



Massachusetts

Interfaith Power & Light

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Together, we will save energy, save money, save the planet, protect the peace, protect human health, and create jobs too.

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NEWSLETTER

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MIP&L receives Public Awareness grant

MIP&L was recently selected as a recipient of public awareness initiative funding from the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative (MTC). MTC administers the commonwealth's Renewable Energy Trust. With this funding, MIP&L will commence its **"Behold, I'm Doing a New Thing: Clean Energy Campaign for the Community of Faith in Worcester"**. MIP&L will work closely with the Regional Environmental Council (REC) of Worcester as well as the Clean Water Fund (CWF) on their "20% by 2010" initiative.



Regional Environmental Council



This Campaign will build upon the contacts and successes from more than two years of experience and from MIP&L's current office base in downtown Worcester. We will use the "Mutual Ministry Model" in which MIP&L continues its ministry of education to its member congregations, and then sends forth these congregations and congregants to reach out to others in their community, explaining the moral imperative and practical actions for renewable energy and energy conservation. We will be targeting Worcester's community of faith. Specifically, our efforts will complement those of CWF and REC as we will work to enlist the community of faith to advocate for a resolution by the City of Worcester. Our efforts will also complement those of CWF and REC as we work to enroll more residential customers (both homes and small congregational facilities) in GreenUp.

We will also promote MTC's **Clean Energy Choice** Program among the community of faith in Worcester. (*See page 2 of this newsletter for more information about Clean Energy Choice.*) We hope that the City of Worcester and its community of faith can lead the way toward a clean energy future. Look for updates as the campaign continues!

Related Websites:

MIP&L's website is www.MIPandL.org. To learn more about REC, visit www.recworchester.org. To learn more about CWF, visit www.cleanwaterfund.org. To learn more about MTC, go to www.masstech.org. Finally, please visit www.CleanEnergyChoice.org to learn more about the Clean Energy Choice Program.

New MIP&L Intern – meet Natalie Howlett

As part of our grant from MTC, MIP&L has hired an intern to assist with the "Behold, I'm Doing a New Thing" Worcester campaign. We have been lucky enough to find Natalie Howlett right here within city limits. Natalie is a first year Masters student at Clark



University in the Environmental Science and Policy program. Prior to her studies at Clark, she received a B.S. in Biology with minors in Business and Chemistry from Westfield State College. Natalie has worked for the Department of Conservation and Recreation and volunteered for the Conservation Commission of Shirley, MA, her hometown. Natalie recently volunteered with the Regional Environmental Council in Worcester. She is interested in promoting the adoption of clean energy and finding cost effective ways to improve efficiency, so she fits right in at MIP&L!

Behold, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland. – *Isaiah 43:19*

Triple Your Impact with *Clean Energy Choice*

The decision to choose clean electricity, rather than electricity produced from fossil fuels, is a **moral one**. Our current electric grid mix comes mainly from fossil fuels such as coal, oil and gas. Unfortunately, using these fuels to produce electricity has some very serious side effects. To name just two, our dependence on foreign sources of oil contributes to instability in the world, and even war. Also, the pollution from burning fossil fuels has adverse health impacts, such as higher asthma rates. These polluting power plants are disproportionately located in low-income communities.

But you can make a difference.

With the new **Clean Energy Choice program**, you now have a chance to triple the impact when you choose clean electric suppliers. As always, "voting with your dollar" for clean energy will increase the demand for new electricity generating facilities that are renewable in source (e.g., wind, solar, etc.). As always, it also sends an important message to policymakers that you want clean, renewable energy sources rather than polluting fossil fuel burning power plants. Now, with Clean Energy Choice, the **Massachusetts Technology**

Collaborative will match each dollar you spend to support new renewables with up to **\$1 for your city or town** to spend on renewable energy projects or educational materials, and with up to **\$1 for renewable energy and energy efficiency projects that benefit low-income residents**.

Truly, this is a win-win-win! It is, quite simply, the right thing to do.

The time to sign up is NOW!

There's no better time than *right now* to sign up for clean electricity. This is because of the special "MTC Bonus Matching Grant" for cities and towns where 3% of households participate.

On June 30, 2005, MTC will award additional clean energy grant dollars to every town or city where 3% of households have signed up for Clean Energy Choice. A \$50 per household one-time bonus grant will be awarded to every city or town where 3% of all households meet either of the following requirements:

1. The household has been enrolled in Clean Energy Choice **since at least April 1, 2005**; or
2. The household has purchased \$50 in New England Wind renewable energy certificates by June 30, 2005.

Learn more and sign up at
www.CleanEnergyChoice.org

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