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**Stable gas prices prompt LELED to lower power charges,
save average customer \$5 per month**

LITTLETON – The Board of Electric Light Commissioners this week approved a half a cent reduction in the power cost adjustment (PCA) charge to more accurately reflect the true cost of providing power in today’s market. For the average customer, who uses approximately 1000 kWh of electricity per month, the adjustment – from 4 cents to 3.5 cents per kWh – translates to a savings of \$5 per month.

The cost of fuel, volatile for much of the last two years, has stabilized in recent months, according to Savas Danos, general manager of the department.

“As fuel costs have grown steadily over the last few years, we have, on occasion, adjusted the PCA upward to recoup those higher costs,” explained Danos. “We are now at a point where our power costs are lower, which allows us to adjust the PCA downward and pass the savings on to our ratepayers.”

LELD rates remain among the lowest in the region. The latest statistics compiled by the Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC), which tracks the rates of both public and private utility companies, show that LELD's residential rates are consistently and significantly lower than those charged by both Mass Electric and NStar for the same usage. For purposes of comparison, a Littleton customer using 1000 kWh per month has a monthly bill of \$119.90. The same usage in Ayer, served by Mass Electric, cost \$169.66; while in Acton, served by NStar, that usage cost \$194.10.

“While an average of \$5 per month is a modest reduction, it is still a savings to customers that we are pleased to provide, and one that helps us retain our status as the region's low-cost electric utility,” Danos said. “We look forward to keeping our commitment to competitive rates, outstanding reliability and superior service.”

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