energy**, the competitive energy marketing subsidiary of Northeast Utilities, has joined the online energy exchange provided by Enermetrix.com to facilitate the selling of electricity and natural gas to commercial and industrial customers. Select Energy will use **Enermetrix.com** to efficiently sell energy by matching availability of electricity and natural gas with customer needs in a powerful, real time online exchange environment. Select energy is a wholly - owned subsidiary of Northeast Utilities, focusing on newly - deregulated markets in the 11 - state region from Maryland to Maine.

A new study by **XENERGY Inc.** highlights the potential for a vibrant green power electricity market in Texas, while identifying roadblocks to creating a green power market in New Jersey. The two states provide case studies with important lessons for the rest of the country, the company said. The Green Power study is a companion study to XENERGY's recently completed Retail Energy Markets '99 study. Results and recommendations are confidential and limited to the study's sponsors. Sponsorships are still available. XENERGY is an energy consulting, information technology and energy services firm headquartered in Burlington, MA, with offices across the United States and Canada.

The natural gas industry in New England continues its fast rate of growth, in terms of new customers and new supply capabilities, industry and government leaders learned today at **The New England Gas Association's annual Energy Conference** held at The Westin Hotel in Providence. NEGA, based in Needham, MA, was established in 1926. Its membership includes all of New England's local natural gas utilities, the interstate pipeline companies, a liquefied natural gas importer, and over 280 associate member companies.

Despite plans to spend \$400 million cleaning up its old power plant in Salem, utility giant **Pacific Gas & Electric Corporation** faces criticism from officials and grass - roots activists alike, who label the proposal too little too late. The voluntary upgrades, intended to head off a state - mandated cleanup, would slash smog - causing emissions at one of New England's biggest pollution sources, and reduce the coal dust that rains down on the neighborhood surrounding the plant. But critics of the San

Francisco - based company say the Salem cleanup doesn't go far enough, and they are outraged that PG&E has released no such plans for its much larger Brayton Point plant in Somerset.

Suspecting possible price-fixing and collusion, the organization that runs New England's power grid has voided an entire month's worth of wholesale market prices and is considering asking for a federal investigation. Holyoke-based **ISO New England** would not identify and power marketers or generators suspected of improper conduct, saying only that it voided one set of market prices for the month of January because it has "detected anomalous conduct in the market." Industry sources said yesterday potentially millions of dollars in improper, excess revenues for so-called installed capacity charges are involved, and the situation has attracted attention from U.S. Justice Department investigators. ISO spokesman James B. Sinclair said he could not elaborate beyond the agency's statement, which said it is "considering mitigation procedures and/or referring the matter to the Federal Regulatory Energy commission or any other appropriate governmental agency," which could include prosecutors.

Massachusetts Electric Company reached a milestone in its growth when it enrolled its 1 millionth customer last month, the company's President and Chief Executive Officer Lawrence. J. Reilly announced today. Massachusetts electric Company is a subsidiary of New England Electric System.

For inclusion in this monthly column, please send the latest news about your company to Kathleen Laushway Stanley, Board Member.

#### **Employment Opportunities**

# SYNERGY INVESTMENT ELECTRICIANS! LIGHTING AUDITORS!

Our lighting retrofit company has an immediate opening for a full-time junior lighting auditor. Responsibilities would include:

- \* Counting light fixtures
- \* Recommending replacement plan for light fixtures
- \* Project management assistance

Career path for motivated and organized individual:

- \* Project Management
- \* Sales

Minimum of one year of electrical experience required. Incredible opportunity for a motivated, energetic person to join our rapidly-growing 12-person team. Salary and bonus based on experience, attitude and performance.

We offer stock options to all employees. If you are interested, please call John Williamson at 508-620-5800 x144 or fax/e-mail a letter/resume.

Synergy made the 1999 Inc. 500 list of fastest growing companies in the country. We offer full benefits and vacation.

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