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## July 2016 Newsletter



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### Energy Efficiency

1-800-797-6699

### Power Supply

1-800-381-9192

### Start Thinking About Winter



Even though it may be warm out, now is the time to sign up for a **FREE** energy assessment on your home or business.

Call the Compact today at  
**1-800-797-6699** to get on the list!



What a beautiful summer we are having so far!

In this newsletter you will see that the Compact Board and Staff have been quite busy with launching new programs and following the \$496 million Grid Modernization Plan (GMP) that was filed by Eversource. The GMP is an important issue that everyone needs to be aware of, as it will affect all ratepayers on the Cape and Vineyard.

We hope that everyone has a happy and safe summer season!

*- Maggie Downey, Compact Administrator*

### Grid Modernization Update



Cape Light Compact has partnered with the Cape Cod Technology Council to look further into the Smart Grid opportunities and what challenges face the regions of Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard. In August 2015, Eversource filed a \$496 million grid modernization plan that seems more utility centric

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**Need a New Room  
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Mass Save® and Cape Light Compact are now offering a \$40 instant rebate on ENERGY STAR® certified room air conditioners.

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**Two Schools Win  
Awards for Energy**

than customer focused. The costs of these plans will be borne by all electric customers, so it is important for all consumers get involved and learn about what is being proposed, and make sure that it is the best way to go for our region. Energy technologies are rapidly evolving, and we want to make sure the Grid Modernization plans will prepare our grid to leverage these technologies to enhance grid stability, resiliency, and integration of renewables.

At the end of June, the Compact and the Tech Council co-hosted a meeting kicking off a public education campaign where the featured speaker, Karl R. Rábago, a former U.S. Department of Energy official and nationally-known utility analyst, talked about the current transformation of electric utilities and benefits and challenges that consumers face. "This is the biggest change for electric utilities in the last century," he noted. We are shifting from a mechanical utility structure in which power flows from the generating plant to the consumer, to one that has digital intelligence and power can flow in both directions. It opens up a lot of possibilities for power generation, storage, stability and local energy generation."

Some of the issues and questions that the Compact has identified are:

- How can we ensure that Cape and Vineyard consumers are not being charged for "grid modernization" improvements in other parts of the state?
- Should the region advocate for "smart meters" being installed on an opt-out basis for all customers and funded by all ratepayers, or should this be an opt-in process in which individual customers choose to have a smart meter installed and bear extra associated costs?
- What level of electric reliability and resiliency do consumers expect and how much are they willing to pay for that reliability? Are some of the costs in the resiliency section of the plan appropriate?

This plan is something that will affect all ratepayers on the Cape and Vineyard, and it is important for consumers to know what is being proposed. The Compact and the Tech Council will be working on

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Cape Light Compact is pleased to announce that two schools which participate in the Energy Education Program have received awards for their energy projects from the National Energy Education Development Project. The press releases for each school can be seen by clicking on the school name.

[Monomoy Regional Middle School](#)

[Martha's Vineyard Regional High School](#)

Congratulations to both schools and keep up the great work!

holding public meetings in the fall to help educate what is planned.

If you would like more information on what is being proposed or would like to sign up to receive updates on this issue, please visit the Compact's [website](#).

## New Business Programs

Did you know that Cape Light Compact has new energy efficiency offerings for business customers? Through feedback that the Compact has received over time, we have expanded our programs in order to help businesses implement work that was recommended through an energy assessment.

Recently the Compact launched special comprehensive offerings for eligible non-profits and medium sized businesses.



### Non- Profits

The Compact is offering enhanced incentives up to 100% for recommended improvements to eligible non-profits.

A few of the requirements to be eligible are:

- Non-profit must own the building
- Must be of 501(c)3 status and have been in operation for at least 5 years on the Cape and/or Vineyard
- Must have an active electric account in the non-profit's name and have annual electric usage of 100,000 kWh or less in the prior twelve months.

For more information or to fill out an application, please visit our [website](#) (under Small Business) or call 1-800-797-6699.

### Medium Businesses

The medium business program is designed to provide comprehensive information, energy assessments and energy efficiency incentives to assist and encourage customers to retrofit their existing businesses with cost-effective energy



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efficient measures by industry segment.



Any business with an annual electric usage of 100,001 kWh and 1.5 million kWh is eligible to participate in this program.

We have specific packages available currently for *grocery* businesses (which also includes convenience and liquor stores) and *hospitality* businesses (restaurant and lodging) industry segments.

For more information please visit our [website](#), or call us at 1-800-797-6699.

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