COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY

Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company	)	D.T.E. 03-88-D

JOINT PETITION OF BOSTON EDISON COMPANY, CAMBRIDGE ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY AND COMMONWEATLH ELECTRIC COMPANY D/B/A NSTAR ELECTRIC REQUESTING LIMITED PARTICIPANT STATUS

Pursuant to 220 C.M.R. 1.03, Boston Edison Company, Cambridge Electric Light Company and Commonwealth Electric Company d/b/a NSTAR Electric ("NSTAR Electric" or the "Companies") hereby petitions the Department of Telecommunications and Energy (the "Department") to participate in the above-captioned proceeding as Limited Participants. In support of its petition, NSTAR Electric states the following:

1. Boston Edison Company, Cambridge Electric Light Company and Commonwealth Electric Company are each a Massachusetts distribution company, as defined in G.L. c. 164, § 1, providing retail service in Massachusetts and is subject to the regulatory jurisdiction of the Department.

2. The Companies' usual place of business is:

   NSTAR Electric
   800 Boylston Street
   Boston, MA 02199

3. On January 20, 2004, the Department issued a Notice of Inquiry, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, §§ 1A(a), 1B(d), 94; and 220 C.M.R. § 11.04, into the Costs That Should Be Included in Default Service Rates for Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light

Company ("Fitchburg"). The Department docketed the proceeding as D.T.E. 03-88-D

4. In conducting adjudicatory hearings, the Department "may allow any person showing that he may be substantially and specifically affected by the proceeding to intervene as a party in the whole or any portion of the proceeding, and allow any other interested person to participate by presentation of argument orally or in writing, or for any other limited purpose," as the Department may order. G.L. c. 30A, § 10(4); 220 C.M.R. § 1.03(1)(b).

5. The Department's investigation in this proceeding may raise substantial ratemaking and related issues that are common to other distribution companies in Massachusetts, including the Companies.

6. In addition, good cause exists for allowing this petition because: (1) the procedural conference for the proceeding has not yet been held; and (2) the Companies' Limited Participant status will not jeopardize the efficiency of the Department's investigation in any material way.

7. Accordingly, the Companies seek to participate in this proceeding as Limited Participants with rights to receive copies of all pleadings, discovery requests and responses and to file brief(s) in accordance with the procedural schedule to be established by the Department.

WHEREFORE, for the reasons stated above, NSTAR Electric respectfully requests that this Petition to Participate as a Limited Participant in the above-referenced proceeding be granted. NSTAR Electric hereby notices the appearance of the

undersigned counsel. Please send one copy of all notices, testimony, pleadings and correspondence pertaining to this proceeding to counsel as shown below.

Respectfully submitted,

BOSTON EDISON COMPANY
CAMBRDIGE ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY
COMMONWEALTH ELECTRIC COMPANY

By Its Attorneys,

Robert N. Werlin, Esq.
John K. Habib, Esq.
Keegan, Werlin & Pabian, LLP
265 Franklin Street
Boston, MA 02110
(617) 951-1400 (ph)
(617) 951-1354 (fax)
rwerlin@kwplaw.com

Date: March 2, 2004