



## Western Massachusetts Electric

A Northeast Utilities Company

JULY 2011

# Investing in a Bright Future

## WMECo's Large-Scale Solar Program

In October 2010, WMECo completed New England's largest solar photovoltaic facility. WMECo has been authorized to build up to 6 megawatts (MW) of solar facilities before the end of 2012. Capped landfills and environmentally challenged areas that have few alternative uses are the target sites for the program, which aims to develop large-scale solar facilities where energy production is most cost effective. WMECo's large-scale solar program contributes to Massachusetts' goal to install 250 MW of solar energy by 2017.

**One Down** The 1.8 MW Silver Lake Solar facility located in Pittsfield has performed exceedingly well, generating power every single day since its opening. In April 2011, WMECo proudly received the Photovoltaic Projects of Distinction Award from the Solar Electric





*For Illustrative purposes only.*

Power Association and the Solar Energy Industries Association in recognition of the Silver Lake Solar facility. In June, the Environmental Business Council of New England presented WMECo with the John A.S. McGlennon Environmental Award of Corporate Leadership for the facility.

**One on the Way** In May, WMECo launched development of the second installment in its large-scale solar program. The Indian Orchard Solar facility in Springfield will accommodate 8,200 solar panels and produce 2.2 MW of electricity — enough to power 500 homes. The project is expected to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2011.

**More to Come** Upon completion, the Indian Orchard facility will join WMECo's Silver Lake Solar facility in Pittsfield as one of the largest in the Northeast region. The planning for future solar energy generation sites is underway as WMECo continues to expand the horizons of large-scale solar development in order to safely and reliably deliver power to all of its customers.

Visit [wmeco.com](http://wmeco.com) for more information about WMECo's large-scale solar energy initiative.



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