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Central Hudson Engineer earns industry recognition

Central Hudson Engineer William Brosnahan is being recognized for conducting a study that confirmed the benefits of replacing wooden crossarms with fiberglass. Crossarms, typically made of wood, are positioned horizontally at the top of utility poles to carry electrical wires.

The research, coordinated by Brosnahan, concluded that installing fiberglass crossarms, while requiring higher initial investment, improves the electrical system's resiliency against storms and severe weather while decreasing long-term costs.

Electric industry organization Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) is awarding Brosnahan with the Power Delivery & Utilization Technology Transfer award. The honor recognizes individuals who have applied EPRI research and technology in solving a problem of size and significance, championing a technology both within their companies and across the industry, driving progress in the electricity sector and providing meaningful

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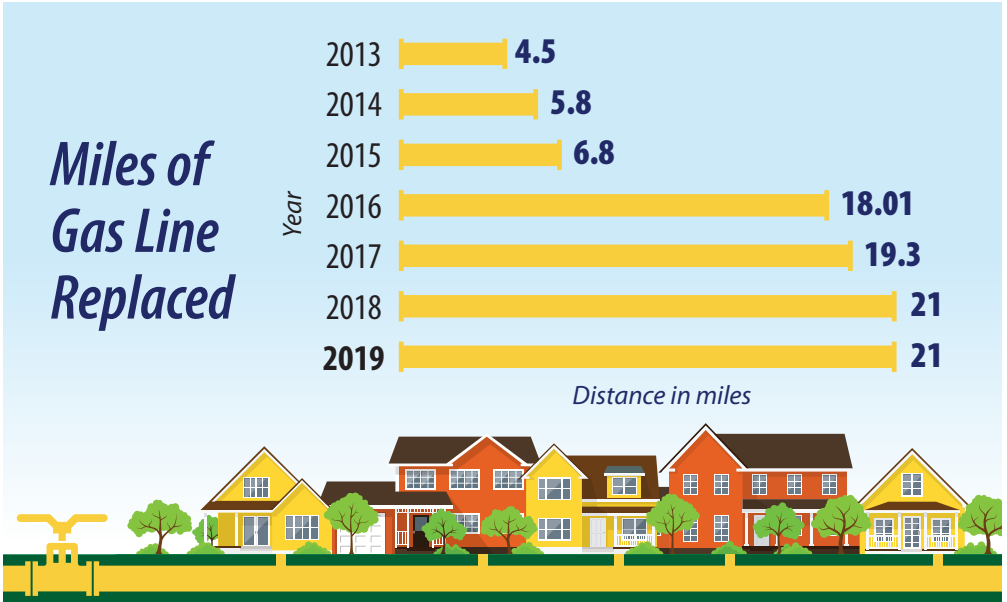

GAS LINE REPLACEMENT INITIATIVE CONTINUES IN 2020

During 2019, another 21 miles of aging natural gas mains and more than 2,000 service lines to individual homes and buildings were replaced under Central Hudson's pipeline replacement initiative. "Thank you to the communities in which we work for your patience as we modernize our natural gas distribution network," said Paul E. Haering, Senior Vice President of Engineering and Operations. "We're replacing older natural gas mains at an accelerated pace under an agreement with state regulators, and appreciate your assistance and understanding as we upgrade our systems to enhance safety, reliability and efficiency."

Since 2016, nearly 80 miles of natural gas mains have been replaced under the accelerated program. "While gas main replacements have taken place for many years, we have quadrupled the average mile replaced under this accelerated program," said Haering. "The new gas mains are chiefly made of polyethylene, which is a highly durable material and less susceptible to environmental conditions." He said the new pipelines are sized to address local capacity needs and help to improve service reliability. He explained that nearly 140 miles

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Gas: New pipelines improve service reliability, safety

of remaining aging natural gas mains are planned for replacement in coming years under this accelerated program.

The original lines were largely installed in the 1930s or earlier, comprised of cast iron and unprotected steel. The majority of these lines are located in the region's cities and villages, where gas service was first introduced.

Central Hudson works with individual property owners when replacing service lines, and in some cases will relocate indoor gas meters outdoors for better accessibility. "Letters are mailed to affected property owners ahead of time to provide information and a timeline for the work, and open houses are held near the affected communities offering residents the opportunity to ask questions and meet with project managers," said Haering. Work is performed by Central Hudson employees and contractors, who carry and display identification badges.

"We also work closely with municipalities to coordinate gas line replacement projects with planned road work and street repaving. We're currently reaching out to highway officials to learn of expected municipal road work during the year to help identify where and when our projects will take place," said Haering.

Central Hudson is replacing steel and cast iron gas main (left) with high density polyethylene plastic (right). The majority of these lines are located in the region's cities and villages, where gas service was first introduced in the early 1900s.

"Municipalities developing roadwork and paving projects should also reach out to Central Hudson to inform us of your plans." He also explained that Central Hudson will be returning in the spring to complete paving for some projects completed in late 2019.

Since the start of the initiative in 2016, replacements of gas mains along streets and service lines to buildings and homes have improved the municipal tax base and also reduced gas odor and leak reports, lessening the need for callouts by emergency responders. The work often includes inspections of indoor appliances and piping, as well. "When completed, these projects will have lasting benefits to the communities we serve," said Haering.

Gas line replacement plans for 2020 will soon be announced, and are expected to take place in the cities of Newburgh, Kingston, Poughkeepsie and Beacon, and in the villages of Cornwall and Highland Falls. Additional projects will be developed as discussions with municipalities continue. For more information, visit the Projects page at www.CentralHudson.com. ✷

Engineer: Fiberglass crossarms decrease long-term costs

benefits for its stakeholders and for society. EPRI is an energy industry nonprofit that conducts research, development and demonstration projects with a focus on electricity generation and delivery.

"We are tremendously proud of Will for his ability to analyze cutting edge industry research and apply it to our unique electric system at Central Hudson," said Charles Freni, President and C.E.O. of Central Hudson. "This is a perfect example of being able to leverage industry research from across the globe."

Brosnahan utilized several EPRI studies that tested pole structure components independently and as a system. Compared to wood, fiberglass is more resilient to damage and has a longer life expectancy, and so does not require costly replacements as often and is less likely to break and result in power outages.

Central Hudson now utilizes fiberglass arms that are mechanically coordinated with the existing poles and hardware. Brosnahan also developed guidelines indicating conditions when fiberglass or wood should be deployed.

"The system changes we implemented from the study will provide a more resilient grid, which will cost less for our customers while providing better electric service reliability," Brosnahan said. ✷

Engineer William Brosnahan will receive an Electric Power Research Institute award at an event in February.