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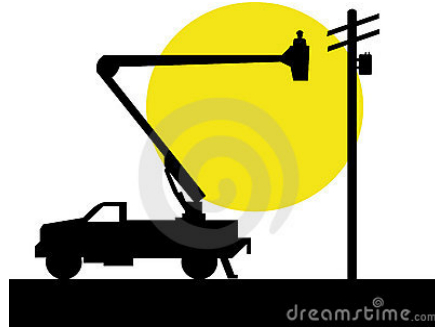
Tom McAloon

Eric Staples

Sarah Lane

SWAN'S ISLAND ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

March, 2017



Members with billing questions should contact Karen Griffin at 526-4336 or at siecbilling@gmail.com
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Emergency contact #:

207-479- 0657 and 0658

From the Board: On February 22, the Public Utilities Commission unanimously approved the acquisition of SIEC by Emera Maine – contingent upon ratification of the modified plan by the SIEC membership. The modified plan provides mainland rates to residents of Frenchboro and Swan's Island, but applies a monthly meter surcharge of about \$19 per meter for a period of five years. This surcharge was applied to shield Emera's mainland rate payers from any rate increase which otherwise would have been sought by Emera because the acquisition costs for Emera exceeded the asset book value of our Cooperative and principally benefitted Frenchboro and Swan's Island ratepayers.

On February 24th, SIEC mailed ballots to all 429 account holders with a return deadline of the close of business on March 15th. On March 2nd, SIEC hosted a membership meeting at the Library for members to ask questions about the modified plan and the surcharge. This meeting was broadcast to Frenchboro and Swan's Island as well as to the mainland. As of this writing (March 11), the office has received 285 returned ballots. According to our By-Laws, a two-thirds vote of the voting membership must approve the sale of SIEC assets in order for the sale to take place. At 4 PM on Wednesday, March 15, Deputy Sheriff Rob Morang will open and count all the ballots received at the SIEC office and we will announce the result on the Swan's Island info page that same evening.

Should the voting membership approve the modified plan according to our By-Laws, efforts will be underway to establish a Closing Date – perhaps as early as March 31st. On or around that date Emera would begin the installation of its own meters on both islands. This process could take a few weeks and both utilities will work together to make this transition occur as smoothly as possible. SIEC would be responsible for delivery of power to all meters on both islands through the end of March and Emera would pick up that task on April 1st. SIEC would bill all its members for power delivered in March on the normal April 15th billing date. Emera would begin billing customers on both islands for power delivered during the month of April, on May 15th. SIEC members who have active payment plans in effect will continue to be billed by SIEC for their payment plan amounts as SIEC winds down its operations over the next 60-90 days and seeks permission from State authorities to dissolve. At some point during this wind-down period, the collection of payment plan amounts will transfer to Emera and payment plan holders should expect to be asked to negotiate new payment plan arrangements with the larger utility.

In the event that the acquisition does not clear the 2/3rds vote requirement, the SIEC will continue to provide power to both islands as in the past with costs shared by all members at current rates.