



Massachusetts Port Authority
One Harborside Drive, Suite 200S
East Boston, MA 02128-2909
Telephone (617) 568-1000
www.massport.com

November 10, 2022

Tori Kim, Director
Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act Office
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

Re: MEPA Regulatory Updates

Dear Director Kim:

On behalf of the Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport), we are pleased to have the opportunity to provide comments on the proposed updates to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) regulations at 301 CMR 11.00. The proposed updates are part of a larger effort that began in 2021 to update MEPA's Environmental Justice and Climate Adaptation policies and protocols as well as the MEPA regulations. The proposed updates are intended to harmonize existing policies and regulations with current policy and planning efforts to ensure that environmental justice and climate resiliency considerations are more formally incorporated into the statewide environmental review process.

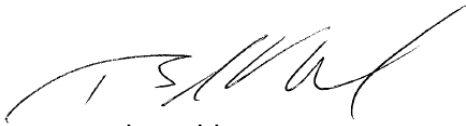
Massport appreciated the opportunity to participate in the MEPA Advisory Committee meetings and previously provided comments related to environmental justice that were the focus of the first phase of this regulatory update process. As part of the second phase of this process, MEPA has proposed administrative updates and changes to its review thresholds. As we noted during the Advisory Committee meetings, the current regulatory definitions for "replacement project" and "routine maintenance" are unclear and would benefit from clarification. We therefore support the proposed revisions to these terms. Massport is also supportive of the revisions intended to support the implementation of ecological restoration projects.

Although Massport requested being included in the formal distribution for proposed projects near Boston Logan International Airport, L.G. Hanscom Field, and the Worcester Regional Airport as a means to protect critical airspace for safety and avoid potential changes to overflight noise impacts, we understand such a change has yet to be adopted. We ask for EEA's consideration of this administrative revision at your earliest convenience.

We appreciate the ongoing spirit of collaboration with the MEPA office, and thank you again for the opportunity to have participated in this process. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 617-568-3546 or Stewart Dalzell at 617-568-3524 if you wish to discuss any of our comments.

Sincerely,

Massachusetts Port Authority

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Washburn', written over a horizontal line.

Brad Washburn, Manager
Environmental Planning & Permitting

cc: J. Barrera, S. Dalzell, F. Leo/Massport