

Lunenburg Substation Improvements

Lunenburg is growing and new infrastructure is needed to support that growth. Unitil is in the preliminary planning stages for two separate substation projects in Lunenburg, Massachusetts.

Substations are important hubs of electric infrastructure. They are facilities where electricity is stepped down in voltage from transmission or sub-transmission lines to the poles and wires you see in local neighborhoods. Once complete, Lunenburg residents will benefit directly from these projects, which will support local economic growth, increase the system's capacity to interconnect renewable generation and improve system reliability in town.

The first project will be an expansion of the substation on 934 Massachusetts Avenue.

This existing substation is an off-road location set back from the main road. By adding another transformer to this location, we will increase the amount of electric load this substation can manage. This increase in capacity is needed to support planned development projects in the immediate area.

In addition to creating additional capacity, we will be able to increase the total number of circuits emanating from this substation from two to as many as four, something that improves overall reliability by limiting the area affected by an outage to a smaller portion of the grid and allowing us to install more tools to isolate impacts. This project is expected to begin construction in 2025 with an expected completion in 2026 and will also increase the capacity of the local electric system to interconnect renewable generation.

Unitil will be holding public information sessions to let Lunenburg residents know about these projects and to solicit feedback.

Wednesday, September 4th, 6:30 PM

Lunenburg Public Library, 1023 Mass Avenue

Thursday, September 5th, 12PM

Virtual, details to be announced

The second project will be the construction of an all-new substation in southeast Lunenburg.

This substation will be built in an industrial (non-residential) area and will tie directly into existing National Grid transmission lines in the area, creating a new access point for electricity to enter Unitil's system.

Currently, a majority of the town of Lunenburg is supplied via the substation at 934 Mass. Ave, meaning an outage at that location or the source to that substation cuts power to a significant portion of town. Once complete, the new substation would be able to power a large portion of the community even if there's an outage at or to the source of the other substation.

This project will also increase the capacity of the local electric system to support commercial development in South Lunenburg, the interconnection of additional renewable generation and the long-term electrification goals of the Commonwealth in this area of the Unitil system. The additional substation will also establish three additional circuits supplying the Town of Lunenburg, again improving overall reliability by limiting the area affected by an outage to a smaller portion of the grid and allowing us to install more tools to isolate and restore impacted areas.

Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in 2027 with an expected completion in 2029. Unitil is actively exploring the limited land opportunities that would allow for the construction of such a facility.