



Massachusetts

## Interfaith Power & Light

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Promoting environmental justice and care of creation with the community of faith in Massachusetts

September 2005

NEWSLETTER

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### **Clean Energy Choice: How does Worcester Measure Up? *An update on the "Behold, I'm Doing a New Thing" Clean Energy Campaign***

As many of you might remember, MIP&L is in the midst of a public awareness campaign in Worcester called "*Behold, I'm Doing a New Thing: Clean Energy Campaign for the Community of Faith in Worcester*". This campaign is made possible by a grant from the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative ([www.masstech.org](http://www.masstech.org)). In the spring, MIP&L worked closely with the Regional Environmental Council (REC) and Clean Water Action/Clean Water Fund on the successful "20% clean energy for the City of Worcester by 2010" initiative. Getting the City of Worcester to pass a clean energy resolution was just step one of the campaign. Steps two and three involve offering presentations on faith and ecology (including clean energy) to the community of faith, and signing up residents of Worcester for clean energy. We have begun giving presentations at congregations, and we continue to work on signing up residents for clean energy. The sign-ups continue to come in, but we need to do better!

Worcester participants in MTC's Clean Energy Choice<sup>SM</sup> (CEC) program help support renewable energy generation, help support the City of Worcester in its efforts to become a green city, and also help the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to use more renewable energy.

How can a Worcester resident (or **any Massachusetts Electric residential customer**) sign up for clean energy in the home? It's actually very easy. To become a CEC participant, choose either of the clean energy suppliers shown in the box below and contact them directly.

Participants pay a few dollars extra on their Massachusetts Electric bill, which pays for the generation of renewable energy in our New England power pool. MTC then matches the participant's premium up to 100%.

For every dollar a Worcester participant spends on renewable energy, MTC gives up to a dollar to the City of Worcester and up to a dollar to benefit low-income areas in Massachusetts. This money going to the city and to low-income areas, must be used for clean energy projects such as renewable energy generation equipment, educational materials and activities, or building analysis and improvements.

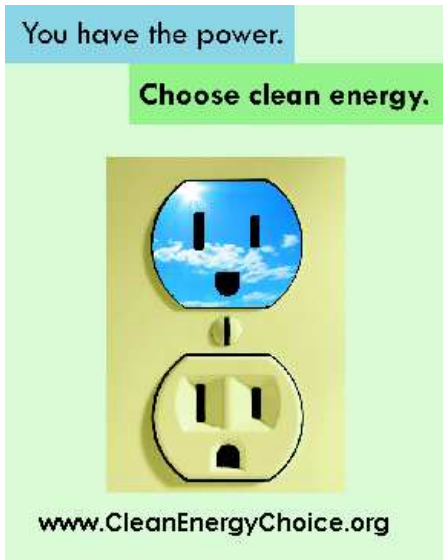
#### **What about other (non-Worcester) residents?**

**Any Massachusetts resident can participate in the Clean Energy Choice program** – and you should! If you live in Massachusetts Electric territory, contact one of the providers shown in the box in the left column. If you live in NSTAR Electric or municipal electric territory, choose New England Wind from the Mass Energy Consumers Alliance: 1-800-287-3950 [www.massenergy.com](http://www.massenergy.com).

Over two-hundred forty households and small businesses in Worcester are participating in Clean Energy Choice<sup>SM</sup>. That makes **Worcester second only to Northampton in terms of the largest enrollment of all communities in MA**. So far, Worcester's residents have earned almost \$12,000 for their city to use for clean energy projects.

If you want to help this effort, please contact one of the clean energy suppliers and tell them you want to sign up for clean energy. If 3% of Worcester's households participate, MTC will give Worcester will get a bonus grant of \$106,100! Let's make this goal a reality and support clean, renewable energy!

Mass Energy Consumers Alliance 1-800-287-3950 <a href="http://www.massenergy.com">www.massenergy.com</a>	Community Energy 1-866-WIND-123 <a href="http://www.NewWindEnergy.com">www.NewWindEnergy.com</a>
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## Welcome to new MIP&L Members!

*The following congregations and organizations recently sent in their Declarations of Intent to join MIP&L:*

First Parish UU Church, Chelmsford  
 Calvary Episcopal Church, Danvers  
 Historical Society of Dorchester  
 First Congregational Parish, UU, Kingston  
 St. John's Episcopal Church, Millville  
 First Universalist Church, Orange  
 St. Athanasius Parish, Reading (Roman Catholic)  
 UU Church of Greater Lynn, Swampscott  
 First Unitarian Church, Worcester

## Fall Is Upon Us: OIL BUYING PROGRAM

MIP&L member congregations who use oil can save some money by participating in our Oil Buying Group. The Massachusetts Energy Consumers Alliance Inc. (Mass Energy) has agreed to establish heating oil supplies for MIP&L member congregations. MIP&L member congregations may participate in this Mass Energy oil program at **no additional fee**. Since 1982, Mass Energy's discount heating-oil buying network has grown to serve 7000 members across eastern and central Massachusetts. **If your congregation uses oil and would like to find out what your rate would be through the Oil Buying Group**, please contact us at 800.406.5374 or [lhoke@MIPandL.org](mailto:lhoke@MIPandL.org). **Time is of the essence**, so don't delay! We also encourage individual residents who are members of MIP&L congregations to take advantage of the Oil Buying Group. Contact us to learn more.



Mass Energy is also offering a bio-fuel (**Bio-Heat**) option for consumers who use oil. The Bio-fuel blend is more expensive than the regular Mass Energy daily price, but it is still **cheaper than gas**. **More importantly**, it would make using heating oil a **lower impact product than gas**. Currently the bio-fuel price is \$2.272 per gallon. With higher oil prices, we anticipate that the bio-fuel price will be closer to the regular heating oil price this heating season. Currently, the bio-fuel option adds only 3 cents per gallon to the price of heating oil. The other extra expenses are related to the low-sulfur nature of the bio-fuel heating oil and a slightly higher delivery charge. Please contact us to learn more: 800.406.5374 or [lhoke@MIPandL.org](mailto:lhoke@MIPandL.org).

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