The state must act responsibly, and with immediacy, to lift solar caps that would raise the solar net metering caps and ensure that the solar industry remains a vibrant source of jobs and revenue for the industry and the state.

NECA’s message to our legislators is clear: Massachusetts lawmakers must resolve the issue without delay. A viable solution to raise the solar net metering caps must be reached early in 2016. Major solar projects throughout the state, representing more than 12,000 electrical and solar industry jobs, are at stake. In fact, every day the Legislature fails to raise the net metering caps, $3 million in private investment in the Massachusetts solar industry and economy is on hold, as are $1 million in federal solar investment credits. Currently, more than 48 megawatts of planned solar projects in National Grid’s territory in the state have been delayed because of the negative impact the solar caps have on responsible solar developers. The impasse in solar legislation is a major obstacle to solar development throughout the Commonwealth.

Massachusetts solar industry currently ranks sixth in the nation with 876 MW of solar installed, with a goal of reaching 1600 MW by 2020. It has achieved its goal of reaching 1600 MW by 2020. The state must act responsibly, and with immediacy, so that the industry can remain a bright source for Massachusetts economy and the electrical industry for years to come.
BOSTON, MA — J&M Brown Company, Inc. (JMB), of Jamaica Plain, MA, has completed the comprehensive electrical construction of 100 Pier 4, the newest luxury residential high-rise in Boston’s Seaport district.

The NECA contractor provided installation of the facility’s primary and emergency power, state-of-the-art lighting and lighting control system, fire alarm system, and tel/data and security systems at the 21-story residential tower. The project also included electrical fit-out for all 369 residential units, a fitness center, and underground parking garage for 258 cars.

100 Pier 4 is the first project in the multi-building master plan development on the 9.5 acre site overlooking Boston harbor.

J&M Brown Construction Group Vice President Bryan Greene and Operations Manager Robert Carabia supervised the electrical project, managing a field crew of 45 IBEW Local 103 electricians at peak construction. Spectrum IT Project Managers Mike Anderson and Terry Kilduff led the tel/data and security project effort with a team of eight IBEW technicians at peak construction. The two-year project was completed in May 2015 and The Hanover Company took occupancy at that time.

Troy Boston is a 334,000 square-foot development, comprised of two connected towers, an 11-story structure and another that rises 19-stories. The residential/mixed-use project includes 6,000 square-feet of retail — shops and restaurants — at ground level. The development includes an above-ground parking facility for 180 vehicles.

Troy Boston is expected to achieve LEED Gold certification as its energy-efficient systems are designed to save more than 1,379,700 kW hours of electricity and more than 3.8 million gallons of water. The facility’s co-generator produces 100% of the building’s hot water and 54% of its heat.

The first mid-rise was completed in March 2015 and final turnover was in June 2015.
J.M. Electrical Completes Energy Efficiency Upgrade for Largest Affordable Housing Preservation Project in Commonwealth’s History at Georgetowne Homes in Hyde Park

Teams with mechanical contractor E.M. Duggan Inc. of Canton, MA in performing building automation system upgrades

J.M. Electrical, the Lynnfield, MA-based NECA contractor specializing in advanced automated building system installations, has completed the comprehensive energy efficiency upgrade at Georgetowne Homes, a newly renovated affordable housing development in Hyde Park, MA. Under the management of mechanical contractor E.M. Duggan Inc., J.M. Electrical’s crew of IBEW Local 103 electricians updated the building heating system for 928 housing units at the residential complex. The project entailed installing 66 central boiler plants, as well as installing a variable refrigerant monitoring (VRF) System for the building’s community center.

“This important project will provide Boston residents with affordable housing options equipped with energy efficient technology in what was the largest affordable housing development preservation project in the Commonwealth’s history,” said Stephen Guarracino, Operations Officer at J.M. Electrical.

“We are excited to have integrated these innovative energy systems into the structure, which will result in reducing the building’s energy costs.”

**PROJECT CHALLENGES**

Georgetowne Homes’ renovation presented unique project requirements and challenges. J.M. Electrical replaced the electric heating system in all buildings with the new energy efficient central boiler plants, and rewired and installed new thermostats in each of the units. The community center’s building automation system was also completely revamped in order to reduce energy demand and consumption while ensuring reliable energy delivery for power and heat.

“Today’s advanced building systems are amazingly sophisticated, and it takes a wide range of skills and knowledge to ensure that all the systems work seamlessly and reliably,” Guarracino said.
R.J. Koning Electric Completes Faneuil Hall Marketplace Uniqlo Fire Alarm; Awarded Quincy Market Fire Alarm System Upgrade

Boston, MA – R.J. Koning has recently brought the new Uniqlo retail space at Faneuil Hall Marketplace online. Partnering with fire alarm service contractor, AFA Protective Systems, the NECA member built a new fire alarm backbone infrastructure in this parallel system renovation. The project scope included installation of a new fire alarm command center and cross-tripping to the existing fire alarm system.

In December, the firm will begin providing the fire alarm upgrade to the remainder of the Quincy Market Building. All buildings will be retrofitted to a new Notifier fire alarm voice annunciation system. The facility’s age presents logistical challenges that will be met by Koning and project team engineering firm, R.W. Sullivan. Work will be performed for Quincy Market’s property management company, Jones Lang LaSalle.

Deputy Secretary Carolyn Kirk Discusses Economic Development in Massachusetts at NECA Boston Chapter Meeting

Boston, MA – Carolyn Kirk, Massachusetts Deputy Secretary for Housing and Economic Development, was the guest speaker at NECA Boston’s Fall Chapter Meeting at the Seaport Hotel on September 25th. She spoke of new statewide initiatives introduced by the Baker administration that promise to spur continuing economic growth throughout all sectors of the economy and that will have major impact on the construction industry. Secretary Kirk was joined at the meeting by Tim Wilkerson, State Director of Economic Policy Development.

The Massachusetts Economic Development Incentive Program (EDIP) is a tax incentive program designed to foster job creation and spur business growth throughout the State. The tax credit program is focused on making Massachusetts more competitive for companies looking to expand in the Commonwealth, offering tax incentives for communities that will spur millions of dollars in investments. Kirk referenced that 56,500 jobs have been generated in the Bay State since Governor Baker took office in January.

NECA Boston/Wentworth Student Chapter’s Site Visit to New Balance World HQ

Boston, MA – NECA Boston Chapter’s Assistant Manager Kristen Gowin and State Electric President Ronnie Koning arranged a site visit of the 477,000 s/f New Balance World Headquarters facility at Boston Landing for members of the NECA Boston/Wentworth Institute of Technology Student Chapter. Brendan Dickie, VP of State Electric’s Commercial Electrical division led the informational walk-through. WIT construction management students Chris McHugh, Mark Souder, The Vo, Alex Yu, and Kyle Lagarto were shown many aspects of the building’s installed electrical systems, from the rooftop electrical penthouse and emergency generator to fire alarm, lighting, and lightning protection systems. State Electric was the primary electrical contractor on the project, managing a crew of more than 90 IBEW electricians at peak construction.
David R. MacKay, of E.G. Sawyer Company, Honored with 2015 NECA / ELECTRI International Wendt Award for Exemplary Leadership and Service

A member of the ELECTRI Council, David MacKay’s service has included analysis of electrical construction trends and issues, and the review and recommendation of project research proposals by universities. He has also served on task forces to guide commissioned research project and been instrumental in key industry funding initiatives. Through Mr. MacKay’s unwavering commitment to and advocacy for the future of the industry, and his endorsement, E.G. Sawyer is a contributing Founder member of ELECTRI International and NECA Boston is a Diplomat to the organization, having contributed $350,000 to fund industry research.

MacKay’s career in the electrical industry began in 1966 when he joined E.G. Sawyer after graduating from Northeastern University with a degree in Finance. In 1970 he graduated Suffolk University Law School and passed the Massachusetts Bar. He has served on the Board of Directors of the NECA Boston Chapter since 1978, twice as the President.

In 2014, E.G. Sawyer, the nation’s oldest continuously operating electrical contracting firm, celebrated its 150th year of operation and received the NECA 50-year Membership Award for distinguished industry service. Under MacKay’s leadership and direction, E.G. Sawyer has become one of the region’s leading electrical construction firms. High-profile projects in recent years include the Dana-Farber Yawkey Center for Cancer Care, Education First (EF) Headquarters in Cambridge, and UMass Boston’s Integrated Sciences Complex.

E.G. Sawyer VP and COO Joseph McCluskey, Jr., currently VP of NECA Boston, commented on MacKay: “David’s vision and knowledge have been keys to E.G. Sawyer’s success over the past 50 years. David has been a true mentor to me, and was very instrumental in building involvement in NECA. Through his service, and now my own, I’ve come to understand firsthand the importance the organization has in furthering the electrical industry – from continuing education, management, and safety perspectives.” McCluskey will become NECA Boston’s President in January. He took MacKay’s place on the NECA Boston Chapter Board in 2008, when MacKay was named Vice President of NECA District 1.

Executive Manager Glenn Kingsbury spoke of MacKay’s unwavering dedication to the industry. “Dave is a great asset to NECA on so many levels. He has twice served as our Chapter President and Governor with distinction, and has shown tremendous leadership in the area of labor-management relations. He has represented the Chapter on negotiating committees a remarkable 11 times over the years and has worked tirelessly to promote a positive working relationship between NECA and IBEW on a local, regional and national level. We extend Dave our hearty congratulations on receiving ELECTRI’s Wendt Award.”

David MacKay commented on the award, humbly: “It is nice to be recognized, but I must say there are many people who work hard for NECA both locally and nationally.”
Maiuri Electric Shines in Electrical Construction of Envoy Hotel

BOSTON, MA – Maiuri Electric, based in North Andover, MA, has completed comprehensive electrical construction of the new Envoy Hotel, at 70 Sleeper Street in the Seaport District. Overlooking Fort Point Channel and Rowes Wharf, and with sweeping views of the Boston skyline, the gleaming six-story, 88,000 square-foot, 136-room Envoy Hotel, complete with its rooftop Lookout Bar and function area, opened in May.

Maiuri’s multifaceted scope entailed installation of the hotel’s primary power system, bringing a 1600A - 480/277V electrical service to the building, as well as installing the facility’s 250KW rooftop emergency generator. For life safety, the Envoy is equipped with a new, addressable Simplex Grinnell fire alarm system. The boutique hotel’s custom interior lighting package is controlled via an advanced Lutron Dimming System in the lobby and also on the rooftop deck bar and restaurant. The NECA contractor also installed exterior lighting, including facade lighting and City of Boston lighting poles. An emergency phone/egress system in elevator lobbies was also installed by Maiuri.

Maiuri’s electrical crew, comprised of ten IBEW Local 103 electricians, was headed by Project Manager Thomas Buckley and Foreman John Downing.

PROJECT CHALLENGES

The Envoy’s extremely tight 20,000 square-foot site, which serves as the gateway to Seaport Square, presented significant logistical challenges adeptly met by Maiuri and the entire construction team. Located across from the Moakley Federal Courthouse, the project faced ongoing road closures which impacted daily material deliveries, and despite these challenges the NECA contractor completed construction of the 18-month project as scheduled, in May 2015. Maiuri was an integral member of general contractor Lee Kennedy Company’s team, employing LEAN construction practices throughout to ensure the cost-effective quality construction and project delivery.

“The Lee Kennedy project team, headed by Sr. PM Dan Lebiedz and PM Marc Buchan, provided a great, cooperative working environment, which was critical to Maiuri Electric’s ability to meet the many logistical challenges and was key to the project’s success,” said PM Buckley.

Maiuri Electric also provided fit-out of the hotel’s new ground level 4,000 square-foot restaurant, Outlook Kitchen + Bar, which opened September 15th. The Envoy Hotel is a Marriott Signature Series property.

McDonald Electrical’s MEC Power Group Completes Twin Rivers Technologies 1.8MW Cogeneration Plant

QUINCY, MA – MEC Power Group, the high-voltage/utility division of McDonald Electrical Corp., based in Hingham, has installed a new 1.8MW combined heat and power cogeneration plant at the Twin Rivers Technologies facility in Quincy, MA. The NECA contractor’s project scope comprised installing new medium voltage switchgear, and low voltage controls and instrumentation to support and distribute power from the new cogeneration plant. A fire alarm system was also installed.

MEC Power Group’s Director Chris Lombardi and PM Scott Fallon managed a field crew of 15 IBEW Local 103 electricians in the fast-track, 4-month project, which was completed in November. The MEC team is also providing commissioning of the new cogen facility. Twin Rivers Technologies is one of the largest oleochemical producers in North America.