



## Town of Reading Meeting Posting with Agenda

### Board - Committee - Commission - Council:

RMLD Citizens Advisory Board

Date: 2022-07-28

Time: 6:00 PM

Building: Reading Municipal Light Building

Location: Winfred Spurr Audio Visual Room

Address: 230 Ash Street

Agenda:

Purpose: General Business

Meeting Called By: Jason Small, Chair

Notices and agendas are to be posted 48 hours in advance of the meetings excluding Saturdays, Sundays and Legal Holidays. Please keep in mind the Town Clerk's hours of operation and make necessary arrangements to be sure your posting is made in an adequate amount of time. A listing of topics that the chair reasonably anticipates will be discussed at the meeting must be on the agenda.

**All Meeting Postings must be submitted in typed format; handwritten notices will not be accepted.**

### Topics of Discussion:

On July 16, 2022, Governor Baker signed into law An Act Relative to Extending Certain State of Emergency Accommodations, which, among other things, extends the expiration of the provisions pertaining to the Open Meeting Law to March 31, 2023.

THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD IN PERSON AND REMOTELY VIA ZOOM.

For remote participation via Zoom please email [krybak@rmlld.com](mailto:krybak@rmlld.com). If possible, request the Zoom link in advance of the meeting. Include your full name and address. Comments and questions will be monitored during the meeting.

1. Call Meeting to Order – J. Small, Vice Chair
2. Interim General Manager's Report – G. Phipps, Interim General Manager
  - Talent Acquisition and Talent Management
  - Flex Time Pilot
3. Communications Update – J. Blackley, Communications Manager
  - Social Media
  - Welcome Letter
4. Hydro Quebec Phase I/Phase II Converter – G. Phipps, Interim General Manager
5. Reading Town Website: CAB Member Communication – G. Phipps, Interim General Manager
6. Scheduling – J. Small, Vice Chair
7. Adjournment – J. Small, Vice Chair  
**Suggested Motion:** Move that the Citizens' Advisory Board adjourn.

This Agenda has been prepared in advance and represents a listing of topics that the chair reasonably anticipates will be discussed at the meeting. However the agenda does not necessarily include all matters which may be taken up at this meeting.

**Attachment 1:**

Agenda Item 3 - Communications Update



# Communications Update

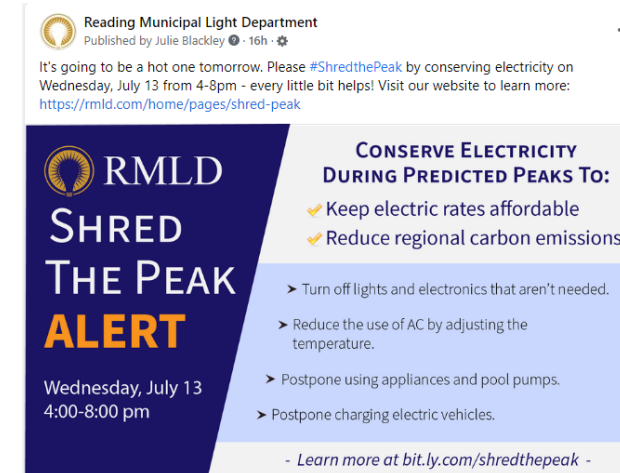
*Presented to the*

*Citizens' Advisory Board*

28 July 2022

# Social Media Revival

- RMLD using Facebook and Twitter platforms as of July 11
  - Facebook inactive for 5 years
  - Twitter used only for outages, Shred the Peak
- RMLD to consistently post content including:
  - Mix of scheduled seasonal/evergreen posts (Tip Tuesdays, Program Spotlights)
  - Timely news, answers to comments/inquiries when appropriate, community news, announcements
- RMLD to organically grow presence by
  - Regular posting
  - Adding call to action buttons on website, newsletters
  - Encouraging “likes” at community events
- Once presence is established, RMLD to explore cross-promotion opportunities for further growth



# New Customer Welcome Letters

- RMLD to mail out monthly welcome letters to new residential customers
  - Will augment current welcome email
- Working with town officials in Reading, Wilmington, Lynnfield, and North Reading on town-specific inserts
- Monthly letters will also be tailored to promote programs and events
- RMLD to send letters to C&I customers as part of Phase 2



# Ongoing Efforts

- Media relations: proactive pitches to consumer reporters offering RMLD as a source for energy-efficient technologies including heat pumps and EV chargers
- Special events:
  - EV Car Show at Wilmington Farmers Market (8/14)
  - Public Power Open House (10/6)
- Public education: Air Source Heat Pump Q&A (8/10), webinars
- Media outreach for events/programs
  - Example: Ribbon cutting/promotion of newly installed EV chargers

### RMLD Completes Installation of Five New Public EV Charging Stations

Located in Reading and Wilmington, Level 2 Charging Stations Expand Public Charging Infrastructure



### WILMINGTON APPLE

#1 Online News Source For Wilmington, MA

RMLD Completes Installation Of Electric Vehicle Charging Stations At Wilmington Town Hall & Library



## Daily Times Chronicle





Thank You



**Attachment 2:**

Agenda Item 4 - Hydro Quebec Phase I/Phase II Converter



# HQ Phase I/Phase II Converter

Presented to RMLD CAB

July 28, 2022

# HQ Phase I/Phase II Converter

- ▶ HQ Phase I/Phase II HVDC Converter facility is a high-voltage transmission interconnection and DC converter station operating between Hydro Quebec and New England.
- ▶ HQ Phase I began operations in 1986
- ▶ HQ Phase II began operations in 1990
- ▶ HVDC Converter allows for import of energy from Hydro Quebec under separate contract(s).

# History

- ▶ Purchased 3.203 MWs of Phase I (Comerford) through MMWEC in 1976
  - ▶ Benefits and liabilities, not ownership
  - ▶ Station decommissioned and dismantled in 2012
  - ▶ Delivery point transferred to Sandy Pond and integrated with Phase II
- ▶ Purchased 6.191 MWs of Phase II from National Grid in 1986
  - ▶ Support Agreement with National Grid extended through October 31, 2040
    - ▶ Support Agreement includes ~\$780,000 for RMLD of planned capital improvements
    - ▶ \$780,000 payments spread over four (4) years; 2028-2031
    - ▶ Support payments cover both Phase I and Phase II entitlements
- ▶ Total entitlement in HQ HVDC Project is 9.394 MWs
- ▶ Selling “Use Rights” to N-Star for \$30,788/month

# Going Forward Options

- ▶ Continue 3<sup>rd</sup> party sale of “Use Rights”
  - ▶ Need to negotiate new sale contract after 12/31/2023
- ▶ Assemble coalition from among HQ Phase I/Phase II participants to take 100 MW minimum energy from HQ
- ▶ Consider other resource options:
  - ▶ Pumped storage
    - ▶ Offset capacity & transmission costs
    - ▶ Bid into ISO-NE wholesale energy market
    - ▶ Match production to load profile to charge EVs and other electric consumption
  - ▶ Purchase additional Project capacity

# Key Actions

- ▶ Short term:
  - ▶ Identify magnitude of potential need for non-carbon dispatchable resources
    - ▶ Storage alternatives for non-dispatchable resources
    - ▶ Future load profile and magnitude
  - ▶ Monitor forward price curves for carbon and market energy
  - ▶ Identify potential for additional HQ energy
    - ▶ Survey existing participants for interest in selling Project shares
    - ▶ Open discussions with Hydro Quebec and National Grid for additional capacity

# Key Actions (continued)

- ▶ Long term:
  - ▶ Contract additional capacity with HQ
  - ▶ Work with vendors to shape use options
  - ▶ Verify future of carbon generation options:
    - ▶ Watson
    - ▶ Stony Brook Peaking
    - ▶ Stony Brook Intermediate