Outdoor Lighting

P.O. Box 1475
Baltimore, Maryland 21203-1475

A Constellation Energy Company

Good Morning Mayor Davis and members of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Street Light Work Group.

My name is David Howser; I am an employee of Baltimore Gas Electric, for the last 8 years working in the Outdoor Lighting Unit. I would like to talk for a moment about the rich history of Baltimore Gas Electric.

Founded in 1816 as the Gas Light Company of Baltimore, Baltimore Gas Electric is the nation's first gas utility and one of the earliest electric utilities, with a tradition of superior service and reliability. The group gathered here today may not be aware of the fact that the Gas Light Company of Baltimore installed the very first gas street lamp in the United States on February 7th 1817, and for a combined 193 years BGE and its predecessors have continued to provide reliable street lighting in pursuit of public safety for the customers we serve. BGE serves more than 1.2 million business and residential electric customers and more than 630,000 gas customers in an economically diverse, 2,300-square-mile area encompassing Baltimore City and all or part of 10 Central Maryland counties. BGE's territory extends south into Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments area of interest, servicing part of both Prince Georges and Montgomery Counties. Within BGE's territory we now service 272,000 streetlights just to the North of your door step.

Today I wish to update you on BGE's progress toward deployment of the next promising street lighting technology, Light Emitting Diodes, or LED's. BGE has been focused for several years now on the development of LED streetlighting. First, by suggesting preferences and then working through our manufacturers representatives on enumerable revisions and changes to manufacturers LED street lighting Luminaires presented to us. BGE has been quietly testing function and durability of these next generation LED Luminaires at our Rutherford Business Center parking lot since mid 2008. During 2009, as a pilot project, at significant expense, BGE upgraded our electric operations building parking lot lighting from 70 watt high pressure sodium vapor to LED Luminaires, so that we could experience a parking lot lit by cool white LEDs. Employee feedback has been mostly favorable, with most finding the LED color an improvement or just right and some finding the LED light harsh or too bright. BGE continues to interact closely with LED outdoor lighting vendors. We have regular meetings of our Outdoor Lighting Technology workgroup. This team is comprised of leadership and employees working together to identify "utility grade energy efficient Street Light Luminaires". BGE is now confident enough in the maturity of LED street lighting's technology to move past pilot projects. We have accelerated our focus on the many logistical and regulatory hurdles in front of us. BGE is moving with a sense of urgency toward our shared goal of offering LED streetlighting ASAP. In support of that desire, BGE has targeted the first half of 2011 or sooner to begin to offer LED street lighting products. BGE is presently refining standards for LED Luminaire manufacturers to meet. BGE is developing LED Luminaire customer pricing and business plans. BGE is formulating its first drafts of our flexible LED Lighting Schedules for both private and municipal customers for presentation to the MD PSC. After our initial LED streetlight Luminaire offering, BGE's Outdoor Lighting Technology workgroup will then continue to review manufacturer's offerings mindful of our shared goal of continually searching for the most advanced, durable, energy saving, utility grade street lighting products available.

All of our actions combined, will get us to the common goal of moving efficient street lighting technologies out on to the roads we travel together.

Mayor Davis and group members thank you for the invitation to speak to you today.

Sincerely

David L. Howser / david.l.howser@bge.com / Office 410.470.8422

Lighting Account Representative