

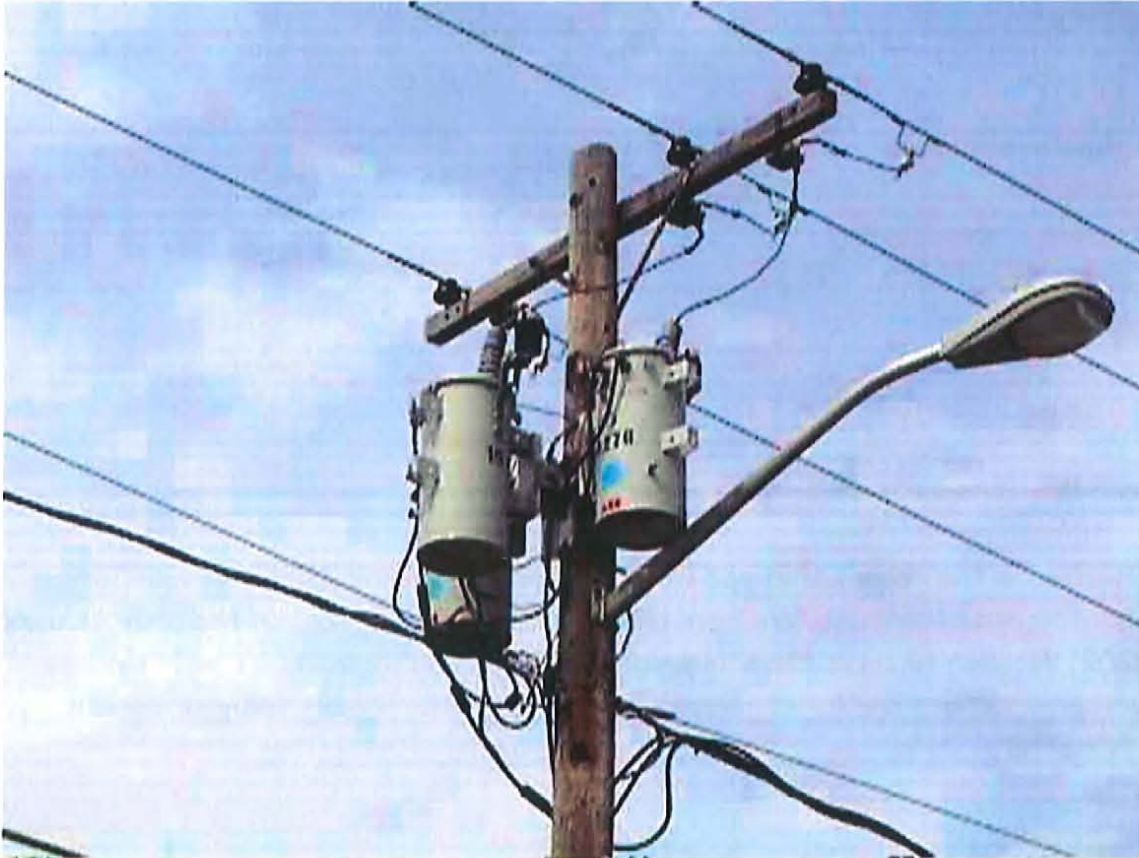
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Maine Public Service Company's PCB Mitigation Plan Update



05 January 2011

Prepared by Keith M. Brooks




05 January 2011

Susan Johannesman
Natural Resources Committee
13 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Ms. Johannesman:

Attached is the report that updates the status of Maine Public Service Company's **PCB Mitigation Program**. We have made substantial progress on the project during **2010**. We plan to complete this program in 2011. Please advise if you have any further questions and/or comments on this subject. Thanks for your assistance in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,


Thomas F. Osgood

Thomas F. Osgood
Director of System Operations & Environmental Affairs

**Maine Public Service Company PCB Mitigation Plan Update
05 January 2011**

As a response to the Maine Legislation, "An Act to Protect the Environment by Phasing Out the Use of Old Transformers that are Potential Sources of PCB Pollution", Maine Public Service Company ("MPS") is undertaking a PCB Mitigation Program that will eliminate all potentially contaminated transformers within the specified ten-year timeline. 2011 will be the 11th year of this program.

At the onset of this program, MPS had more than 13,000 distribution transformers in service. Of these 13,000, approximately 7,500 were potentially contaminated with PCB's in concentrations of 50 ppm or greater. All transformers that are not certified as containing less than 50 ppm PCB, either by the manufacturer or through oil sample testing, are considered to be potentially contaminated.

A two-year data collection project was completed in 2002. The data collected included the exact location of all distribution transformers, using GPS technology. This data is being used to map the locations of potentially contaminated transformers to be removed. The current MPS PCB Mitigation Plan states that all potentially contaminated transformers are to be visited and sampled if the PCB level cannot be obtained in the field. When transformer test samples return with a 50 ppm or greater PCB level, they are scheduled for removal and disposal. In 2010, we sampled 676 transformers, where 102 were found to be 50 ppm or greater. This is a 15.1% contamination rate for transformers sampled without record of PCB content.

Since this program started in 2001, MPS has retired a total of 1,092 transformers for high PCB. Currently, MPS has 501 transformers without a recorded PCB ppm level. Of these, 24.2% are expected to be found with 50 ppm PCB or greater, which will result in 121 PCB mitigated transformers.

MPS intends to continue with this program to ensure MPS's distribution system will be entirely free of electrical equipment potentially contaminated with PCB's, by October 1st, 2011.