



For Immediate Release:
March 28, 2007

Contact: Kevin Goddard
(978) 486-8188

LELWD commits to four-day workweek for the next three years

Schedule saves energy, cuts costs, improves customer service

LITTLETON – The Littleton Electric Light and Water Departments (LELWD) have extended their four-day, ten-hour workweek for an additional three years after reviewing the results of a one-year trial period, in which the schedule saved energy, cut costs and improved customer service. Going forward, the one major difference between the pilot program and the schedule is an adjustment of Thursday hours from 7 p.m. to 6 p.m., due to a lack of customers in the final hour, according to Savas Danos, general manager of the departments.

The schedule utilizes the benefits of both a 4x10 workweek and the traditional 5x8 week, Danos said, by increasing business office coverage from 40 to 43 hours per week and electric and water operations from 40 to 50 hours per week. All employees still work a 40-hour week, with added coverage accomplished through rotations, Danos explained.

Under the schedule, business office hours are Monday through Wednesday, 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., closed Friday. Danos said opening Thursday evenings aligns LELWD with hours offered by Town Hall and the transfer station, and expands opportunities for customer service.

On the operations front, hours are Monday through Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with one water and one electric crew working Fridays. On a rotating basis, Danos explained, the Friday crews work Tuesday through Friday, to eliminate the need for overtime. Having crews in the system significantly enhances response time to outages and emergencies, he said, and reduces overtime pay. Danos emphasized that emergency coverage is unaffected by the program, and remains available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Danos said the departments have realized savings by keeping buildings dark and vehicles garaged for longer periods of time. “As an organization, LELWD has always prided itself on being a progressive utility, using the latest tools and technologies to offer outstanding value for our services. We hope that this program furthers that tradition,” he said. By leading by example, Danos added, “we believe our conservation program may inspire other organizations, public and private, to consider the compressed work week as a means of saving energy.”

###