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ALLSTON BRIGHTON

NStar plans new electrical substation for Electric Avenue in Brighton

Posted by Matt Rocheleau June 7, 2013 01:24 PM

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By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

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NStar plans to build a new electrical substation in Brighton on Electric Avenue to meet rising demand for power in the area, company officials said.

The substation, which will serve about 20,000 customers, will be built on vacant NStar-owned property abutting the commuter rail tracks that run just south of the Massachusetts Turnpike, Michael Durand, a spokesman for the utility, said in an e-mail.

“During the past several years the demand for electricity in this neighborhood, as well as across the city, has steadily increased and we expect that trend to continue into the future,” Durand said. “Building the new substation as part of our infrastructure upgrades will allow us to continue to provide reliable electric service to our customers.”

The new substation will be fenced off and the site will also include vehicle and pedestrian passageways, he said.

Though the 48,000 square-foot site is located along Electric Avenue, its address in city property records is 300-316 North Beacon St.

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The 16-month project is scheduled to begin in the spring of 2014.

Durand said construction of the substation will not cause any disruption in electrical service.

Most of the work will be on NStar property, and there is sufficient parking for construction vehicles. Any street work will be done in accordance with a traffic management plan, he said.

And, "Once the substation is constructed the only sound-generating equipment will be the transformers and the air conditioning units," said Durand. "Our plans call for reduced-sound transformers that will be partially enclosed. It's important to note we've installed similar equipment in residential areas and have not had any sound-related concerns."

A public meeting about the project is slated for Monday, June 10 at 6:30 p.m. at Elks Lodge at 326 Washington St. in Brighton.

E-mail Matt Rocheleau at mjrochele@gmail.com.

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