



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*  
*Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs*  
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January 16, 2024

Liane Gonzalez, Chair  
Select Board  
Town of North Reading  
235 North Street  
North Reading, MA 01864

Dear Chairwoman Gonzalez:

The Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) is in receipt of your request for a waiver of the replacement land requirement of *An Act Preserving Open Space in the Commonwealth* (Ch. 274 of the Acts of 2022; M.G.L. Ch. 3, Sec. 5A), known as the Public Lands Preservation Act (PLPA).

The PLPA provides that the Secretary of EEA may waive or modify the replacement land requirement of the law if the transfer involves a parcel of under 2,500 square feet that is of insignificant natural resource and recreation value and the project necessitating the transfer serves a significant public interest.

Based on the information provided in the alternatives analysis submitted by North Reading I find that these requirements have been met and I waive the provision of replacement land as provided for by the PLPA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Tepper', with a long, sweeping underline.

Rebecca Tepper, Secretary

Cc: Michael Gilleberto, Town Administrator  
Rep. Bradley H. Jones  
Sen. Bruce E. Tarr  
John DeLeire, Director of Right of Way, MassDOT