



OFFICE OF THE VICE MAYOR

CITY HALL, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

(617) 349-4280

FAX (617) 349-4287

Sheila Doyle Russell
Vice Mayor

February 7, 1995

Ms. D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk
City Hall
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Margaret:

Attached is a report from Inspectional Services regarding recent Power Outages in West Cambridge and what measures are being taken to alleviate this situation. Please include this under Communications from City Officers for the meeting of February 13, 1995.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sheila".

Sheila T. Russell
Vice Mayor

s

attachment



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

To: Robert R. Bersani
Commissioner

Date: January 24, 1994

From: Michael J. Nicoloro, Jr.
Assistant Commissioner

A handwritten signature in ink, enclosed in a circle.

Subject: Outage West Cambridge

Listed below is a report written on the above subject matter.

To conform to industry standards Cambridge Electric Light Company scheduled the removal and refilling of the oil in the 5KV station transformer at Aberdeen Substation. The purpose of this exercise was to reduce the contaminant levels in the oil plus build up the dielectric strength of the oil.

To perform the oil changeout, the transformer was de-energized and all circuits originating from Aberdeen Substation (41/11 + 41/32) were switched over to alternate sources. Circuit 41/11 was transferred to circuit 41/21 Concord and circuit 41/32 was transferred to circuit 41/30 Healey. This transfer was accomplished utilizing a normally open tie switch joining the two circuits. In this instance the tie switch was put in the closed position and each circuit at Aberdeen subsequently opened. This switching allowed uninterrupted power to all customers serviced via Aberdeen Substation.

This work was scheduled and performed on January 11, 1995 with a completion time of approximately 4:00 p.m. One aspect of this procedure requires that the new oil settle de-energized for a period of twelve hours to allow all oil bubbles to dissipate. This time frame assures that oil, not air, is the insulation surrounding the transformer core as specified by the transformer manufacturer. After this waiting period the Aberdeen transformer could then be put back into service at approximately 4:00 a.m. on January 12, 1995.

On January 11, 1995 at approximately 6:22 p.m. cable faults and overloading conditions caused circuit interruption on feeders carrying the West Cambridge area causing a power outage to customers in this area. By switching to alternate sources and applying temporary repairs to damaged cable all customers were restored by 7:15 a.m. on January 12, 1995. The total outage affected 2692 customers for various durations of time.

Additional cable switches are now being installed to back-up Substation and to eliminate this problem in West Cambridge.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me at 349-6100, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

1.

Communications and Reports from
City Officers

S-65

Comm. from Michael Nicoloro, Assistant
Commissioner of Inspectional Services,
relative to recent power outages in West
Cambridge.

In City Council,

February 13, 1995

Placed on file