

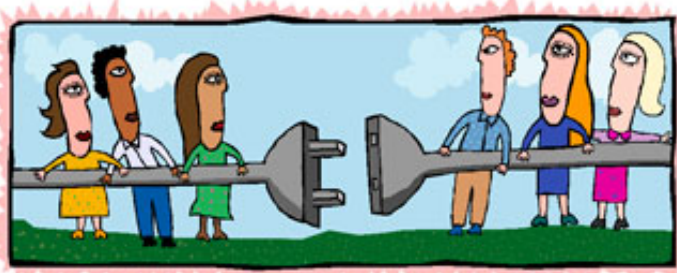


# Massachusetts Interfaith Power and Light NEWS

July 2010

Dear MIP&L members and friends,

## Environmental Stewardship — Appliances in Your Home



What are you plugging in? **Stewardship is what we do. Cost is the consequence of our actions.** Cost is counted in both \$ and pollution. The appliances used every day in our homes are worthy of prayerful attention.

Appliances have 3 price tags: the **cost** of the actual product, the **energy** it consumes, and the **repair and maintenance** costs. Old and out of date appliances are even worse, consuming large amounts of energy and are at high risk for costly repairs and inconvenient failures. The average home spends approximately \$1,900 in annual electricity costs per year. Home appliances count for as much as 75% of this cost.

### WHAT SHOULD BE DONE?

**Replace old refrigerators and freezers.** Replacing a refrigerator bought in 1990 with a new EnergyStar qualified model would save enough energy to light up the average household for nearly 4 months. Go to:

[http://energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=refrig.pr\\_refrigerators](http://energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=refrig.pr_refrigerators)

for more information on product lists, manufacturer lists, purchasing tips, FAQs, special offers, finding a store, and more. For a refrigerator savings calculator, go to

<http://energystar.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=refrig.calculator>

This will calculate your annual savings by replacing your current refrigerator with a comparable EnergyStar model. Make sure to keep your refrigerator's model number (not serial number) handy, found on both the refrigerator and the refrigerator guide, and write down the price per kWh, found on your electricity bill.

**Replace washing machines, dishwashers, dehumidifiers, and room air conditioners.** Though they don't run all the time, the use does add up. Each one of these appliances has an Energy Star web site which provides guidance on the efficiency of equipment.

**Washing Machines:** [http://energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=clotheswash.pr\\_clothes\\_washers](http://energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=clotheswash.pr_clothes_washers)

**Dishwashers:** [http://energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=dishwash.pr\\_dishwashers](http://energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=dishwash.pr_dishwashers)

**Dehumidifiers:** [http://energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=dehumid.pr\\_dehumidifiers](http://energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=dehumid.pr_dehumidifiers)

**Room AC:** [http://energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=roomac.pr\\_room\\_ac](http://energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=roomac.pr_room_ac)

And of course, one of the best ways to be a good steward is to do and use only what you need. Excess comes from not paying attention. When we pray, we ask for God's guidance. It comes in practical ways, such as above. Do what God asks of you!



## Update: Federal Energy and Climate Legislation



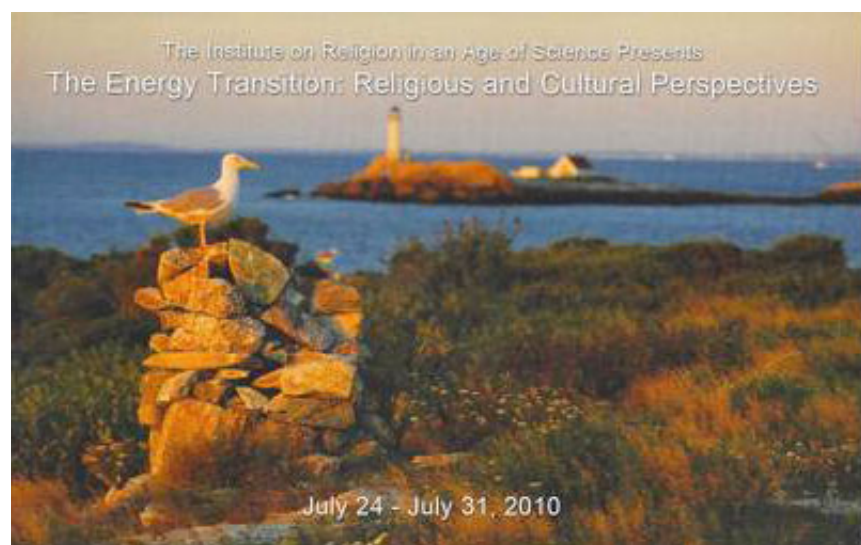
On Monday, June 28th, MIP&L representatives and Massachusetts faith leaders conducted a meeting with Jack Richards of Senator Brown's office. The main agenda was to convey how extremely important the Senate passage of a comprehensive energy and climate legislation is to the faith community. The meeting was a success and Mr. Richards agreed to arrange for a meeting between Senator Brown and the faith leaders in Boston. The meeting will take place in the near future during which Senator Brown will have a personal discussion with faith leaders on their views and those of their community's regarding the critical need for a comprehensive energy and climate legislation.

MIP&L and the Mass Council of Churches presented petitions signed by almost 500 Massachusetts voters urging such action. The MIP&L petition urged passage of a legislation that provides meaningful resources to help the world's most vulnerable people adapt to the effects of climate change; prioritizes investment in conservation, energy efficiency and clean, safe and renewable energy; as well as puts a price on carbon that will achieve greenhouse gas emission reductions of at least 20% by 2020 and 80% by 2050.

Attending the meeting were MIP&L representatives Jim Nail, Jeff Steinfeld, and Vince Maraventano; Alan Teperow, Executive Director of the Synagogue Council of Massachusetts; and member of the MIP&L advisory Board; Mass. Council of Churches Executive Director, Jack Johnson; Episcopal Bishop Cederholm; Rev. John Buehrens of First Church Needham UUA; Daniel Avila of the Catholic Conference of Massachusetts; and theology graduate student and MCC intern Ian Mevorach.

For analysis of the American Power Act and other Senate proposals go to: [www.wri.org](http://www.wri.org) and [www.climateworks.org](http://www.climateworks.org).

## Upcoming Event – The Energy Transition: Religious and Cultural Perspectives



A weeklong conference, hosted by The Institute on Religion in an Age of Science, will be taking place in July from the 24th to the 31st. Ten world-renowned experts in the field of energy will be presenting and exploring with the general public, the world's energy future, in the beautiful and sustainable ecosystem of Star Island.

For more information go to: [www.iras.org](http://www.iras.org)

Or contact: [IRAS2010@gmail.com](mailto:IRAS2010@gmail.com)

Peace and blessings,

Your friends at MIP&L