

**Public Meeting with National Grid
February 17, 2009**

Public Meeting

Supervisor Moore called the public meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Roll Call

Supervisor Moore, Councilwoman Robinson, Town Clerk Maguire

Absent: Councilwoman Tremper, Councilman Cook, Councilman Votra

National Grid Representatives- Dan Hayden- Account Manager, Darrell Jakubowski- Field Engineer, Ed Dziekan- Regional Line Manager, Alicia Dicks- Regional Executive Director, Rich Burns- Lead Account Executive

Others Present: Jane Moore, Elbridge E Randall, Joan Randall, John Abraham, John and Sheila Parmeter, Tanis Snell, Dorianne Laird, Gary Duprey, Jerry Hartson, Beth Mony

Supervisor Moore thanked everyone for attending and introduced the representatives from National Grid and invited them to do a presentation before questions from the public are taken.

Alicia Dicks thanked everyone for coming back to this second meeting. She said the cause for the power surge that occurred on October 28, 2008 still cannot be explained but it is certainly evident that there is a problem that is still being worked on. The claims submitted to National Grid have been looked at and these people will be compensated for their losses that reside in the area affected. Ms. Dicks reported that 90% of the people who filed claims have been contacted with the other 10% not notified due to not being able to contact them. It was also determined that there may be seasonal residents that are not here for the winter months and their damage if any will be assessed in the spring.

Richard Burns explained that new recording equipment was installed to monitor problems; settings were confirmed to be correct at the Higley substation. The line department patrolled the area and reported that all seemed to be in good order. There was a wind storm that occurred on December 28, 2008 which gave a little more insight as to what occurred in October. A fuse blew just like in October and they were able to determine what chain of events happened after that. New reclosure devices have since been installed, tripping mechanisms have been replaced on the breakers at the Higley substation, the relay settings have been reset and the retripping scheme has been changed. A complete tree trim review of both circuits has been completed along the two Higley feeders and trimming has also been done in the Allen Falls area. He explained that they still are not sure why the high voltage occurred, but all the preventative measures that he just explained should help this unusual occurrence from happening or at least reduce the risk of it happening again.

Darrel Jakubowski invited anyone who is interested to look at the maps and graphs that have been prepared to help explain where the problem was and some of the solutions that have been made. These will be available to look at after the meeting.

Members of the audience complimented National Grid for their diligence in this matter and applauded them for their hard work on this. Elbridge Randall thanked Supervisor Moore for pursuing this issue and Dan Hayden said it was a joint effort between the residents and the town that helped this be taken care of. It was also mentioned that this was an isolated incident and not to expect a meeting every time there are power outages.

After everyone in attendance had a chance to speak, *a motion* was made by Councilwoman Robinson and seconded by Supervisor Moore to close the meeting at 7:35 PM.

All in favor.

Connie Maguire
Town Clerk