

**Board of Public Utilities to Save Electric Transmission Costs**

The expiration of a long-time contract with National Grid (formerly Niagara Mohawk) will save the Jamestown Board of Public Utilities (BPU) approximately \$15,000-20,000 per month in electric transmission costs. The National Grid contract expired August 31.

BPU Interim General Manager David Leathers explains that, before the New York Independent System Operator organization was created in 1999, the BPU contracted with National Grid to transport its electricity to Jamestown through August 31, 2007.

Complex negotiations occurred in 2001, says Leathers, between the BPU, National Grid and the New York Power Authority to allow the BPU to contract directly with NYISO, saving the BPU up to \$97,000 per month. As part of the negotiations, however, the BPU agreed to divert 15 percent of the savings to National Grid to make it whole for any shortfalls in its revenue resulting from the conversion.

The diversion of the savings ended on August 31, 2007, and the BPU is now entitled to the full savings resulting from the consolidation of transmission service under the NYISO.

Interim General Manager David Leathers notes that to the average BPU electric customer, who pays an average electric bill of less than \$50 a month, the savings to the BPU will mean an approximate 50 cent reduction per month in the fuel adjustment portion of the bill.

NYISO manages New York's electricity transmission grid – a 10,775-mile network of high-voltage lines that carry electricity throughout the state. NYISO also oversees wholesale electricity markets where more than \$50 billion has been transacted since 1999.

NYISO is a not-for-profit corporation regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. It is governed by a ten-member Board of Directors whose members come from the power industry, environmental organizations and the fields of finance, academia, technology and communications. The members of the Board, as well as all employees, are independent and have no business, financial, operating or other direct relationship to any market participant or stakeholder.

"The elimination of duplicative transmission rates through the NYISO means savings for BPU customers," continues BPU Interim General Manager David Leathers. "A contract for 100% transmission of electricity by NYISO is great news for our utility and our Jamestown Area customers."



**Circuit Improvements to Enhance Electrical Reliability on City's North Side**

Linemen Rick Krauzowicz and Chris Fitzpatrick (left to right) work with a BPU crew to convert the last 4800 volt Newton substation circuit to 13.8 kilovolt by year-end. The circuit feeds the area from Buffalo Street to Marvin Parkway, south of Arlington Avenue and affects 391 customers.

As the circuit is replaced with a higher voltage unit, new and taller utility poles, new pole-mount transformers and new lines will be installed to create more capacity and reliability for the area. Tree trimming is necessary because more clearance is required for higher voltage lines which must be located higher on the poles. Last winter, a lengthy outage was caused by failed equipment due to an overload condition from heavy winter heating demands. This work should prevent future such outages.

New poles will be set adjacent to the existing poles in most areas and will remain in place until telephone and cable companies also transfer their utilities to the new poles.

**EZpay Payment Plan Enrollment Made Easy**

EZpay, the BPU Easy Payment Plan electronic transfer allows customers to pay BPU utility bills each month with little or no effort. Sign up for the convenience of having your utility bill deducted automatically from your checking account each month.

Customers receive their statements as usual each month and there will be a reminder at the top of the statement that the bill will be deducted from your account on its due date. Receiving the statement will remind you to deduct the billed amount from your checking account.

Sign up for EZpay at the BPU Customer Service Office or at [www.jamestownbpu.com](http://www.jamestownbpu.com) under "About."

**BPU HOLIDAY HOURS**

**THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY**

Thursday, November 22 Closed  
& Friday, November 23 Closed

**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY**

Monday, December 24: Closed  
Tuesday, December 25: Closed

**NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAY**

Monday, December 31: Closed  
Tuesday, January 1: Closed



The BPU Solid Waste Division  
Will Provide  
Garbage & Cardboard Recycling Trucks  
at the  
BPU Customer Service Office,  
92 Steele Street,  
Wednesday, December 26  
7 a.m.—2 p.m.  
To Assist with Holiday Clean-Up



**2008 Recycling Calendars**

BPU 2008 Recycling calendars will be mailed in the December utility bills. Additional copies will be available the last week of December at the BPU Customer Service Office, 92 Steele St.; City Hall Treasurer's Office; and at the James Prendergast Library.





### Give at Year-end to Customer Assistance Program (CAP)

The BPU Customer Assistance Program (CAP) collects gifts all year to assist customers who fall behind on utility bills and who are on no type of public assistance, to receive financial help on their utility bills.

To donate to the CAP Fund, check a box on your monthly utility bill stub indicating the amount you wish to donate or write the donation amount in the blank on the stub. Add the donation amount to your payment check. You may also send a check to the BPU CAP Fund c/o the BPU, P.O. Box 700, Jamestown, NY 14702-0700 or drop it off at Customer Service, open 7 a.m.—5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, 92 Steele Street.

If you believe you qualify for CAP help, contact the Salvation Army, 83 S. Main St. near Brooklyn Square.

### COMPACT FLUORESCENT LIGHTBULBS (CFLS)

Did you know:

- CFLs use only a fraction of the amount of electricity used by a comparable incandescent light bulb.
- By switching to a CFL, electricity savings in the first year will more than pay for the cost of the CFL (for lights you use the most).
- CFLs last up to 10 times longer than incandescent bulbs.
- CFLs are available in many sizes to fit most light fixtures.
- CFLs work in 3-way and dimmable lamps.
- CFLs didn't always get as bright as incandescents and took a long time to brighten, but now CFLs give bright light.



Members of the Tri-City American Production and Inventory Control Society (APICS) met recently with BPU Interim General Manager David Leathers and Purchasing Director Todd Hoaglund to learn about the BPU and to tour the Samuel A. Carlson Electric Plant with Plant Manager Kyle Joesel. Approximately 40 students from Jamestown High School's Environmental Science classes of Kim Barber will tour the Electric Plant and the Wastewater Treatment Plant in late November.



Art Johnson and Dennis Bouquin (left to right) put finishing touches on a new 15 kV primary cable installed to power the Allen Street transformer. The new cable was installed as part of the Allen Street substation upgrade project which is nearing completion.



BPU Sanitation employee Dave Pitts works on BPU "Fall Cleanup" on a warm October day.



BPU Waste Water employees Bob Howe, Chris Calkins, Bob Sischo and Carl Spitale replace a manhole on Eighth Street. BPU Waste Water workers are involved in this aspect of high-way work performed in the City. Winter weather soon will bring such projects to a close.

### SMART USE OF THERMOSTATS CAN SAVE ENERGY AND MONEY



Did you know that you can save as much as one percent off your heating bill by setting your thermostat back one degree for eight hours a day? This means you can create as much as ten percent in yearly savings by turning your thermostat back 7-10 degrees for eight hours a day.

You can set the times at which the heat goes on and off in sync with when your home will be occupied and empty. While you are asleep or at work, you can set back the thermostat, and, if you use a programmable thermostat, by the time you wake or come home, the temperature will return to normal. In shopping for a programmable thermostat, look for the Energy Star label.

### WATER HEATING IS A LARGE ENERGY EXPENSE BUT YOU CAN TAKE STEPS TO CUT THOSE BILLS

Take steps to cut your water and water heating bills with simple changes in your life style.

For instance, fix leaky faucets as soon as you notice them to avoid wasting gallons of water in a hurry. Install low-flow faucets and showerheads. Take more showers than baths — baths take at least 15-20 gallons of water, while a five-minute shower with a low-flow showerhead takes less than ten gallons.

Consider purchasing an energy efficient water heater for your home and lower the thermostat, but not below 120 degrees Fahrenheit. You can buy a hot water heater with a programmable thermostat to lower the need for hot water when you are not at home. Although most of these appliances last 10-15 years, it is best to shop for a new one when yours is about seven years old, before it becomes an emergency. Look for the Energy Star label on appliances.