

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT HEARING
PLEASE READ

NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy (“Eversource” or “Company”), has filed a petition with the Department of Public Utilities (“Department”) pursuant to G.L. c. 40A, § 3 requesting the Department to grant both individual and a comprehensive zoning exemptions from the Town of Oak Bluffs Zoning Bylaws (“Zoning Bylaw”). The Zoning Exemption request is being made in connection with the Company’s proposal to construct and operate an Energy Storage System (“ESS” or “Project”) totaling 14.7 megawatts (“MW”), and providing a combined total of 84 megawatt hours (“MWh”) of service. The Company proposes to construct its Project at its Oak Bluffs Service Center, at 208 Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road in the Town of Oak Bluffs.

The attached legal notice describes the Company’s proposal in greater detail, and also explains the opportunities for public participation in the review process. **Please read the attached notice carefully.**

The Department is a state agency that will determine whether the requested zoning exemptions will be approved. The Department will conduct a **public comment hearing beginning at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 13, 2019, at Martha’s Vineyard Regional High School Cafeteria, 100 Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road, Oak Bluffs, MA 02557** to receive public comment on the Company’s petition.

Individuals and groups affected by the Company’s petitions who wish to be involved in the Department’s review process may request to participate as either intervenors or limited participants. Such requests must meet the criteria outlined in the attached legal notice. **The deadline to make such a request is 5:00 p.m. on March 1, 2019.** Questions concerning participation will also be answered at the public comment hearing, and also can be answered by the Presiding Officer, whose contact information is below.

A copy of the Company’s petition is available for public inspection at the locations listed on the enclosed notice. If you have any questions about the Siting Board’s review process, please feel free to contact the Presiding Officer, Stephen H. August, Esq., at (617) 305-3525, or at Stephen.August@mass.gov. The Department’s address is as follows: Department of Public Utilities, One South Station, Boston, MA 02110.

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**

**NOTICE OF ADJUDICATION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT HEARING
NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy
D.P.U. 18-155**

Notice is hereby given that NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy (the “Company”) has filed with the Department of Public Utilities (the “Department”) a petition pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 40A, § 3 seeking individual and comprehensive zoning exemptions from the operation of the *Town of Oak Bluffs Zoning Bylaws* (“Petition”). The zoning exemptions are requested in connection with the Company’s proposed construction and operation of an Energy Storage System (“ESS”) totaling 14.7 megawatts (providing a combined total of 84 megawatt hours (“MWh”)) (the “Project”) at the Company’s Oak Bluffs Service Center, 208 Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road (the “Site”) in the Town of Oak Bluffs (the “Town” or “Oak Bluffs”). The Petition has been docketed as D.P.U. 18-155. The Department will review the Petition to determine whether the zoning exemptions should be granted, and if the proposed use of the land or structure is reasonably necessary for the convenience or welfare of the public, pursuant to G.L. c. 40A, § 3.

The Department will conduct a public comment hearing to receive public comment on the proposed Project on February 13, 2019, beginning at 7:00 p.m. at Martha’s Vineyard Regional High School Cafeteria, 100 Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road, Oak Bluffs, to receive public comment.

At the public comment hearing, the Company will present an overview of the proposed Project. Public officials and the public will then have an opportunity to ask questions and make comments about the Project. The public comment hearing will be recorded by a court reporter. The Siting Board will also accept written comments on the proposed Project. ***Written comments may be filed with the Department through March 1, 2019 as described in the section entitled Comments, Intervention and Participation of this Notice.***

Department Jurisdiction

Pursuant to G.L. c. 40A, § 3, the Department will consider whether the proposed Project is “reasonably necessary for the convenience or welfare of the public” and whether the requested zoning exemptions are warranted.

Description of the Project

The proposed Project Site is situated on an approximately 2.73-acre parcel of land that is currently the location of Eversource’s existing Oak Bluffs Service Center. The Company’s proposed construction and operation of the ESS will be constructed in two phases: Phase 1 will be 4.9 megawatts (providing a total of 20 megawatt hours (“MWh”)) and Phase 2 is planned to

add 9.8 megawatts (providing a total of 64 MWh and a combined total of 84 MWh). Both phases will include the following major components located in the primary structure: a battery system; a power conversion system (“PCS”); a control and protection system; and other system components. The following components located outside the primary structure include: heating, ventilation and air conditioning (“HVAC”) chillers; step-up transformers; and distribution switchgear. The primary structure will be constructed in two phases as a two-story, Cape Cod-style building, positioned southwest of the existing Eversource Service Center and northwest of the existing diesel generators. The Phase 1 ESS facilities will be housed in a 76-foot wide by 100-foot long building, with a height of approximately 30 feet. The Phase 2 ESS facilities would be housed in an extension of the Phase 1 building of approximately 76-feet wide, 90-feet long, and 30-feet high, and will also include a basement. Additionally, there will be a 10-foot acoustically-treated sound wall to be designed in consultation with Oak Bluffs officials. Two new underground distribution cables within ducts and new risers and other electric equipment will be used to interconnect with the overhead distribution system along Edgartown-Vineyard Haven Road.

Construction of Phase 1 is expected to begin in the late winter or early spring of 2020 and be completed by the end of 2020. Construction of Phase 2 is expected to begin in the spring or summer of 2022 and be completed by the summer of 2023.

The Company’s Petition as well as a full record of the case will be available on the Department’s Website, www.mass.gov/dpu. Once at that website, click on “DPU File Room”; then click on “Dockets/Filings”; choose “Docket by Number” from the drop-down menu; you will see a box with the words “Enter docket number”; enter “18-155” in that box; and then click on the “Go” icon, which is located next to the box. To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, or audio format) contact the Department’s ADA coordinator at DPUADACoordinator@mass.gov or (617) 305-3500. The Company’s Petition is also available in hard-copy format for public inspection at the offices of the Department, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts, the Town Clerk’s office, and the Oak Bluffs Public Library no later than fourteen (14) days before the public comment hearing.

Comments, Intervention and Participation

Any person who desires to submit written comments on the Company’s Petition may do so by filing an original and two (2) copies of such comments no later than the close of business (**5:00 p.m.) on March 1, 2019** with Mark D. Marini, Secretary, Department of Public Utilities, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts 02110. An electronic copy of all comments should be sent by email to the following: (1) the Department at dpu.efiling@mass.gov; (2) the Company’s counsel, David S. Rosenzweig, Esq., at drosen@keeganwerlin.com; and (3) the Department’s Hearing Officer in this proceeding, Stephen H. August, at Stephen.August@mass.gov.

Any person who is interested in intervening as a party or participating as a limited participant in this proceeding must file a written petition with the Hearing Officer by **March 1, 2019**. Petitions must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 220 CMR 1.03(1). Receipt by the Department – not mailing or postmark – constitutes filing and determines whether a petition has

been timely filed. A petition filed late may be disallowed as untimely unless good cause is shown for waiver pursuant to 220 CMR 1.01(4). To be allowed, a petition to intervene must demonstrate that the petitioner may be substantially and specifically affected by this proceeding.

A petition to intervene also should be submitted to the Department by email attachment to dpu.efiling@mass.gov, with a copy sent by email to the Company's counsel David Rosenzweig, Esq. at drosen@keeganwerlin.com; and the Department's Hearing Officer, Stephen H. August stephen.august@mass.gov. The text of the email must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 18-155); (2) name of the person or company submitting the filing; and (3) a brief description of the document. The electronic filing should also include the name, title and telephone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing. All written pleadings submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's website, <http://www.mass.gov/dpu>.

Reasonable accommodations at public or evidentiary hearings for people with disabilities are available upon request. Include a description of the accommodation you will need, including as much detail as you can. Also include a way we can contact you if we need more information. Please provide as much advance notice as possible. Last minute requests will be accepted, but may not be able to be accommodated. Contact the Department's ADA coordinator at DPUADACoordinator@mass.gov or (617) 305-3500.

Interpretation services for those with limited English language proficiency are available upon request. Include in your request the language required, and a way to contact you if we need more information. Please provide as much advance notice as possible. Last minute requests will be accepted, but may not be able to be accommodated. Any person desiring further information regarding this Notice, including information regarding intervention or participating in the adjudicatory proceeding, may contact the Hearing Officer at the physical address, telephone number, or email address set forth below:

Stephen H. August, Esq. Hearing Officer
Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities
One South Station, 5th Floor
Boston, MA 02110
stephen.august@mass.gov
(617) 305-3500