

National Grid's completed solar-generation facility on Hilldale Avenue in Haverhill.

MARY SCHWALM/Staff photos

National Grid says solar farm reduces carbon emissions

By PAUL TENNANT
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HAVERHILL — When the temperature rose above 90 on Tuesday, many people complained, saying they were getting more than enough sun.

All that sunshine, however, contains energy that can be used to produce electricity. Haverhill has entered the solar age in a big way, now that the National Grid generation site is operating.

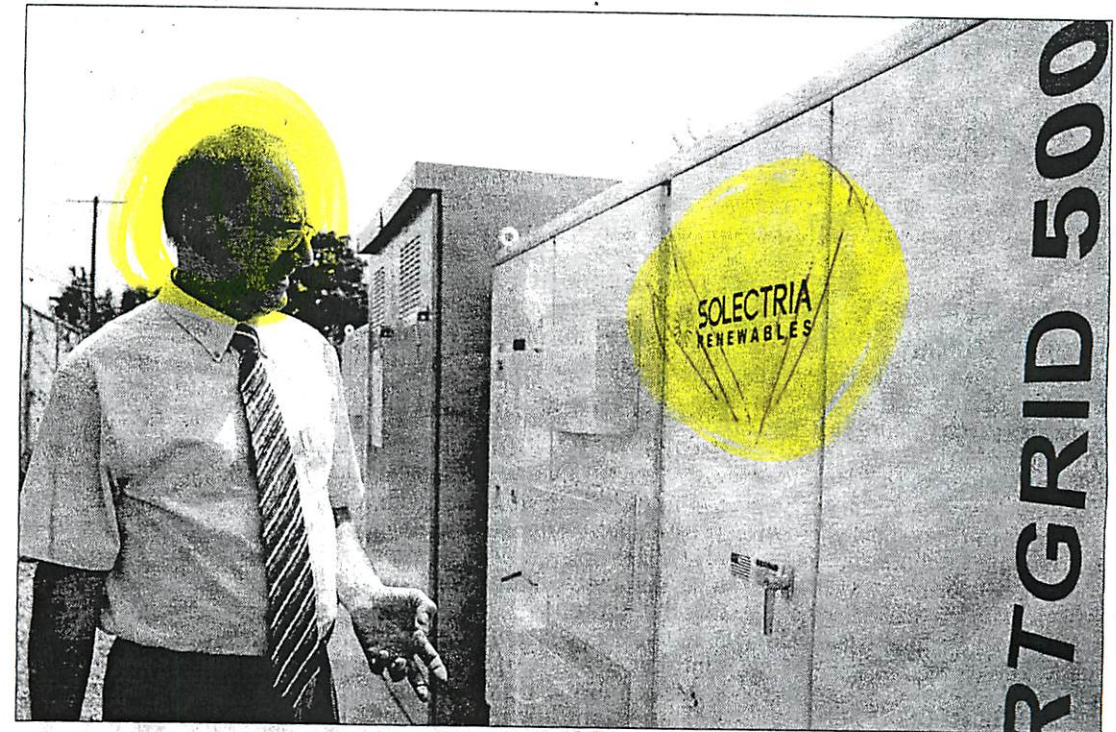
One can't miss the field of solar panels, also called a solar farm, at the beginning of Hilldale Avenue, next to the site of the former Cerretani's Supermarket.

The facility began generating electricity in December. On Tuesday — possibly the hottest day of the summer so far — National Grid executives, state Sen. Steven Baddour, D-Methuen and Mayor James Fiorentini held a ceremony to celebrate the solar facility.

Fouad Dagher, project manager for the solar site, said the 3,670 panels are producing enough electricity to light 200 homes.

Dagher noted that the electricity being produced there does not result from the burning of coal or oil or operation of a nuclear plant.

Dagher said Haverhill's solar site is expected to reduce



Fouad Dagher, manager of Products and Services at National Grid, talks about the Solectria Renewables power inverter at the rear of the completed solar generation facility in Haverhill.

about 1.07 million pounds of carbon from the atmosphere each year. That amounts to taking nearly 330 passenger cars off the road or eliminating the carbon dioxide emissions from burning more than nine rail cars of coal.

"The solar farm gives Haverhill the opportunity to lead the way in green technologies and will educate our children in our community

about solar energy," Fiorentini said.

"With the city of Haverhill hosting the largest of National Grid's solar generation facilities, we are seeing direct benefits to the investment in new solar energy technologies," Baddour said. National Grid operates other solar farms in Revere, Whitinsville and Everett. Other solar sites are likely to be established in

Salisbury and Amesbury, Baddour added.

Haverhill's solar farm is protected by a high chain-link fence and security cameras.

Two inverters, made by Solectria Renewables of Lawrence, change the direct current electricity produced by the sun to the alternating current that is transmitted to homes and businesses, Dagher explained.

Lawyer faces larceny charges

By SHAWN REGAN
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HAVERHILL — A Haverhill attorney has been indicted by an Essex Grand Jury on two counts of larceny by false pretense, according to the Essex District Attorney's office.

Richard Hayes, who has a law office at 1146 Main St., was indicted

O'Connell said Hayes would be arraigned within the next few weeks, and that no other information would be available until then. Hayes' office phone was not working and efforts to reach him were unsuccessful.

According to the Massachusetts Board of Bar Overseers, he practiced law since 1997 and has no record of discipline. The web-

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