



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

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September 12, 2022

Electronic Distribution Only

Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company, c/o President Thomas Meissner;
Massachusetts Electric Company and
Nantucket Electric Company, c/o President Stephen Woerner;
NSTAR Electric Company, c/o President Craig Hallstrom

RE: Electric-Sector Modernization Plans

Dear Electric Distribution Companies:

Pursuant to An Act Driving Clean Energy and Offshore Wind, St. 2022, c. 179, §§ 53, 75, the Department of Public Utilities (“Department”) hereby directs each electric distribution company to develop an electric-sector modernization plan consistent with the requirements set forth in G.L. c. 164, § 92B. Not later than **September 1, 2023**, said plan shall be submitted to the Grid Modernization Advisory Council (“Council”), as established under G.L. c. 164, § 92C, for the Council’s review, input and recommendations. Each electric distribution company shall file its final electric-sector modernization plan with the Department no later than **January 29, 2024**. Each electric distribution company must provide a list of each individual recommendation proposed by the Council and an explanation of whether and why each recommendation was adopted, adopted as modified, or rejected.

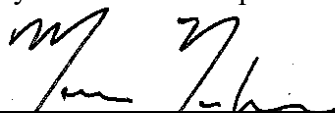
Further, in light of the Legislature’s enactment of G.L. c. 164, §§ 92B and 92C, the Department will immediately close its investigation and stakeholder process to assess electric distribution companies’ optimal solutions for long-term planning process for the interconnection of distributed generation facilities. See Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities on its Own Motion into Electric Distribution Companies’ (1) Distributed Energy Resource Planning, and (2) Assignment and Recovery of Costs for the Interconnection of Distributed Generation,

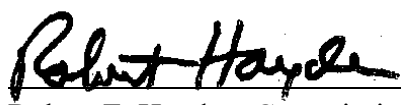
D.P.U. 20-75. Consistent with the provisions of newly enacted G.L. c. 164, § 92B, the electric distribution companies must propose how they intend to proactively upgrade their respective distribution systems to, among other things, enable increased, timely adoption of renewable energy and distributed energy resources. Each electric distribution company shall include its proposal with the filing made no later than January 29, 2024. The Department will review these proposals through an adjudicatory proceeding consistent with G.L. c. 164, § 92B(d). At this time, the Department intends to continue to review all pending capital investment project proposals filed pursuant to the Department's Provisional System Planning Program. D.P.U. 20-75-B at 29-30 (2021). Any additional capital investment proposals under consideration by an electric distribution company, but not already filed with the Department, if appropriate, may be included in the electric-sector modernization plan.

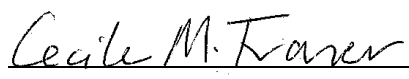
The Department will review other ongoing investigations and stakeholder processes that may be covered by the new process for electric system planning established by the Legislature and will determine whether to discontinue those investigations and stakeholder groups.

Please contact the Department's General Counsel, Jonathan Goldberg, if you have any questions.

By Order of the Department,



Matthew H. Nelson, Chair

Robert E. Hayden, Commissioner

Cecile M. Fraser, Commissioner

cc: Bethany A. Card, Secretary, Energy and Environmental Affairs
Jonathan A. Goldberg, General Counsel, Department of Public Utilities