

# THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



## Department of Agricultural Resources

225 Turnpike Road, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Southborough, MA 01772  
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### **NOTICE: PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR 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 Agricultural Resources 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, outline a program of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) designed to reduce the use of herbicides, and describe alternative land use activities.

The following municipalities are advised that National Grid, proposes to utilize herbicides to treat their Rights-of-Way:

Abington	Hanover	Raynham
Adams	Haverhill	Reading
Andover	Heath	Rehoboth
Attleboro	Holbrook	Rowe
Auburn	Hopedale	Salem
Avon	Lawrence	Saugus
Ayer	Leicester	Seekonk
Berkley	Leominster	Shelburne
Billerica	Littleton	Somerset
Bridgewater	Lowell	Spencer
Brockton	Lynnfield	Sterling
Chelmsford	Melrose	Stoughton
Clarksburg	Mendon	Sturbridge
Colrain	Methuen	Swampscott
Dighton	Milford	Swansea
Dracut	Millbury	Taunton
East Bridgewater	Monroe	Tewksbury
Easton	Montague	Uxbridge
Florida	North Adams	West Bridgewater
Gill	North Andover	Westford
Grafton	North Reading	Whitman
Greenfield	Pembroke	

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

**Topic: National Grid Vegetation Management Plan Public Hearing**

**Time: Jan 22, 2024 10:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89288183866?pwd=cTVdNTZBRmsybUMza3M3OWkycjd3dz09>**

**Meeting ID: 892 8818 3866**

**Passcode: 332885**

**Dial by your location**

**• +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)**

**Meeting ID: 892 8818 3866**

**Passcode: 332885**

**Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kdgtgAISWP>**

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 affected communities upon their request.” Such request should be made to:

Mariclaire Rigby  
Principal Specialist  
National Grid Vegetation Management  
939 Southbridge Street Worcester MA  
01610 781-290-8310

The proposed VMP is posted at <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/agr/pesticides/vegetation-management-and-yearly-operation-plans.html> and [https://www9.nationalgridus.com/transmission/c3-8\\_standocs.asp](https://www9.nationalgridus.com/transmission/c3-8_standocs.asp) for reviewing. It is also available for review at the Reference Desk of the following public library:

Worcester Public Library, 3 Salem Sq, Worcester, MA 01608

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 National Grid VMP until the close of business (5pm): **January 22, 2024**

Commentary should be sent to:

Rights-of -Way Program  
Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources  
225 Turnpike Road, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Southborough, MA 01772