



# COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

## Department of Telecommunications and Cable

1000 Washington Street, Suite 600, Boston, MA 02118  
(617) 305-3580  
[www.mass.gov/dtc](http://www.mass.gov/dtc)

**CHARLES D. BAKER**  
GOVERNOR

**KARYN E. POLITO**  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

**MIKE KENNEALY**  
SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**ED PALESCHI**  
UNDERSECRETARY

**KAREN CHARLES PETERSON**  
COMMISSIONER

January 4, 2021

RE: D.T.C. 20-4 – Pole Attachment Complaint of Town of Shutesbury v. Verizon New England, Inc., Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a National Grid, and Western Massachusetts Electric Company, a/k/a Eversource

To All Parties:

On December 1, 2020, the Department of Telecommunications and Cable (“Department”) and the Department of Public Utilities (“DPU”) received the above-captioned pole attachment complaint (“Complaint”) of the Town of Shutesbury and the Shutesbury Lighting Plant (together, “Shutesbury”) against Verizon New England, Inc. (“Verizon”), the Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a National Grid (“National Grid”), and the Western Massachusetts Electric Company, a/k/a Eversource (“Eversource”). I am the Hearing Officer assigned to this matter.

Pursuant to the Memorandum of Agreement (“MOA”) regarding the jurisdiction of pole attachment disputes, which was first executed on October 14, 2008 and most recently renewed on February 3, 2017, all pole attachment complaints must be jointly reviewed by the Department and the DPU to determine the appropriate agency to adjudicate each pole attachment dispute.

After consultation, the Department and the DPU agree that the Department is the appropriate authority to adjudicate the Complaint. While the Department will adjudicate this Complaint, the DPU retains full rights of intervention.

Accordingly, the Department docket the Complaint as D.T.C. 20-4. Henceforth, all submissions related to the Complaint are to be filed in D.T.C. 20-4. Parties are also directed to serve copies of all filings in this docket on the DPU and on all other parties whose names and contact information is contained in the Service List, a current copy of which is attached hereto, contemporaneously with their submission to the Department. *See* 207 C.M.R. 1.05. Please direct any requested changes to the Service List to Shonda Green at [Shonda.green@mass.gov](mailto:Shonda.green@mass.gov), who will forward revised versions to all Parties as necessary.

To afford all parties appropriate opportunity to respond to the Complaint, the responses of Verizon, National Grid, and Eversource to the Complaint are due January 18, 2021. The Department will update the Service List and take further actions as necessary after that date.

Sincerely,

/s/Mark A. Merante  
Mark A. Merante  
Hearing Officer

cc: Sean M. Carroll, General Counsel, Department of Telecommunications & Cable  
Mark Marini, Secretary, Department of Public Utilities  
Shane Early, General Counsel, Department of Public Utilities  
Kevin Crane, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities  
Gayle Huntress, Municipal Light Plant Manager, Town of Shutesbury  
Melissa Makepeace-O'Neil, Chair, Select Board, Town of Shutesbury  
April Stein, Select Board, Town of Shutesbury  
Rita Farrell, Select Board, Town of Shutesbury  
Alexander W. Moore, Associate General Counsel, Verizon  
Christopher E. Bean, Manager, State Government Relations, Verizon  
Ellen Cummings, Regional Director, Verizon  
Steve Frias, Keegan Werlin LLP  
Daryle Brown, Eversource  
Andrea G. Keeffe, Senior Counsel, National Grid  
Patrick J. Tarmey, Senior Counsel, National Grid  
Melissa Liazos, Senior Counsel, National Grid