

# JUNE 1, 2020 MARKED THE END OF AN ERA FOR GHBLP DIESEL PLANT



**1896**

Grand Haven's electric utility was created on September 29, 1896 when citizens voted to approve a \$10,000 bond for the first municipal electrical generator.

**1929**

Construction begins on BLP's Diesel Generator Plant with two 1150-hp DeLaVergne Engines

**1934**

3rd DeLaVergne Diesel Engine Installed

**1937**

4th Engine added - a 2250-hp Nordberg Engine

**1941**

BLP adds 5th Engine, a 3850-hp Nordberg due to continued load growth

**1947**

6th Engine Installed - similar in size to the 3850-hp Nordberg

**1950**

With the addition of a nine-cylinder Nordberg Engine, BLP becomes the largest municipal diesel plant in U.S.

**1954**

\$ 1.5 million 3 year expansion - DeLaVergne Engine #5 is replaced with a ten-cylinder Nordberg

**2014**

Diesel Plant Engines #5, #6, #7 mothballed and Engine #2 Retired. Catalytic Converter added to #1 Engine to meet environmental requirements.

**2015**

Removal and cleanup of two 400,000-gallon above ground diesel storage tanks.

**1896-2020**

June 1, 2020 marks the end of an era at the Grand Haven Board of Light & Power's Diesel Plant located on South Harbor Drive. The plant is being retired because it is no longer economical or efficient to run in today's energy market. This location has generated electricity since 1896. The Board of Directors will be evaluating the future of the Diesel Plant site.

**2020**

Engine #1 was retired on June 01, 2020, ending 124 years of electrical generation at 518 South Harbor Drive in Grand Haven MI.