



South Norwalk Electric and Water
A Municipal Utility System
Serving the Needs of the Community

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ELECTRIC SYSTEM MODIFICATIONS

SOUTH NORWALK, Connecticut - South Norwalk Electric and Water (SNEW) is starting a project to convert portions of its electric distribution system from 4.16 kV to 13.8 kV to prepare for connection to the new substation being built on Dr. Martin Luther King Drive, south of Lowe Street. The conversion project, which will take approximately six months to complete will convert the current SNEW overhead distribution system currently at 4.16 kV to 13.8 kV to match the voltage in SNEW's underground electric distribution system, which serves the central business district of South Norwalk. The conversion of the electric system to a single voltage will result in lower distribution system maintenance costs and will lead to the decommissioning of SNEW's existing dual voltage State Street substation on Dr. Martin Luther King Drive.

The conversion work, which will begin next week, will start on SNEW's distribution system to the west of West Avenue and Dr. Martin Luther King Drive. The conversion work in this area will be performed by SNEW's existing electric line work group. The voltage conversion of the easterly portion of SNEW's overhead distribution system in the Shorefront Park, Woodward Avenue, South Main Street and Lexington Avenue areas will occur in June and July of 2014. The overhead distribution system voltage conversion will occur with a series of short duration customer outages usually 2 to 4 hours in length as the conversion work moves sequentially from pole-to-pole through the electric system. The replacement of existing transformers at the higher voltage both pole mounted and ground mounted are the primary reasons for the outages. Most customers will experience one or two outages during the conversion process.

SNEW is requesting patience of its customers during the conversion project and will do its best to minimize the length of outages. All outages will be announced to customers through a combination of door knob notices, newspaper display ads and website information at www.SNEW.org and click on SNEW Conversion Information.

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ELECTRIC SYSTEM MODIFICATIONS (Continued)

The modernization of SNEW's electric distribution system involves the completion of the new substation on Dr. Martin Luther King Drive, the voltage conversion and the continued replacement of antiquated, unreliable switches in SNEW's underground distribution system.

The total cost of the modernization project, which has been ongoing since initial planning in 2009, is estimated to cost \$12.5 million and is being financed with a combination of SNEW's electric fund cash reserves and a \$10 million Second Taxing District General Obligation Bond. It is estimated that the entire project will be completed in late summer of 2014.

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