

# THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



## Department of Agricultural Resources

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### NOTICE

#### PUBLIC HEARINGS: VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

Pursuant to the Rights-of-Way Management Regulations (333 CMR 11.00) in order to apply pesticides to control vegetation to maintain Rights-of Ways, the Department of Food and Agriculture must approve a Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) and a Yearly Operational Plan (YOP). The VMP is intended to justify the need to control vegetation, identify target vegetation, describe the intended methods of control, describe methods for identifying sensitive areas, describe operational guidelines for applicators, and outline a program of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) designed to reduce the use of herbicides, and describe alternative land use activities.

The communities of Buckland, Florida, and Monroe are advised that Great River Hydro plans to utilize herbicides to treat their Rights-of-Way.

#### PUBLIC HEARINGS SCHEDULED:

In accordance with 333 CMR 11.05 the Department of Agricultural Resources will conduct a regional hearing to receive public comment on the proposed Vegetation Management Plan for Great River Hydro as submitted by: Andrew S. Powers. of Vegetation Control Services with Timothy Harty, Environmental Specialist.

To provide all interested parties an opportunity to comment on the proposed VMP, a public hearing will be held via ZOOM:

Topic: Great River Hydro VMP Public Hearing

Time: Apr 10, 2026 09:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85963345836?pwd=sjJ0Ek38YvNqDZcKcLmLuYfOHFvSYF.1>

Meeting ID: 859 6334 5836

Passcode: 864970

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meetings/85963345836/invitations?signature=vmnMHNwrAfg9EeFvj1vU5akmgusuxA64Xo5Aau5GvqA>

#### Plans Available for Public Review Prior to Hearings:

Section 11.05 (3)(d) of the ROW Management Regulations provide: "At least 21 days prior to the end of the public comment period, the applicant shall send a copy of the proposed VMP to the chief elected

official, the Board of Health, and the Conservation Commission in all affected communities upon their request.” Such request should be made to:

Timothy Harty  
Environmental Specialist  
Great River Hydro Northeast, LLC  
Walpole Office 2 Killeen Street  
North Walpole, NH 03609

Copies of the proposed VMP can be viewed at the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources webpage at [https://www.mass.gov/service-details/rights-of-way-vegetation-management-vmpps-yops-and-notices](https://www.mass.gov/service-details/rights-of-way-vegetation-management-vmpps-yops-and-<u>notices</u>) . The VMP is also available for review at the Reference Desk of the following public library:

Florida Public Library, 56 North County Road, Florida, MA 01247

#### Written Comments Requested

The public hearings listed above will give interested parties the opportunity to present data, views or arguments, orally or in writing concerning the proposed VMP. Persons giving testimony are also requested to provide written comments. Written comments in advance of the hearing dates are welcome. The Department will accept written testimony concerning the Great River Hydro VMP until the close of business (5pm): **April 10, 2026**

Commentary should be sent to:

Clayton Edwards  
Rights of Way Program  
Massachusetts Department of Agriculture Resources  
Pesticide Program  
225 Turnpike Rd., 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Southborough, MA 01772