

April 11, 2023

By Email

Commissioner Elizabeth Mahony, Grid Modernization Advisory Council Chair
Department of Energy Resources
100 Cambridge Street
Suite 1020
Boston, MA 02114

Re: Distribution Planning Criteria

Dear Commissioner Mahony:

On behalf of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company each d/b/a National Grid ("National Grid" or "Company"), and as requested by the Grid Modernization Advisory Council membership, we are providing the following distribution planning procedures and documents for the membership and eventual posting on the DOER GMAC website:

- (1) National Grid's Distribution Planning Criteria Version 2.0, also provided as part of DPU 23-ARR-01;
- (2) National Grid's Guidelines for Consideration of Non-Wires Alternatives (NWA) in Distribution Planning, also provided as part of DPU 23-ARR-01;
- (3) National Grid's 2022 System Forecasts (2023 to 2050 Electric Peak (MW) Forecast and 2023 to 2050 Electric Peak (MW) Feeder-level Forecast), also provided as part of DPU 23-ARR-01

Please be advised that a number of the current documents are under active internal review and comment for modifications driven by the changing system needs as informed through the Clean Energy and Climate Plan 2050 and associated policy as well as "An Act Driving Clean Energy and Offshore Wind" (Climate Law) in 2022. Specific elements being addressed and hence subject to revisions include, but are not limited to:

- The Distribution Planning Criteria are currently being revised and changes are expected to be used in the ESMP. These revisions involve the thermal loading criteria (Section 3.3) and contingency response criteria (Section 3.5). Additional details on these changes and changes to other sections of the planning criteria will be published with the final version of the criteria.
- The company is revising its NWA criteria to better align with changes in the labor market, global supply chain constraints and significant anticipated load growth due to beneficial electrification.

- The company is developing a Resilience Strategy which establishes an approach, using existing readily available system outage data, to identify, prioritize and mitigate Company circuits that have resiliency challenges. The strategy focuses specifically on hardening investments that are anticipated to increase the resiliency of the distribution system.

Thank you very much for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Carol Sedewitz

Vice President, New England Electric Asset Management & Engineering