



## NEWS RELEASE

MASSACHUSETTS MUNICIPAL WHOLESALE ELECTRIC COMPANY

Contact: David Tuohey, Director of Communications & External Affairs  
(413) 308-1392  
[dtuohey@mmwec.org](mailto:dtuohey@mmwec.org)

### **Safety at Stony Brook Power Plant earns MMWEC national recognition**

LUDLOW, Mass. – March 9, 2010 – Accident-free operation of the Stony Brook Power Plant during 2009 has earned the Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC) recognition in a national safety awards program.

“Safety is an integral part of operations at the Stony Brook Energy Center, and this award recognizes MMWEC’s long-standing commitment to the safety of our employees and the community at large,” said MMWEC CEO Ronald C. DeCurzio.

In fact, the Stony Brook plant is approaching six years without a lost-time accident, a record that reflects the high priority placed on safety in operating and maintaining Stony Brook facilities, including approximately 527 megawatts of electric generation, a natural gas pipeline, oil storage tanks, electric transmission lines and other facilities.

Recognition of the Stony Brook safety record came through the Safety Awards of Excellence program sponsored by the American Public Power Association.

At a time when MMWEC is planning to build a new 280-megawatt power plant at its Stony Brook site, and in light of the recent power plant accident in Connecticut, the importance of safe operations rises to an even higher level, DeCurzio said.

MMWEC is monitoring the investigation of the Connecticut accident and recently hosted a webinar and discussion on natural gas system purging for members of the Ludlow Fire Department, who visit the Stony Brook site regularly to review and practice emergency response procedures. MMWEC also met recently with community officials as part of its ongoing Public Awareness Program, which provides safety information to people living and working in the general vicinity of MMWEC’s natural gas pipeline.

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***Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company, P.O. Box 426, Ludlow, MA 01056***

“Stony Brook operators are certified in all aspects of plant operations and their dedication to safety is reflected in the plant’s outstanding safety record,” DeCurzio said. “As we proceed with plans for new generating facilities at the Stony Brook site, safety will continue to be of paramount concern,” he said.

The existing Stony Brook plant provides electric energy and capacity to 25 Massachusetts municipal utilities based in the communities of Ashburnham, Boylston, Danvers, Georgetown, Groton, Hingham, Holden, Holyoke, Hull, Ipswich, Littleton, Mansfield, Marblehead, Middleborough, Middleton, North Attleborough, Paxton, Peabody, Reading, Shrewsbury, Sterling, Templeton, Wakefield, West Boylston and Westfield as well as six Vermont utilities.

MMWEC is a non-profit, public corporation and political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts that provides a wide range of power supply, financial, risk management and other services to the state’s consumer-owned municipal utilities.