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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 5, 2020

Press Release

RMLD Announces Upgraded Heat Pump Rebate and New Electrical Panel Upgrade Rebate to Support Electrification

Reading, MA – Reading Municipal Light Department (RMLD) unveiled two new rebates to support its electrification efforts at its Homeowner Info Session which took place at the Lynnfield Library on March 4, 2020. This was the first of four Homeowner Info Sessions scheduled to take place in March: visit www.rml.com for the full schedule.

Electrification is best described as the movement to produce electricity with carbon-free and renewable resources and then to power items efficiently with this electricity. The rebates, which will go into effect on April 1, 2020, include:

Updated Air-Source Heat Pump Rebate:

Air-Source heat pumps are an efficient technology to heat and cool a home and offer many advantages over traditional oil, propane, or electric resistance systems including cost savings, improved efficiency, and reduced carbon emissions. RMLD is expanding its existing heat pump rebate to offer more attractive incentives to customers with the goal of reducing carbon emissions. A central heat pump will be rebated at \$750. Rebates for mini-split heat pumps will be based on the size of the system as well as the fuel type that is being replaced. Customers replacing oil, propane, or electric resistance heat with a qualifying mini-split will be eligible for a rebate of \$1,000 per ton. Customers replacing an existing mini-split heat pump with a new qualifying mini-split heat pump will be eligible for a rebate of \$200 per ton. An additional \$500 rebate will be available for customers who add integrated controls to their new central or mini-split heat pump to achieve an even higher level of efficiency. No rebate is to exceed 50% of total installation costs, and systems must meet established efficiency requirements to be eligible. This rebate is open to all customer classes. RMLD rebate pre-approval is required for systems over 5-tons.

Residential Electrical Panel Upgrade Rebate:

This rebate will support residential customers who may need to upgrade their electrical panel to a higher amperage to accommodate additional load from electrification activities such as installing an EV charging station, heat pump, or other electrical equipment. Customers upgrading their electrical panel will be eligible for rebates of \$300 for a 100-amp, \$500 for a 200-amp, and \$750 for a 400-amp. Both standard and smart panels are eligible. No rebate is to exceed 50% of



total installation costs. The RMLD would like to thank the Reading Climate Advisory Committee for suggesting this new and innovative Electrical Panel Upgrade Program which aligns with RMLD's electrification efforts.

For more information on eligible equipment and program requirements, please visit

<https://www.rml.com/home/news/rml-announces-electrification-rebates>.

In addition to offering rebates that support electrification, RMLD's stewardship is focused on supplying its electrification efforts with non-carbon resources from its power supply portfolio.

Customers interested in attending a Homeowner Info Session to learn more about these rebates and other RMLD programs may visit <http://www.rml.com/home/pages/homeowner-info-sessions> to review available dates and register. These info sessions are a great opportunity for both new and experienced homeowners to learn about their electrical service and RMLD programs. RMLD customers who rent are also welcome. Light refreshments will be served, and each attendee will receive a complimentary LED light bulb.

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About Reading Municipal Light Department: Established in 1894, Reading Municipal Light Department (RMLD) is a municipal electric utility serving over 68,000 residents in the towns of Reading, North Reading, Wilmington, and Lynnfield Center. RMLD has over 29,000 meter connections within its service territory.