

March 20, 2022

BY EMAIL

Mike Hooper, President
Nipsco
mhooper@nisource.com

Re: The LED Fraud

Dear Mike Hooper,

We are notifying you that Nipsco is making numerous false or deceitful claims regarding LED streetlights.¹

False and Deceitful Claims

Quote: *“Traditional street lights have a yellow/orange color to them. LED lights produce a light that appears whiter, similar to moonlight. The result is a higher light quality that improves visibility.”* – LED light is not at all similar to moonlight. The moon is not a source of light. It is the reflection of sunlight, the spectral power distribution is entirely different from LED, and light reflected by the moon is 238,900 miles away. The blinding glare of LED streetlights does not improve visibility and is an exceedingly low-quality, light that is only appropriate for industrial uses.

Quote: *“LED lights are not any brighter than traditional street lights in terms of light levels (which are measured in lumens). However, the light they produce does appear cleaner and whiter, creates a more uniform light pattern and allows colors to seem more natural in the dark.”* – LED light is not cleaner, nor whiter. The main wavelength of LED light is blue. The color is not white, just glare that cannot be assigned a real color by the brain. LEDs emit light from a surface source and thus the light is non-uniform. Nothing about LED light is natural.

Quote: *“Reduce energy and maintenance costs while improving street light quality”* – Nipsco makes numerous references to LEDs being energy efficient. This is a false claim since LEDs emit a very low quality, industrial light that does not provide the same service as the high-quality, uniform light from High-Pressure Sodium. As per the US Department of Energy, *“Simply put, energy efficiency means using less energy to get the same job done.”* Since LEDs do not provide uniform illumination like HPS, LEDs aren't getting the same job done, and are thus not energy efficient. Switching from HPS to LED lowered the quality of the light to levels that are toxic to humans.

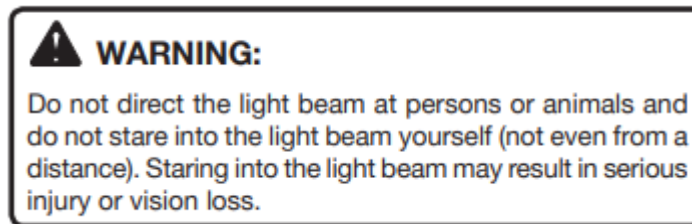
¹ <https://www.nipsco.com/led-street-lights>

We have created a short video that clearly explains why LEDs do not provide the same service as HPS and why Nipsco cannot legally claim that LEDs are energy efficient or save energy.

<https://youtu.be/s-eiP9bRnMM>

Eye Damage

LED light beams are dangerous for human eyes. For example, the operator's manual for the Ryobi P705 Flashlight includes the following: "WARNING: Do not direct the light beam at persons or animals and do not stare into the beam yourself (not even from a distance) Staring into the light beam may result in serious injury or vision loss." LED streetlights are even more powerful than a handheld flashlight, but where is the warning label for babies in strollers looking up directly into an LED light beam?



Discrimination

One of the most tragic outcomes of using LED light beams is its effects on those who are LED-sensitive. This includes people with epilepsy, autism, migraines, PTSD, and other neurological conditions where the non-uniform energies of the LED light beams cause the nerves to overload and short circuit, resulting in epileptic seizures, migraines, panic attacks, anxiety, and agitation. Some of these heart-wrenching stories of how the widespread installation of LEDs have destroyed lives are posted on our website.² LED lights are discriminatory because they interfere with a person's major life functions such as seeing, thinking, and concentrating. Here are a few quotes:

- **Epilepsy:** *I have epilepsy, and even the briefest glimpse of an LED light instantly throws me into a seizure."*
- **Migraines:** *The most distressing symptom from these [LEDs] is a burning sensation in the occipital area of my brain.*
- **Autism:** *I was crawling around on the ground, pulling the grass, pulling my hair, screaming.*
- **Lupus:** *I developed a sunburn-type rash to my face, neck, and chest with spontaneous bleeding to my lip.*
- **Irlen's Syndrome:** *Walking in the dark is horrendous because of these lights.*

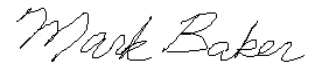
² <http://www.softlights.org/stories/>

- **Sjogren's Syndrome:** *Strobing LED lights are becoming so common on utility vehicles, and they cause me to go into a completely overloaded state where I can't think straight.*

Given that LED light is non-uniform, toxic, and discriminatory, Indiana Nipsco must take the following actions.

- 1) Fully disclose that LED streetlights do not emit uniform light, and that LEDs do not save energy because they do not provide the same uniform illumination service as HPS.
- 2) Fully disclose the dangers of LED lights, including its impacts on those with epilepsy, migraines, autism, and PTSD.
- 3) Provide to cities an analysis of replacing 100-watt HPS with 50-watt HPS as an alternative to LED.
- 4) Notify the Federal Trade Commission of Nipsco's false claims of energy efficiency and light quality and remove those false claims from Nipsco's marketing materials.
- 5) Remove the toxic LED streetlights to protect human health and safety.

Sincerely,



Mark Baker
President

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