



Press information from:
WAKEFIELD MUNICIPAL GAS & LIGHT DEPARTMENT

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Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Department to Participate in New MMWEC Solar Project

(Wakefield, MA)– The Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Department (WMGLD) is one of six municipal utilities participating in a solar project scheduled to be built in Ludlow by the Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC), the publicly owned utility’s joint action agency,.

The WMGLD will purchase approximately 1 megawatt from the 6.9-megawatt nameplate capacity project planned for the MMWEC property. Joining the WMGLD in the project are five other municipal utility members of MMWEC, including Boylston, Ipswich, Mansfield, Marblehead and Peabody.

The ground-mounted solar project will be built on a 30-acre section of MMWEC’s 200-acre property in Ludlow, a site well suited for solar, according to MMWEC. After receiving responses to its request for proposals (RFP), MMWEC is working with EDF Renewables Distributed Solutions, Inc., as the project developer. In addition, MMWEC intends to maximize the use of local subcontractors in the project. Construction will start this summer, and the project is expected to be online by late 2021.

Using its unique statutory financing authority as a political subdivision of the Commonwealth, MMWEC plans to use a local financial institution to issue tax-exempt revenue bonds to finance the project. The project’s cost is estimated at \$14.5 million.

The project was developed in alignment with the state’s decarbonization goals. It also allows for municipal utilities that may not have ideal locations for projects within their own communities to add more solar to their power portfolios.

“We’re excited to be a part of this project that will further increase the amount of carbon-free generation in the WMGLD power portfolio, which is approximately 47.2%,” WMGLD General Manager Pete Dion said. “The WMGLD remains committed to continually balance financial responsibility and environmental stewardship in our power supply decisions. This project is a key indication of that commitment.”

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