



HINGHAM MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

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Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant experiences Downtown Outage

May 14, 2008

An underground cable failure caused an outage and disruption of electrical service in the Downtown Hingham area on Tuesday morning (May 13th). The cable feeding homes on North Street faulted around 9AM on Tuesday and caused several homes and businesses in the area of North Street, Station Street and Water Street to lose their power for about 30 minutes. The cable was damaged when a squirrel, on-top of an electrical transformer behind 49 and 51 North St., chewed through the cable damaging the cable. Upon crews arriving at the scene, the squirrel was found at the base of the pole.

During the repair, the power needed to be turned off in the area again briefly around 11:30 AM and during the restoration, the remaining cable under North Street was found to be damaged also, necessitating the replacement of the entire length of cable. HMLP crews worked on the repair during the afternoon, which caused disruption to 3 HMLP customers that were served from the damaged cable. The cable was inspected by crews and found to have been eaten through the outside covering of the cable.

There would be a late afternoon brief outage again to the original affected area Downtown to restore the power to the homes that were served by the newly installed cable.