Fellow HOA residents,

First, we would like to welcome CJ Dieteman to the Utilities committee as our new co-chair representing the DVP Youngs Branch section of our neighborhood. CJ will oversee the smooth transition of the DVP Youngs Branch sector to the more reliable Sideburn substation feed that Delegate Tim Hugo was able to secure for us. The Sideburn/Burke Center Parkway feed primarily services the DVP side of our Clara Barton/Robert Carter area of the subdivision. Any questions concerning DVP please contact CJ at cj.dieteman@verizon.net.   CJ will be in direct contact with DVP and Delegate Hugo's office.

On the NOVEC side, many of you have expressed your relief over experiencing only a 2 ½ hour outage during Hurricane Irene. Here are the facts behind the outage. At the height of Irene, the NOVEC cop-op area experienced only tropical storm like conditions with sustained winds of 40-50 mph with estimated 2 inches of driving rain, similar to a winter Nor'easter without the wet heavy snow. Unfortunately, as informed by Delegate Hugo's office, our service area was in the 2 percentile of the total NOVEC customer base that did lose power. Additionally, as in recent past major weather events, both our substation feed circuits, the Moore (we are currently on the Moore circuit) and the backup Popes Head circuit went down due to tree damage, which rendered the newly installed remote switching capability useless. The good news was that the upgraded Popes Head substation itself was not knocked out of service, just the circuit lines. Since only time and priority was given in clearing the faults to our lines. Keep in mind, as stated by NOVEC, this priority service most likely would not have been the same if they had sustained much more system wide damage consistent with what DVP experienced state wide. Our Board letter to NOVEC on this issue and NOVEC's response are posted on our web site.

More updates will be presented at the annual meeting in November.

Thank you.

Mike McKinney, Co-chair, Committee on Utilities