NEPPA members send a message to Congress

The Annual Legislative Rally of the American Public Power Association was held in Washington in mid-March, with over 30 public power officials from New England in attendance, along with 650 of their colleagues from around the country. The rally was held at the Mayflower Hotel, and consisted of numerous briefings on key legislative issues, along with the adoption of policy resolutions by the APPA Legislative and Resolutions Committee. While attending the rally, virtually all of the 700 public power officials found time to head to Capitol Hill and meet with their own Congressional Members and staff, along with Members from many of the key committees that have jurisdiction over environmental, tax and energy legislation.

One of the major policy issues that has risen to the top of the legislative agenda in 2007 is climate change, and the steps that are under consideration to limit the emission of greenhouse gases into the earth’s atmosphere. APPA members adopted a resolution during the Rally asking Congress to “consider carefully all solutions for addressing climate change” and to incorporate 10 principles in any new federal policy designed to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. They said federal legislation must be economy-wide and apply to all industry sectors, consider the financial impact on consumers, and protect the ability of U.S. industries to compete in world markets. They also asked Congress to ensure that incentives for the development and deployment of renewable and clean energy are provided on a comparable basis to all sectors of the electric utility industry, including the not-for-profit, community- and state-owned public power sector.

The principles were developed by APPA’s CEO Climate Change Task Force, which was formed to provide guidance to APPA and Congress. APPA continues to support voluntary programs to reduce GHG emissions, combined with an aggressive research and development program. The task force intends to further refine APPA’s policy over the next few months.

Other resolutions supported cleaner power generation through nuclear, near-zero-emissions coal, and ocean

Continued on page 8
The New England Patriots: A model for public power?

Unfortunately, the weather didn’t cooperate on March 2, as a winter storm blew through the region and kept a good number of people close to home. For those who did brave the elements however, the trip to the Devens Common Center was time well spent, as NEPPA’s workshop on Succession Planning offered some useful insights and practical advice on how to accomplish the goal of every successful organization:

“… Having the right people at the right places at the right times to do the right thing.”

The insights were provided by several speakers with direct experience in succession planning, including human resource consultant Rick Dacri and manpower specialist Andy Wright, who has worked with other professionals at the Tennessee Valley Authority to develop a program for the retention of critical knowledge when long-time employees leave the organization. From the public power community here in New England, we were provided with some practical advice from Dick Joyce, director of the Wellesley Municipal Light Plant, who has led his own organization in developing plans to ensure leadership continuity in key positions, while encouraging individual advancement throughout the company.

Joyce’s model for success in achieving these goals has three principal components:

1. The plan should incorporate all critical management positions, including back-ups and individual development in any job category.
2. The plan should maximize the utilization of lateral management moves to ensure the development of management and leadership skills.
3. The plan should promote decentralized decision-making, where leadership is different throughout the workforce.

A real life example of what Wellesley

Continued on page 12
Powers to address getting utility employees to love their jobs

Management psychologist Dr. Paul Powers will be a keynote speaker at NEPPA’s 2007 Annual Conference and will address a new approach to employee recruitment and retention. Powers has devoted more than 25 years to helping others achieve career success and satisfaction and he has coached thousands of people, in hundreds of companies - from CEO’s, to entry level employees, to recent military veterans – to help them find satisfaction in their jobs. As a popular speaker and seminar leader he travels extensively sharing his wisdom, his humor and his deepest belief that each of us has a gift to be discovered, developed and shared. He is author of “Winning Job Interviews” (Career Press, 2005) and co-author of “Love Your Job! Loving the Job You Have, Finding a Job You Love” (O’Reilly Media, 1994.) His energy, enthusiasm and motivation have reached around the world to people in every imaginable field.

Powers will also close the conference at a farewell breakfast where he will discuss new approaches to making retirement a worthwhile experience.

Powers is a licensed psychologist, is the former chairman of the Massachusetts Board of Psychologists and a member of numerous professional organizations. He holds a bachelors, masters and doctoral degree in psychology from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. He helped found ‘The Management Corps for the Emerging East’ a non-profit initiative to send American business volunteers to work in enterprises of the republics of the former Soviet Union in their transition to a free market economy with hands-on management skills and techniques. Paul is also a former U.S. Marine as well as a former licensed pipefitter.

Dr. Powers’ work has been widely noted in the media such as The Wall St. Journal, National Business Employment Weekly, New England Business Magazine, hundreds of newspapers and radio stations nationwide and he has appeared on CNN, MSNBC, WNBC, NPR, and numerous other media outlets. He co-hosted ‘CareerTalk’, a call-in show, on a major Boston radio station.

This year’s conference will also feature a combined business meeting and board meeting that will give participants a better understanding of the workings of NEPPA and an opportunity to be more proactive in the association.

Roundtable discussions on legislative and regulatory issues, effective training, and governance issues for utilities will provide networking opportunities and foster idea building among utility managers.

Watch your mail for more information on this exceptional event.
Safety & Training Update

What's in your truck?

The following is a list of recommended utility truck equipment that should be issued to every utility bucket or digger truck in service:

- **Operators Manual**
- **Fire Extinguisher**
- **First Aid Kit**
- **Water Cooler**
- **Cones, Signs, and Flags**
- **Full Body Harness with Lanyard** (bucket truck)
- **Bucket Liner** (bucket truck)
- **Face Shield**
- **Ear Muffs**
- **Loadbuster**
- **Digging Kits** - bars, shovels, scoops, peavey (digger truck)
- **Fiberglass pole covers** (digger truck)
- **Butt Puller** (digger truck)
- **24’ Extension Ladder**
- **Hydraulic Tools** - saw, impact wrench, drill
- **Truck Rubber Gloves**
- **Hot Stick Tools** - shotgun, switch stick, lifting stick
- **Sufficient Cover up** - for all jobs, snakes, blankets, hoods
- **Test Equipment** - volt meter, high voltage tester, amp probe
- **Tools of trade** - bolt cutters, compression tools, hand tools
- **Block Lines** - hand lines, block & tackles, hoist, slings.
- **Line Hardware** - bolts, washers, lags, brackets, clevis
- **Line Equipment** - cross arms, cutouts, insulators, bells
- **Line Connectors** - mechanical, compression, automatic sleeves
- **High Voltage Jumpers**
- **Hand coils of wire** in various sizes

Line personnel assigned to trucks should have at all times:

- **Lineman’s Bag**
- **Climbing Gear** - belt, hooks, and double locking safety strap
- **Personal Protective Equipment** - hard hat, safety glasses, rubber gloves, work gloves, boots, FR clothing, reflective vest, and a full body harness with lanyard.
- **Hand Tools** - pliers, channel locks pliers, screwdriver, lineman’s knife, adjustable wrench, etc.

and a **positive attitude!!**
Clark wins potato gun competition

Sets new records for distance and accuracy in Maine's annual shoot-out

John Clark, long-time manager of the Houlton Water Company and past president of NEPPA, was declared winner of the Maine Potato Gun Invitational Tournament held at Numchuk Lodge in Aroostock County, after setting new tournament records in several categories of gun competition. The Tournament, which is sponsored annually by local potato farmers and hardware stores, was held on April 1 at the Lodge on the shores of Lake Wannabee, on the outskirts of Houlton.

Clark won three categories of competition outright: the “long bomb,” the “sky drop” and the “duck no more.” He also placed high in the hairspray reload time trials and the “degree of difficulty” shoot out, barely missing targets at 300 feet while under the influence.

After accepting the PGI trophy and a $100 gift certificate from Hogan’s Hubcap Emporium, he expressed his gratitude to his fellow gunmen: “I want to thank you all for coming out and providing such stiff competition this year. I have rededicated myself to my shooting career in the past 12 months, and it’s certainly paid off. With a little luck and more practice, I plan to represent the entire Numchuk Nation at the nationals in Idaho. Keep your heads down.”

New forward capacity markets subject of April workshop

The NEPPA Regional Power Supply Committee will host a day-long workshop on April 24 on New England’s new Forward Capacity Markets for power generation. The workshop will cover the rules and procedures established for the new markets, as well as the impact of the new markets on power supply planning for consumer-owned utilities. Officials from ISO-New England will participate in the workshop, along with public power officials with direct experience in market operations.

The workshop will be held at the Marlborough Courtyard by Marriott in Marlborough, Mass. (intersection of Route 495 and Route 20). Cost of the workshop for NEPPA members is $65 per person and lunch will be served. Registration information has been sent to all NEPPA members and is also available on the NEPPA website.
Benefits of an insurance appraisal to a utility

by Nigel P. Wilson, ASA, managing director – Insurance Services, American Appraisal Associates, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 414-225-1262, nwilson@american-appraisal.com

Why would a public utility consider assuming the expense of retaining valuation consultants to perform a current reproduction cost appraisal of their assets?

Insurance appraisal services can be used to address a variety of risk-management issues such as developing underwriting data for insurance placement thereby improving portfolio marketability; performing an insurance-to-value analysis; allocating premiums for risk-sharing entities; ensuring the completeness of property listings; and providing a basis to generate proof-of-loss documentation.

Recent natural disasters and underwriting losses in primary and re-insurance markets are driving underwriters’ demand for accurate and supportable property valuations. In particular, property and casualty insurance underwriters are interested in obtaining consistent valuations based on the cost to replace new premise of value. Additionally, of great interest to underwriters are the related data gathered during an appraisal regarding construction, occupancy, protection, and exposure, COPE, for each structure or group of assets to be covered under an insurance policy.

In determining the current need for valuation services, the following questions should be raised:

- Do you know, and have confidence in, the origin of your current property listing and its associated reproduction values?
- Are the property values from an appraisal? If so, when was the appraisal conducted? Appraisal professional standards generally recommend updating an appraisal every seven years, and ten years maximum.
- Have you judiciously accounted for capital asset additions and retirements since your last appraisal?
- Have appropriate cost trends (there are many different sources, ranging from utility-industry specific, such as Handy Whitman, to the more generic produced by Marshall & Swift and FM Global) been used each year to ensure that your insurable values reflect the change in cost of construction and equipment in your particular industry? It is important to note that construction costs, in particular, have increased dramatically in New England over the last three years, upwards of 25 percent.
- What is the basis of your historical costs (your current insurable values might

Continued next page
have been developed by trending historical costs), are they the true first costs to the initial owner, or do they reflect secondary market cost or conclusions from a prior valuation for financial reporting?

- Has your staff calculated your values, are they independent of the process?

You may also truthfully answer that you do not know the origin of some, or all, of your current insurable values. The post-loss situation is not the time to discover that you had either not scheduled a particular property or that it was significantly undervalued.

If you decide to have a professional valuation of your assets, a detailed discussion of the scope of the appraisal service is critical to a successful outcome for all parties involved. The scope of a valuation project will include the:

- premise of value
- methodology to be employed in valuing buildings and structures
- sites/facilities to be inspected
- level of detail required in the final report (contents might be reported as one overall value for each building or listed individually using a specified value cut-off)
- report delivery requirements
- obligations of the client
- consulting firms qualifications and experience
- future updating.

Register for the
PURMA and PUMIC Annual Meetings
April 19-20, 2007
Stoweflake Resort & Conference
Stowe, Vermont

NEPPA News Line available via E-Mail

NEPPA News Line is now being sent in an electronic form to any member or subscriber who has an e-mail address on file with NEPPA.

The E-News Line will be sent on the first business day of each month and will have all the information that the mailed version does but readers won't have to wait for the "snail mail" version to arrive later in the month.

The electronic form is in a simple, easy-to-read format. To visit the archives and view the March and April issues of E-News Line, go to http://www.naylornetwork.com/npa-nwl/. If you are a subscriber to News Line and would like to receive it via e-mail send your name and e-mail address to sboone@neppa.org.

Advertising opportunities are also available in the electronic form. Go to http://www.naylornetwork.com/WebKits/PDFs/ppan.pdf for more information.

Subscribers will still receive the print version unless they instruct NEPPA not to send it.

Comments and suggestions welcome.

Learn the basics of electricity

9:00 am to 3:00 pm
April 24, 2007
Shrewsbury, Massachusetts

9:00 am to 3:00 pm
May 1, 2007
Stowe, Vermont

This one-day workshop is an introduction to the basics of electricity generation, transmission and distribution for non-technical public power employees.

NEPPA will also offer this program at sites throughout New England with a minimum of 12 students. Call Sheila Boone at (508) 482-5906 for more information or register at www.neppa.org.
Member Notes

Hometown Connections
Hometown Connections of 477 Gorwin Drive, Holliston, Mass., has joined NEPPA as an associate member. It is a subsidiary of the American Public Power Association and secures group discounts and special service arrangements from leading industry suppliers for public power systems. Hometown Connections also performs consulting services such as Strategic Planning and Utility Health Checks using its own staff members. Walter McGrath, regional sales representative, is the main contact and can be reached at (508) 429-2063.

Champion Wire & Cable
Champion Wire & Cable of 695 Summa Ave., Westbury, New York has joined NEPPA as an associate member. The contact person is Don Reisfeld, and he can be reached at (516) 338-2000 or fax at (516) 338-6300. They are distributors of wire and cable used in the utility industry.

Advertising Opportunity
Advertising opportunities are available in the electronic form of the NEPPA News Line. See page 7.

Legislative Rally
Continued from page 1

wave and tidal technologies. They promoted development of flexible fuel plug-in hybrid electric vehicles, and focused on helping to meet the energy efficiency and renewable energy goals of the 2007 Farm Bill.

In addition, the group expressed concern about how Regional Transmission Organizations (RTOs) have created obstacles to public power systems as providers of reliable and low-cost electric power, and urged Congress to hold oversight hearings on the functioning of the wholesale electricity markets. During their own Congressional meetings, NEPPA members continued to raise concerns about the operation of ISO New England and the cost impact of decisions relating to “reliability must run” (RMR) units, forward capacity markets, and increased transmission rates in the region. They also requested support for an extension of the Clean Renewable Energy Bonds (CREB) program, along with additional funding to meet the large volume of bond requests that were not approved during the first funding cycle of the program.

Management program spring classes moved to fall

Due to lack of enrollment, NEPPA’s 14th annual Public Utility Management Program will not have a spring session. Topics scheduled for Spring have been moved to the Fall session which is scheduled for October 24 – 26. The program features an outstanding series of topics and instructors.

- **Supervising People Successfully**, Gerry King, Ph.D
- **The Busy Manager’s Guide to Keeping Employee Morale High…and Stress Low**, David Lee, Founder of HumanNature@Work
- **Making Meetings Productive**, Rockie Blunt, Blunt Consulting
- **Managing Conflict with Power and Presence**, Judy Ringer

To register, please contact Sheila Boone at the NEPPA office or use the NEPPA web site www.neppa.org. Early registration is encouraged as management classes are limited in size.
Around New England

Richards returns to public power

Patty Richards has recently assumed the position of director of power supply and transmission at the Vermont Public Power Supply Authority.

Richards spent 17 years at Burlington Electric Department and her last position was the director of resource planning where she oversaw power supply before leaving to take a position as business manager in a local school district.

"It didn’t work out" she said, "and I’m thrilled to come back to the energy field that is both challenging and rewarding, all wrapped into one." She says she loves the market aspect of the power business where the markets are dynamic and exciting. "While the markets certainly can be challenging to keep up with, the reward is unraveling the rules and watching it all work well for our consumer-owned members." “At the end of the day I feel good about working in the public power arena and doing my best to keep costs down for consumers."

The most interesting part of her new position is working for a joint action agency with many different decision makers that represent many different communities. Whereas she worked with one set of community decision-makers in her last position, she now works with a multiple set of utilities and communities. Patty is very excited to join VPPSA and commented on its team of highly qualified staff. “It’s a great group of talented people to work with and I’m looking forward to contributing to their efforts and goals of providing low cost long term energy resources to our consumer-owned members.”

Richards, who did her undergraduate work in Mathematics and Economics at Union College in New York State, is near completion on her MBA at Saint Michael’s College in Colchester, Vt. She lives in Williston, Vt. with her husband and two daughters.

Danvers Electric Saves Energy

It’s a win-win situation for the Town of Danvers. Danvers Electric was looking to reduce energy use and the DPW budget was looking to reduce street light energy costs. Rather than shut off every other light, the Electric Division proposed a lighting reduction program that entails a 30 percent reduction in energy use with no removal of lights, and combined it with a recycling effort.

The program consists of four phases: the first three involved reducing the lamp wattage size in the existing street light fixtures, and the fourth phase involved replacing 63 old 250W fixtures with high efficiency 100W lamps that incorporated new energy saving ballasts. Over 1,356 70 W lamps were replaced with 50 W lamps, no ballast changes required; the 70 W lamps removed were then used to replace the existing (808) 100W fixtures, no ballast changes; the 100 W lamps were then put into the existing (372) 200 W fixtures, no ballast changes.

The project is 95 percent complete and the 30 percent reduction goal will be a success. The project is expected to be completed the first week of May, with an achieved timeline of six months.

The Division used its in-house crews to accomplish the program as fill-in work. “We have had no customer complaints,” said Coleen O’Brien-Pitts, electric utility director. “We washed the bulbs too, which actually increased the lighting significantly. A simple program that resulted in a major positive impact. I like those kind of projects.”
Employment

advertising in News
Line is $30 with a
maximum of
50 words or is free
to NEPPA members.
Deadline for the next
issue is April 18.

Peabody Municipal Light Plant
Superintendent of Electric Distribution

The Peabody Municipal Light Plant (PMLP) is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Superintendent of Electric Distribution. The position is responsible for planning, designing, coordinating, scheduling and supervising the construction, maintenance and operation of the transmission, distribution and metering systems. Additional areas of responsibility include fleet maintenance and tree trimming. The qualified applicant should possess extensive skills in project management as well as an extensive background in the construction and maintenance of electrical distribution systems and related equipment. A minimum of five (5) years experience in managing electric utility line construction projects and supervising electric utility operation and maintenance personnel is preferred. Experience as a First Class Lineman and possession of a CDL is also preferred. The PMLP provides an excellent salary/benefit package and is an EOE. Annual salary range is $82,983-$103,285. Please submit your resume to William Waters, Manager at 201 Warren St. Ext., Peabody, MA 01960 or e-mail to wwaters@pmlp.com.

Peabody Municipal Light Plant
First Class Lineworker (Troubleman)

The Peabody Municipal Light Plant is seeking a 1st class Lineworker (M/F). Responsibilities of this position will include, but not be limited to the construction, maintenance, and repair of the underground and overhead electric distribution system. The candidate must have the ability to work on energized lines up to 23,000 volts. This person shall be required to work variable shifts including evening and weekends. Must be able to respond to emergency calls within 30 minutes. A complete job description is available for viewing on the PMLP website (PMLP.com). A minimum of two years experience as a Lineman (First Class) is required, and the position is subject to pre-employment and random drug testing, as required by DOT regulations and a CORI and Registry of Motor Vehicles record check. A valid Commercial Drivers License (CDL) is required, as well as a MA Class 1B/3A Hoisting License. PMLP offers a competitive benefits package and is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Please send resume to William F. Waters, Manager, 201 Warren Street, Extension, Peabody, MA 01960.

Swan’s Island, Maine
Line Superintendent

The Swan’s Island Electric Cooperative, Inc. is seeking to fill its Line Superintendent position (M/F). Swan’s Island Electric Cooperative is a member-owned utility with 350 year-round and 247 seasonal customers located 6 miles off the Maine Coast near Mount Desert Island and Acadia National Park. Swan’s Island is a 7,000-acre island with its own K-8 school and is served daily and year-round by the Maine Department of Transportation Car Ferry Service. Requirements include a High School diploma/GED, and a minimum of four years line experience in overhead and underground electric distribution, including all phases of line construction, maintenance, & troubleshooting. A valid Commercial Drivers License, Class B, is required. Qualifications in transmission line work is preferred. An interest or experience in alternative or renewable energy (wind and solar) is a plus. Full-time residency on Swan’s Island is required of the successful applicant. Compensation: $45,760 base salary, plus bonus on-call and emergency pay, telephone subsidy, and medical benefits for employee and family. Additionally, a relocation allowance is available to assist in relocating from the mainland. Interested applicants are invited to contact the Swans Island Electric Cooperative at 207-526-4336, for details and application forms.

Hudson Light and Power Department
Business Manager

The Town of Hudson Municipal Light Department is seeking a Business Manager with a minimum of five years of office supervision. Responsibilities will include supervision, general ledger, preparation and analysis of monthly and annual financial statements, prepare monthly and annual budgets, cash flow projections, annual federal and state reports, statistical growth projections, overview of the billing/receivables, payroll, inventory functions. The successful candidate must have a minimum of a BS in Accounting. Computer literacy is required. Spreadsheet proficiency a must. Municipal utility experience a plus.

Salary range - $84,200 to $100,440.
Send resume showing work, educational background and salary history to Manager, Hudson Light and Power Department, 49 Forest Avenue, Hudson, MA 01749.
Hudson Light and Power Department
Electrical Engineer

The Hudson Light and Power Department is conducting a search for a candidate to fill the position of Electric Engineer who will assist the Manager in the day-to-day operations of the Department. The successful candidate must have a minimum of a BS in Electrical Engineering. Experience in Distribution is required. Knowledge of Transmission, Generation, and Power Resource Management a plus. The Hudson Light and Power Department operates an electric system with two 115 kV interconnections and a 20 MW generating plant, a 70 MW load, and serves over 13,000 customers. The Hudson Light and Power Department is an EOE, offering competitive salary and benefits. The salary range is $69,800 – $81,350.

Send resumes, including salary history, references, and educational background to: Manager, Hudson Light and Power Department 49 Forest Avenue, Hudson, MA 01749

Littleton Electric Light Department
Electric Systems GIS Operator

The Littleton Electric Light Department, a progressive municipally owned public utility, located 35 miles west of Boston at the intersection of Route 495 and 2, is seeking applicants for an Electric Systems GIS Operator. Working under the direct supervision of the Electric Engineer, the successful applicant will have CAD experience, possess a minimum 2 year technical degree, a high level of computer competency and knowledge of the electric utilities industry. Please submit or email resume to Savas C. Danos, General Manger, Littleton Electric Light Department, PO Box 2406, Littleton, MA 01460 (sdanos@lelwd.com).

Interim Manager
Fox Island Electric Cooperative

Fox Islands Electric Cooperative, Inc., Vinalhaven, Maine, is an electric distribution cooperative serving approximately 2000 consumers on the islands of North Haven and Vinalhaven, 15 miles by ferry out of Rockland on the coast of Maine. The present manager has assumed duties at another utility. Applications for the position are now being accepted. The successful candidate should expect to remain with the utility between 12 and 24 months. Good management skills, experience with the Rural Utilities Service, a solid understanding of finance and accounting and an overall knowledge of the operation and maintenance of an electric distribution system are required. Management and supervisory experience is necessary. Good oral and written communication skills a must. The Cooperative offers an excellent benefit package and salary commensurate with experience and qualifications. EOE Send resume with three work references and recent salary history postmarked by April 16, 2007 to: Elliott C. Brown, President, Fox Islands Electric Cooperative, Inc., 456 Middle Road, North Haven, ME 04853.

Middleborough Gas & Electric Department
First Class Lineman

2nd Step Agreement Appendix “A”. 40 hours per week, and requires overtime.

Qualifications:
- Experience in climbing utility poles.
- Minimum five (5) years experience in electric utility construction and maintenance with a utility company or power line contractor including work utilizing rubber gloves from vehicle buckets with energized conductors of 13,800 volts primary and 120, 240, 208, 277 and 480 volts secondary.
- Ability to obtain a Valid Massachusetts Commercial Drivers’ License.
- Ability to handle bucket and digger vehicles.
- High school diploma or equivalent.
- Must possess physical strength, flexibility and maneuverability and mental characteristics sufficient to perform the duties of the position.
- To perform strenuous work under emergency and all weather conditions.

Responsibilities: Under the direction of the Crew Leader the First Class Lineman is responsible for all aspects of high voltage distribution utility line work, both overhead and underground. Specific duties include but are not limited to the following:
- Construction and maintenance of overhead and underground electric facilities, including working on energized conductors from poles and vehicle buckets using rubber gloves.
- Maintenance of the Department’s equipment.
- Participation in all safety training programs and exercises.
- Any other duties as assigned.
- Pre-employment drug / alcohol screening required.

Contact William Taylor, Electric Division Manager, at (508) 947-3023.
Continued from page 2

Municipal Light is trying to accomplish is found in our favorite professional football team, the New England Patriots, winners of three Super Bowls in the past six years. According to Dick Joyce, the Patriots have truly mastered the art of succession planning, through careful evaluation of talent, consistent focus on skill development, and assuring continuity through sound management of salaries, contracts and personnel. These practices, he says, are able to be implemented in any organization that is committed to successful planning. They are the ingredients of a “dynasty” that will continue long after current employees and leaders leave the scene. As Dick reminded all of us, “we all have salary caps, but we can all tie up our key players and have people waiting to step in if we are serious about building a stable, successful organization.”

Gore tells Congress global warming is a ‘planetary emergency’

Global warming is a “planetary emergency” that the federal government needs to respond to aggressively, former Vice President Al Gore told the House Energy and Commerce Committee. Gore recommended an immediate freeze on U.S. greenhouse gas emissions and a goal of a 90 percent reduction in emissions by 2050; a moratorium on new coal plants that do not have carbon capture technology; and a ban on incandescent light bulbs. He also backed a tax on carbon emissions, more stringent auto fuel-economy standards and negotiation of a new international climate treaty.

New studies show the warming of the polar ice caps may be worse than had been thought, he said. “We do not have time to play around with this,” Gore told lawmakers. “This is the most dangerous crisis we have ever faced.”

“If we solve (the climate change crisis) in the right way, we will save money and boost productivity,” he said.

Joe Barton, R-Texas, ranking minority member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, voiced skepticism about evidence presented in Gore’s documentary film and said the steps the former vice president was recommending “provide little benefit at a huge cost.”

Appearing exasperated, Gore replied, “The planet has a fever. If your baby has a fever, you go to the doctor. If the doctor says, ‘You need to intervene here,’ you don’t say, ‘Well, I read a science fiction novel that says this isn’t important.’”
Committee Meetings

April 27
Public Communications
NEPPA Office
Milford, Mass.
10:30 a.m.

May 25
Executive Committee
NEPPA Office
Milford, Mass.

June 8
Board of Directors
Pascoag Utility District
Pascoag, R.I.

Upcoming Events

April 12 – 13, 2007
Operations & Safety Conference
Holiday Inn, Boxborough, Mass.

April 24
Forward Capacity Markets
Workshop
Marlborough Courtyard by Marriott
Marlborough, Mass.

April 24 and May 1
Electric Utility Basics
Shrewsbury, Mass.
Stowe, Vt

August 19 - 22, 2007
Annual Conference
Samoset Resort
Rockport, Maine

September 11
Benevolent Fund Golf Tournament
Heritage Golf Club
Charlton, Mass.

October 16-18
Crew Leadership
Location TBA

October 24 – 26
Public Utility Management Program
Fall Session
New England Center
Durham, N.H.

December 7
Annual Membership Meeting
Devens Conference Center
Devens, Mass.

For a complete listing of public power events regionally and nationally, visit our calendar at www.neppa.org