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Brookings Institution report recognizes MMWEC as ‘clean energy employer’

LUDLOW, Mass. – July 22, 2011 – The Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC) is recognized as a “clean economy employer” in a national report on green jobs by the Brookings Institution, a Washington-based public policy research organization.

The report, titled “Sizing the Green Economy: A National and Regional Green Jobs Assessment”, addresses the growing importance of green jobs to the U.S. economy and recommends government policy and other actions to sustain green economy growth. Green jobs are broadly defined in the report to include manufacturing, professional, public service and other jobs that help to reduce carbon emissions and produce environmental benefits.

MMWEC’s role in the green economy is related primarily to its provision of energy efficiency services and the development of renewable energy resources on behalf of its member municipal utilities.

“Nearly 60 percent of the wind power in Massachusetts has been developed by municipal utilities, and management of renewable energy assets has become an important aspect of many positions at MMWEC,” said Ronald C. DeCurzio, MMWEC’s Chief Executive Officer.

MMWEC also provides energy efficiency programs for residential, commercial and industrial customers of municipal utilities that generate jobs for those who design and install energy efficiency improvements.

“Clean energy initiatives are a growing part of the Massachusetts economy, and the Brookings report confirms the importance of these initiatives to our economic future,” DeCurzio said.

The report also recommends that state and federal governments do more to advance the clean economy, from backing research programs to implementing policy reforms that support the permitting, financing and development of clean business initiatives.

In this respect, MMWEC works with members of Congress to ensure that consumer-owned utilities share equally in the energy, environmental and economic benefits that stem from federal policy on renewable and energy efficiency development.

MMWEC is a non-profit, public corporation and political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts that provides a variety of power supply, financial, risk management and other services to the state’s consumer-owned, municipal utilities.