Energy Facilities Siting Board

980 CMR 13.00 Regulation Guidance

ATTACHMENT 2: UNIFORM SET OF BASELINE HEALTH, SAFETY, ENVIRONMENTAL, AND OTHER STANDARDS

Effective Date: July 1, 2026

Updated: November XX, 2026

I. PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

The purpose of Attachment 2: Uniform Set of Baseline Health, Safety, Environmental, and Other Standards ("Baseline Standards") is to identify standards to be applied to an EFSB Consolidated Permit through Siting Board approval pursuant to 980 CMR 13.00, or to a Constructive Approval pursuant to 980 CMR 17.00. The regulatory purposes for this document are to set out generalized standards or categories of standards that: (1) should be used as a reference when applicants prepare applications (see 980 CMR 13.05(1)(a)(5) & (1)(b)(5)); and (2) should be used by the Siting Board as a reference for assessing whether applications have met all applicable minimum standards (see 980 CMR 13.08(1)). The applicable Baseline Standards and any referenced regulations are those in effect at the time of the Completeness Determination.

M.G.L. c. 164, § 69H provides that the Siting Board "implement the provisions contained in [G. L. c. 164, §§ 69H to 69Q, inclusive, and §§ 69S to 69W, inclusive], to: … (iii) ensure that large clean energy infrastructure facilities, small clean energy infrastructure facilities, facilities and oil facilities are, to the extent practicable, in compliance with energy, environmental, land use, labor, economic justice, environmental justice and equity, and public health and safety policies of the commonwealth, its subdivisions and its municipalities." The Siting Board has included references to these policies in these Baseline Standards. The Siting Board recognizes that Applicants are obligated to ensure that proposed projects comply with these policies, and that enforcement of the standards associated with these policies may be within the jurisdiction of other agencies.

The Baseline Standards in Attachment 2 should be considered and incorporated by an Applicant, as appropriate, in its EFSB Consolidated Permit Application. The Baseline Standards are organized by the following tables:

Table 1: Baseline Standards Applicable to All Clean Energy Infrastructure Facilities ("CEIFs")

Table 2: Baseline Standards Applicable to All CEIF, Except for Large Clean Transmission and Distribution Infrastructure Facilities ("LCTDIF") and Small Clean Transmission and Distribution Infrastructure Facilities ("SCTDIF")

Table 3: Baseline Standards Applicable Only to Large Clean Energy Storage Facilities ("LCESF") and Small Clean Energy Storage Facilities ("SCESF")

Table 4: Baseline Standards Applicable Only to Ground-Mounted Solar Facilities

Table 5: Baseline Standards Applicable Only to Onshore Wind Facilities

Table 6: Baseline Standards Applicable Only to Offshore Wind Facilities or Other Offshore CEIFs

Table 7: Baseline Standards Applicable Only to Anerobic Digestion Facilities ("ADF")

The Siting Board emphasizes that the Baseline Standards below do not constitute an exhaustive list of all relevant health, safety, environmental, and other standards that may apply to CEIFs. This Guidance represents a compilation of key standards and provisions that an Applicant shall consider in preparing its application. Other federal, state, and local standards shall apply depending on the facility's proposed size, scope, location, and anticipated impacts.

II. SUPERSEDING NATURE OF EFSB PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS

The 2024 Climate Act authorizes the Siting Board to issue all individual State and Local permits, approvals, and authorizations that would otherwise be necessary for the construction and operation of CEIFs under its jurisdiction. In performing this function, the 2024 Climate Act directs the Siting Board to adhere to mandatory review timeframes of no more than 12 or 15 months following a Completeness Determination, and to develop administrative procedures to achieve this outcome. Therefore, with the limited exceptions expressly noted in the tables below, any references in this document to compliance with specific regulations of other State agencies pertain only to the substantive requirements, and not necessarily the procedural requirements in such regulations.

III. TABLE 1: BASELINE STANDARDS APPLICABLE TO ALL CEIF

CEIF -- All Facilities	
Topic	**Standard**
Aboveground Storage Tanks (More Than 10,000 Gallons)	Applicants shall design, install, construct, operate, and maintain all aboveground storage tanks with a gross capacity of more than 10,000 gallons used for storage of any fluid (liquid or gas) other than water (as defined in 502 CMR 5.00) in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Fire Safety Code - 527 CMR 1.00 and 502 CMR 5.00.
Aboveground Storage Tanks (Less Than or Equal to 10,000 Gallons)	Applicants shall design, install, construct, operate, and maintain all tanks in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Fire Safety Code - 527 CMR 1.00.
Air Pollution	Applicants shall comply with the requirements of 310 CMR 7.00, which were implemented to prevent and control air pollution where it originates.
Archaeological Resources	Applicants shall meet the requirements of 950 CMR 70.00, which establishes a uniform system for compliance with the "Antiquities Act", M.G.L. c. 9, §§ 26 through 27C.
Areas Of Critical Environmental Concern	Pursuant to 301 CMR 12.00, Applicants shall ensure that projects that are in or impact Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (“ACEC”) minimize adverse effects on the natural resource values of these areas, which have been designated due to the unique clusters of natural and cultural resources that exist and which therefore warrant a high level of concern and protection.
Article 97 Land Disposition	Article 97 of the Article of Amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Public Lands Preservation Act, codified at M.G.L. c. 3, § 5A, protect state and municipal lands acquired for natural resource, conservation, or recreation purposes and establish provisions that limit changing the use or disposing of Article 97 lands. If the Project location overlaps with Article 97 lands, Applicants shall follow requirements, regulations, and applicable policies pertaining to Article 97 lands. The Siting Board may not make Article 97 findings.
Asbestos	Applicants shall meet the requirements of 454 CMR 28.00 and 310 CMR 7.15 for management of asbestos.
Building Code	Applicants shall design and construct CEIFs to meet the requirements of 780 CMR: Massachusetts State Building Code.
Chapter 91 (Trust Lands)	Applicants shall meet the requirements of 310 CMR 9.00 for CEIFs with a Project Site footprint overlapping areas subject to Chapter 91 jurisdiction.
Coastal Zone Management (“CZM”)	Applicants shall design CEIFs to comply with the requirements of the Coastal Zone Management Program, as defined in 301 CMR 20.00.

CEIF -- All Facilities	
Topic	**Standard**
Co-Benefits	Applicants shall endeavor to provide and enhance co-benefits of projects, such as shared-use recreational paths or access to nature, that complement the intended primary energy benefits of the project. Such co-benefits should avoid unintended impacts on natural resources.
Cybersecurity	Applicants shall comply with applicable cybersecurity standards, such as those of the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Institute of Standards and Technology, the North American Electric Reliability Corporation, or the International Organization for Standardization.
Decommissioning/ Abandonment	Applicants shall develop a Decommissioning Plan that is appropriate given such factors as facility type and ownership (e.g., public vs. private) and includes the estimated costs of removing all structures, buildings, cabling, electrical components, security barriers, roads, foundations, pilings, and any other associated components and facilities. This estimate will include transportation costs as well as costs for recycling and disposal. Applicants shall provide an updated estimate of the total cost of decommissioning after ten (10) years of project operation and subsequent updates in five-year intervals after that date, for the remainder of the project's lifetime. If the updated estimate exceeds the balance of the surety, the Applicant will provide the balance of the estimated cost of decommissioning, Prior to construction, Applicants shall provide the estimated costs of decommissioning in a form that is reasonable and acceptable to each Local Government.
Emergency Response Plan	Applicants shall create an emergency response plan ("ERP") that: (1) is developed in consultation with local and state public safety, health, and environmental officials; and (2) requires close coordination between the developer and first responders to ensure that first responders are fully informed about emergency events and understand how to address such events without assuming unnecessary personal risk. ERPs shall include: (1) equipment types and layouts without compromising Critical Energy/Electric Infrastructure Information; (2) safety data sheets for materials used or stored onsite; (3) a firefighting plan with suggested response procedures for various emergency conditions tailored to the facility in accordance with 527 CMR 1.00: 10.8;

CEIF -- All Facilities	
Topic	**Standard**
	(4) the emergency response tasks that will be undertaken and completed by the operator of the facility/facilities; (5) procedures for reporting emergencies; (6) occupant and staff response to emergencies; (7) evacuation, relocation and shelter-in-place procedures for the facility / facilities appropriate to the building, its occupancy, emergency and/or hazards; (8) type and coverage of building fire protection systems; (9) provisions for providing reasonable training to local responders. ERPs shall be reviewed and, where necessary, revised (a) after a material equipment or operational change; (b) as part of a transfer of ownership or operation of the facility; or (c) after any material incident involving safety or health. The application of this standard to the linear portion of clean transmission and distribution infrastructure facilities shall be determined on a case-by-case basis. See Table 3 ERPs for Clean Energy Storage Facilities.
Excavation And Trench Safety	Applicants shall apply excavation and trench safety standards in compliance with 520 CMR 14.00: Excavation and Trench Safety.
Fire Safety	Applicants shall design and construct the CEIF to meet the requirements of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Fire Safety Code 527 CMR 1.00 and NFPA 241. Battery Energy Storage Systems must meet additional fire standards listed in Table 3 below.
Hazardous Waste	Applicants shall comply with the requirements of M.G.L. c. 21C and 310 CMR 30.000, which are intended to protect public health, safety, and welfare, and the environment, by regulating the generation, storage, collection, transport, treatment, disposal, use, reuse, and recycling of hazardous waste in Massachusetts.
Herbicides Use In Rights-Of-Way	Applicants shall comply with 333 CMR 11.00, which relates to the use of herbicides in rights-of-way, if not preempted by federal law.
Historic Places	Applicants shall comply with all applicable provisions of 950 CMR 71.00, which establishes a standardized procedure for protecting the public interest in the preservation of historic and archaeological properties and seeks to eliminate, minimize, or mitigate adverse effects to properties listed in the State Register of Historic Places.
Labor Laws	Applicants shall adhere to all appliable state and federal labor laws and regulations, including but not limited to those addressing minimum wage (454 CMR 27), worker's compensation (M.G.L. c. 152), and independent contractor status (M.G.L. c. 149, § 148B).

CEIF -- All Facilities	
Topic	**Standard**
Lighting	Applicants shall design exterior lighting for CEIFs to be limited to lighting required for health, safety, security, emergencies, and operational purposes, and shall avoid off-site lighting effects, and reduce or eliminate exterior lighting during migratory periods, where practicable. Applicants shall integrate practices that minimize light pollution from indoor and outdoor light sources, and the Applicant shall comply with the standards of the International Dark Sky Association (see http://www.darksky.org/fsa/) to the extent practicable.
Magnetic Fields	Applicants shall design, construct, and operate CEIFs such that magnetic fields contributed by the Project at the edges of a Project's right-of-way, or at a Project site's parcel boundaries, are avoided, minimized, and mitigated, consistent with relevant health-based standards and considerations of cost, reliability, and impacts.
Massachusetts Endangered Species Act	Pursuant to 321 CMR 10.00, Applicants shall avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts to the Commonwealth's Endangered, Threatened, and Special Concern species and their habitats.
MWRA 8(M) Permit	Pursuant to St. 1984, c. 372, Applicants shall be subject to Section 8(m) for activities including building, construction, excavation or crossing within an easement or other property interest held by the MWRA or in the immediate vicinity of a water or sewer main or other facility which is operated by the MWRA . M.G.L. c.92 App., §§ 1-8(m). Note: In addition to 8(m) permitting, depending on the location of a proposed Project in the MWRA service territory (e.g., in a combined sewer area), MWRA prohibits the discharge of groundwater to the sanitary sewer system, pursuant to 360 C.M.R. 10.023(1), except in a combined sewer area when permitted by the MWRA. Accordingly, construction activities associated with the Project may require an MWRA Temporary Construction Site Dewatering Discharge Permit during its construction phase, pursuant to 360 C.M.R. 10.091-10.094. Except for the sampling location information, the terms and conditions of these Temporary Construction Site Dewatering Discharge Permits remain identical across standard permits.
Noise	Applicants shall comply with local noise bylaws, regulations, or ordinances (unless otherwise directed by the Board), and MassDEP's Noise Policy, as adopted by MassDEP pursuant to 310 CMR 7.10, in effect at the time of the Completeness Determination.
Street Surface Restoration	Pursuant to D.T.E. 98-22, utility company Applicants shall comply with requirements for restoring municipal street surfaces after performing excavations.

CEIF -- All Facilities	
Topic	**Standard**
Vegetative Management	Applicants shall limit clearing of natural vegetation, including mowing, to what is necessary for the construction, operation, and maintenance of a CEIF. Applicants shall maintain any vegetative cover on a CEIF site to prevent soil erosion; seeds or plantings shall be native species appropriate to the geographical area, consistent with *The Vascular Plants of Massachusetts: A County Checklist* published by the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program.
Release of Oil or Hazardous Material	Applicants shall comply with M.G.L. c. 21E and 310 CMR 40.0000, related to any releases of oil or hazardous materials on a Project site.
"Right To Know" (Hazardous Substances)	Pursuant to 454 CMR 21.00, Applicants shall follow standards and requirements to protect the health and safety of employees through communication of information regarding use of toxic or hazardous substances.
Section 401 Water Quality Certifications	Applicants requiring a federal permit or license for a discharge to Waters of the United States within the Commonwealth. Applicants shall meet the applicable requirements of 314 CMR 9.00 for projects involving discharge of dredged or fill material, dredging, or dredged material disposal.
Site Suitability Report Guidance	Applicants shall follow Site Suitability Guidance and the Siting Board regulations for CEIFs subject to Site Suitability Report Guidance, as established by the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 21A, § 30.
Solid Waste Facilities	Applicants shall comply with the requirements of 310 CMR 16.00: Site Assignment Regulation for Solid Waste Facilities and 310 CMR 19.00: Solid Waste Management for siting, construction, operation, closure and post-closure for CEIFs that are solid waste facilities, or conduct activities on a permitted solid waste facility.
Stormwater Management	Applicants shall design, construct, and operate CEIFs to manage stormwater in accordance with the requirements of the Wetlands Regulations, 310 CMR 10.00, the 401 Water Quality Certification for Discharge of Dredged or Fill Material, Dredging, and Dredged Material Disposal in Waters of the United States Within the Commonwealth Regulations, 314 CMR 9.00, the Massachusetts Stormwater Handbook, the NPDES Construction General Permit, and the Multi-Sector General Permit, where applicable. Applicants shall also implement erosion and sediment controls in accordance with these same standards so as to minimize the discharge of pollutants in stormwater from construction activities. This Baseline Standard shall not apply to agrivoltaics.
Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF_6)	Applicants shall follow all regulatory requirements of 310 CMR 7.72 for CEIFs that use SF_6 in gas-insulated switchgear.

CEIF -- All Facilities	
Topic	**Standard**
Surface Water Quality Standards	Applicants shall comply with the Commonwealth's surface water quality standards pursuant to 314 CMR 4.00: Massachusetts Surface Water Quality Standards and all other applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations so as to protect the public health and at a minimum maintain existing water quality.
Transmission Lines	Applicants shall follow best practices as outlined in the "Avian Power Line Interaction Committee (APLIC)-2026-Suggested Practices for Avian Protection on Power Lines" as applicable and practicable.
Transmission Line Installation and Maintenance	Applicants shall comply with the safety provisions for the installation and maintenance of electric transmission lines in 220 CMR 125.00 for CEIFs with electric transmission lines over 50 kV alternating current.
Vegetation Buffers	Applicants shall preserve, to the extent practicable, natural vegetation within the Site Footprint. Applicants shall meet all local requirements applicable at the time of the Completeness Determination unless otherwise directed by the Board and the plantings used shall be native drought-resistant species appropriate to the geographical area, consistent with *The Vascular Plants of Massachusetts: A County Checklist provided by the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program,* and shall not include any invasive or nuisance plantings listed in the most recent Massachusetts Prohibited Plant list as published by the MDAR for vegetative buffering and screening. Landscaping plans and plantings may be located within the setback area.
Visual Impacts	Applicants shall design a CEIF to minimize visual impacts, including preserving natural vegetation to the extent practicable, blending in equipment with the surroundings, adding vegetative buffers to provide an effective visual barrier from adjacent roads and driveways, and to screen abutting residential dwellings.
Wellhead Protection	Applicants shall comply with all local, state, and federal rules and regulations related to wellhead protection, including 310 CMR 22.00, in effect at the time of the Completeness Determination unless otherwise directed by the Board.

CEIF -- All Facilities	
Topic	**Standard**
Wetlands Protection	Applicants shall comply with the Wetlands Protection Act ("WPA"), M.G.L. c. 131, § 40, and the requirements of the WPA regulations at 310 CMR 10.00 for CEIFs in jurisdictional wetlands resource areas and corresponding buffer zones. Applicants shall follow Local Government wetlands protection bylaws, unless otherwise directed by the Board. Applicants shall include a completed Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation, including a wetland evaluation and map of the Project Site, or, if requested by the local Conservation Commission, a Request for Determination of Applicability, in the Applicant's Notification of Intent to File Application. See 980 CMR 16.10. Applicants shall comply with any relevant wetlands Orders of Condition(s) recorded pursuant to 310 CMR 12.00 or 13.00.
Worker Health and Safety Requirements	Applicants shall design, build, and operate CEIFs in compliance with all applicable workplace and occupational health and safety requirements included in, but not limited to, M.G.L. c. 146, c. 147, and c. 149

IV. TABLE 2: BASELINE STANDARDS APPLICABLE TO ALL CEIF, EXCEPT FOR LARGE CLEAN TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES ("LCTDIF") AND SMALL CLEAN TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES ("SCTDIF")

CEIF – Except LCTDIF and SCTDIF	
Topic	**Standard**
Slope	The Facility Boundary (980 CMR 15.02(1))for CEIFs (other than CTDIF), may not exceed a slope of 15 degrees or 27 percent as-built unless approved by the EFSB.

V. TABLE 3: BASELINE STANDARDS APPLICABLE ONLY TO LARGE CLEAN ENERGY STORAGE FACILITIES ("LCESF") AND SMALL CLEAN ENERGY STORAGE FACILITIES ("SCESF")

Clean Energy Storage Facilities ("CESF") Only (LCESF and SCESF)	
Topic	**Standard**
Electrical	CESFs shall be listed by a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory to UL 9540 (Standard for Energy Storage Systems and Equipment) with subcomponents meeting each of the following standards as applicable: (1) UL 1973 (Standard for Batteries for Use in Stationary, Vehicle Auxiliary Power, and Light Electric Rail Applications); (2) UL 1642 (Standard for Lithium Batteries); (3) UL 1741 or UL 62109 (Inverters and Power Converters); (4) Certified under the applicable electrical, building, and fire prevention codes as required; Alternatively, field evaluation by an approved testing laboratory for compliance with UL 9540 (or approved equivalent) and applicable codes, regulations, and safety standards may be used to meet system certification requirements. Applicants shall clearly display disconnect and other emergency shutoff information on a light reflective surface, as required by the state Electric Code. Applicants shall place a clearly visible warning sign concerning voltage at the base of all pad-mounted transformers and substations.
Emergency Response Plan ("ERP")	Applicants shall develop an emergency response plan ("ERP") that meets the requirements of National Fire Protection Association ("NFPA") 855 and state and local fire laws and regulations. Applicants ERPs shall: (i) be developed in consultation with the Local Government's public safety officials; and (ii) require close coordination between the Applicant and emergency responders to ensure that emergency responders are fully informed about potential emergency events and understand how to address such events without assuming unnecessary personal risk. ERPs for CESF shall include, but not limited to: 1. Procedures for safe shutdown, de-energizing, or isolation of equipment and systems under emergency conditions to reduce the risk of fire, electric shock, and personal injuries, and for safe start-up following cessation of emergency conditions;

Clean Energy Storage Facilities ("CESF") Only (LCESF and SCESF)	
Topic	**Standard**
	2. Procedures for inspection and testing of associated alarms, interlocks, and controls; 3. Procedures in response to notifications from the BESS management system, when provided, that could signify potentially dangerous conditions, including shutting down equipment, summoning service and repair personnel, and providing agreed upon notification to fire department personnel for potentially hazardous conditions in the event of a system failure; 4. Emergency procedures in case of fire, explosion, release of liquids or vapors, damage to critical moving parts, or other potentially dangerous conditions. Procedures can include sounding the alarm, notifying the fire department, evacuating personnel, de-energizing equipment, and controlling and extinguishing the fire; 5. Response considerations similar to a safety data sheet ("SDS") that will address response safety concerns and extinguishment when an SDS is not required; 6. Procedures for handling BESS equipment damaged in a fire or other emergency event, including maintaining contact information for personnel qualified to safely remove damaged BESS equipment from the facility; 7. Other procedures as determined necessary by the Local Government to provide for the safety of occupants, neighboring properties, and emergency responders; 8. Training for local first responders on the contents of the plan, and protocols and schedules for conducting drills of the above procedures; 9. A communications plan for nearby residents who may be impacted by an emergency event that shall outline the parties responsible for contacting nearby residents; 10. An evacuation and shelter-in-place protocols for residents near the CESF; and 11. The names and phone numbers of local, state, and federal agencies and officials to be contacted in the event of an emergency.

Clean Energy Storage Facilities ("CESF") Only (LCESF and SCESF)	
Topic	**Standard**
	Applicants shall work with the fire departments in the CESF's vicinity to determine whether the development of a joint action plan is required. The joint action plan shall provide neighboring fire departments with the proper information and necessary training to understand potential emergency risks caused by the CESF and provide, if necessary, a coordinated response. Applicants shall provide a report to the Local Government within one week of any incident at the CESF requiring notification to first responders. The report shall include a description of the incident and response, and the date(s) and time(s) of the incident and response. Applicants shall submit an annual report to the Local Government detailing: (i) any safety incidents that required notification of local safety authorities, including a full description of each incident and response, and the necessary, if any, changes the owner or operator of the CESF made in response to each incident and response, if any; and (ii) a summary of any complaints about the CESF received by the owner or operator, including the nature of the complaint and date received, the owner or operator's response and date of response, the complaint's resolution, and identification of the individual(s) or party/parties who issued the complaint. In an emergency incident, including a fire, Applicants shall follow all federal, state, and local emergency response protocols outlining mandatory containment, remediation, testing, and monitoring efforts including, but not limited to, 310 CMR 22.00 and 310 CMR 40.00.
Fire Safety	Applicants shall design, construct, and operate CESFs in accordance with the edition of the National Fire Protection Association ("NFPA") 855: Standard for the Installation of Energy Storage Systems which is current at the time of the building permit issuance, including emergency operations plans and emergency training for facility staff, smoke detection systems, fire control and suppression system, explosion control and spill response measures. Applicants shall obtain and provide to the EFSB the results of CESF testing completed in accordance with UL 9540A fire testing and thermal runaway propagation risk test methods for cell level, module level, unit level, and installation level.

Clean Energy Storage Facilities ("CESF") Only (LCESF and SCESF)	
Topic	**Standard**
	CESFs, components, and associated ancillary equipment shall have required working space clearances, and electrical circuitry shall be within weatherproof enclosures marked with the environmental rating suitable for the type of exposure in compliance with NFPA 70. Applicants shall adhere to all NFPA 855 guidance for fire suppression methods and materials.
Setbacks	Applicants shall set back CESFs from other structures, tree lines, and any other combustible materials, as required in NFPA 855.
Signage	Applicants shall provide signage for CESFs in compliance with ANSI Z535 and shall include the type of technology associated with the battery energy storage systems, any special hazards associated, the type of suppression system installed in the area of CESF, and 24-hour emergency contact information, including phone number.

VI. TABLE 4: BASELINE STANDARDS APPLICABLE ONLY TO GROUND-MOUNTED SOLAR FACILITIES

Ground-Mounted Solar Facilities Only (LCEGF and SCEGF)	
Topic	**Standard**
Glare	Applicants shall minimize glare on any abutting or nearby properties for Solar Facilities. Designs may include, but not limited to, deliberate placement and arrangement on the site, anti-reflective materials, solar glare modeling, and screening.
Decommissioning	Applicants decommissioning shall include removal of all structures, buildings, cabling, electrical components, security barriers, roads, foundations, pilings, and any other associated components and facilities to a depth of no less than three feet.
Pollinator Friendly Practices	Applicants shall meet the criteria for a silver pollinator certificate, as described by the UMass Clean Energy Extension Pollinator Friendly Solar PV Certification Program for Solar Facilities, unless otherwise directed by the Siting Board.
Setbacks	Applicants shall design minimum setbacks of at least 25 feet off any rear or side lot lines, unless the lot lines abut a residential district in which case the setback shall be at least 50 feet.

VII. TABLE 5: BASELINE STANDARDS APPLICABLE ONLY TO ONSHORE WIND FACILITIES

Land-Based Wind	
Topic	**Standard**
Flicker	Applicants shall site onshore wind facilities in a manner that minimizes shadowing or flicker impacts. Applicants have the burden of proving that this effect does not have significant adverse impact on neighboring or adjacent uses.
Siting	Applicants may not site onshore wind facilities within: o a distance equal to one and one-half (1.5) times the maximum tip height ("MTH") of the wind turbine from buildings, critical infrastructure — including Critical Electric Infrastructure and above-ground natural gas distribution infrastructure—or private or public ways that are not part of the wind energy facility; o a distance equal to three (3.0) times the MTH of the turbine from the nearest existing residential or commercial structure; or o a distance equal to one and one-half (1.5) times the MTH of the turbine from the nearest property line, and private or public way.

VIII. TABLE 6: BASELINE STANDARDS APPLICABLE TO OFFSHORE WIND FACILITIES OR OTHER OFFSHORE CEIFS

CEIF – Offshore Wind Transmission	
Topic	**Standard**
Depth of Offshore Cable Burial	Applicants shall assess the risks affecting offshore wind farm power cable burial depths and required protection levels using the "Cable Burial Risk Assessment ("CBRA") Methodology: Guidance for the Preparation of Cable Burial Depth of Lowering Specification," published by the Carbon Trust. The CBRA methodology considers the risks associated with all common hazards for which cable burial depth is a mitigating measure. Applicants are not limited to use of the CBRA Methodology.
Ocean Management Plan	Applicants CEIFs in an Ocean Management Planning Area shall be subject to siting and performance standards that direct development away from areas with important and high value resources and water-dependent uses. See 301 CMR 28.00, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 21A §4C and M.G.L. c. 132A, §§ 12A through 16F ("Massachusetts Oceans Sanctuary Act").

CEIF – Offshore Wind Transmission	
Topic	**Standard**
Ocean Sanctuaries Act	301 CMR 27.00, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 132A, §§ 12A through 16K and § 18 (the Massachusetts Ocean Sanctuaries Act), establishes Ocean Sanctuaries, defines prohibited and allowed Activities in Ocean Sanctuaries, and requires Agencies to protect these Ocean Sanctuaries from exploitation, development, or activity that would significantly alter or otherwise endanger their ecology in the issuance of permits and authorizations. Applicants shall comply with the requirements and prohibitions of the Massachusetts Ocean Sanctuaries Act.
Protected Species (Marine)	Pursuant to 322 CMR 12.00, Applicants shall minimize the risk of interaction between CEIF vessel activity, fisheries, and North Atlantic right whales.
Underwater Archaeological Resources	Applicants, who locate a shipwreck or other underwater archaeological resource within inland or coastal waters of the Commonwealth or the lands beneath such waters, shall secure a permit from the Board of Underwater Archaeological Resources prior to conducting any activities that may disturb the site or resource. Compliance with the laws and regulations of the Board does not relieve any permit holder of the obligations imposed by other local, state, and federal agencies.

IX. TABLE 7: BASELINE STANDARDS APPLICABLE ONLY TO ANAEROBIC DIGESTION FACILITIES ("ADF")

CEIF – Anaerobic Digestion Facilities (ADF)	
Topic	Standard
Free Standing ADF	Pursuant to 310 CMR 16.00 and 310 CMR 19.00, Applicants shall follow the requirements for siting, construction, operation, closure, and post-closure as applicable to facilities managing solid waste or conducting an activity on a permitted solid waste facility.
ADF at Wastewater Treatment Plants	Applicants shall comply with all applicable requirements of M.G.L. c. 21, §§ 26 through 53, 314 CMR 3.00, 314 CMR 5.00, 314 CMR 12.00, and 310 CMR 32.00.