

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

**ENERGY FACILITIES SITING BOARD
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**

**NOTICE OF ADJUDICATION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT HEARING**

EFSB 19-04/D.P.U. 19-77/19-78

New England Power Company
d/b/a National Grid

Notice is hereby given that on June 27, 2019, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 69J, and G.L. c. 164, § 72, New England Power Company (“NEP”) d/b/a National Grid, located at 40 Sylvan Road, Waltham, Massachusetts 02451, filed petitions with the Energy Facilities Siting Board (the “Siting Board”) and the Department of Public Utilities (the “Department”) for approval to construct and use a new 115-kilovolt (“kV”) underground electric transmission cable (“New Cable”) in the Cities of Salem and Beverly, Massachusetts. In connection with the New Cable, NEP proposes to construct a new switching station in Salem (the “Waite Street #594 Switching Station”) and to make modifications to two existing substations in Beverly. NEP proposes to install the New Cable underneath the Veterans Memorial Bridge across the Danvers River, and in a new manhole and duct bank system within various streets and ways in the Cities of Salem and Beverly. After construction and energization of the New Cable, the existing N-192 Cable will be removed. All of this work is referred to as the “Beverly Regional Transmission Reliability Project” or the “Project.” NEP also filed a petition to the Department, pursuant to G.L. c. 40A, § 3, for a determination that certain requested zoning exemptions in connection with the construction of a new switching station in Salem and modifications to an existing NEP-owned substation in Beverly are “reasonably necessary for the convenience or welfare of the public.”

The Siting Board will conduct a public comment hearing to receive public comment on the proposed Project at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 11, 2019, at the Beverly Cove Improvement Association, 19 East Corning Street, Beverly, MA 01915.

At the public comment hearing, NEP will present an overview of the proposed Project. Public officials and members of the public will then have an opportunity to ask questions and make comments about the Project. The public comment hearings will be recorded by a court reporter.

Siting Board Jurisdiction

The Siting Board will review the Company’s filing under G.L. c. 164, § 69J, to determine whether the Project would provide a reliable energy supply with a minimum impact on the environment at the lowest possible cost. Under G.L. c. 164, § 72, the Siting Board will determine whether the proposed Project is necessary, serves the public convenience, and is consistent with the public interest. Under G.L. c. 40A, § 3, the Siting Board will determine whether the proposed Project is reasonably necessary for the convenience or welfare of the public.



Preferred Route and Noticed Alternative Route for the New Cable

The Company identified an approximately 3.74-mile long Preferred Route and an approximately 4.12-mile long Noticed Alternative Route for the New Cable, both of which begin at the proposed NEP Waite Street #594 Switching Station, to be located at 10 Waite Street in Salem, pass through and connect to NEP’s Beverly #12 Substation at 44 River Street, and terminate at NEP’s East Beverly #51 Substation at 89 Boyles Street. Each route commences as a tap from an existing 115-kV overhead transmission line at Waite Street #594 Switching Station and transitions underground within a new duct bank and manhole system beneath Waite Street, Pierce Avenue, and Bridge Street (Route 1A) before reaching the Veterans Memorial Bridge connecting the Cities of Salem and Beverly. The routes then cross the Danvers River via bridge-mounted conduits on the underside of the Veterans Memorial Bridge. Upon making landfall in Beverly, the routes travel along Congress Street, Wellman Street, and Webber Avenue to the Beverly #12 Substation property just before the intersection with River Street. Exiting the substation at the intersection of River Street and Pleasant Street, both routes travel beneath Pleasant Street and Park Street.

The Preferred Route continues from Park Street on Broadway until reaching the intersection with Cabot Street, then continues straight onto Thorndike Street, Endicott Street, and Monument Square. The Preferred Route then turns onto Hale Street, followed by Lothrop Street, Cross Lane, and Boyles Street until reaching the access road for the East Beverly #51 Substation, where it turns south to enter the property.

The Noticed Alternative Route follows the same path as the Preferred Route until reaching Park Street in Beverly. Rather than turning onto Broadway, the Noticed Alternative Route continues northeast beneath Park Street for an additional 2,000 feet, then travels beneath Roundy Street, Cabot Street, and Charnock Street. At the intersection of Charnock Street and Essex Street (“Route 22”), the route turns northeasterly onto Essex Street, then travels along Newbury Street, Pearl Street, Pearl Street Extension, and Lake Shore Avenue. The Noticed Alternative Route turns east onto Cross Lane, resuming a common pathway with the Preferred Route along Cross Lane and Boyles Street before reaching the East Beverly #51 Substation access road.

To accommodate the New Cable along either the Preferred or Noticed Alternative Route, the Company will require construction of the Waite Street #594 Switching Station and upgrades at NEP’s existing Beverly #12 Substation and East Beverly #51 Substation.

Route Variation:

The Company also identified a Route Variation that it would employ in the event that the Company deems the use of Pierce Avenue impracticable for either the Preferred or Noticed Alternative Route. The Route Variation travels north out of the Waite Street #594 Switching Station then turns west on Merrill Avenue for approximately 250 feet before turning north onto Bridge Street and attaching to the Veterans Memorial Bridge. The total length of this route segment is approximately 820 feet.

New Waite Street #594 Switching Station

At the new Waite Street #594 Switching Station, on a NEP-owned parcel, NEP plans to install switching station-related equipment and facilities to accommodate the New Cable including: a small control house elevated 6 feet above grade; a 115-kV aluminum bus support structure; a 115-kV current transformer support structure; a 115-kV circuit switcher structure; a 115-kV riser terminator structure; and a H-Frame dead-end structure. NEP plans to construct a sidewalk along Ferry Street where it passes the new switching station.

Work at Beverly #12 Substation

At the Beverly #12 Substation, NEP plans to install substation-related equipment and facilities to accommodate the New Cable, as well as a new transformer. No fence line expansion is required to accommodate these improvements; however, an inner security fence will be expanded by 20 feet to the north and 25 feet to the west.

Work at East Beverly #51 Substation

At the East Beverly #51 Substation, NEP plans to install substation-related equipment and facilities to accommodate the New Cable. No fence line expansion is required to accommodate these improvements.

Removal of Existing N-192 Cable

The existing N-192 Cable, which will be removed once the New Cable is placed in service, starts at the North River #30 Terminal at 13 March Street Court in Salem and consists of 0.5 miles of submarine cable buried below the Danvers River and 3.1 miles of land cable in Beverly, installed within existing streets, on NEP property, and along an active Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (“MBTA”) right-of-way (“ROW”). The land portion commences on Congress Street and travels along Congress Street, Wellman Street, and Webber Avenue for a total of approximately 0.5 miles before it is routed into the Beverly #12 Substation. It exits the substation at the intersection of Pleasant Street and River Street, travels north along River Street, and continues onto McPherson Drive. Near 69 Federal Street, the existing cable travels along the west side of the Rockport branch of the MBTA commuter rail. After the intersection of Boyles Street with the MBTA commuter rail, the existing cable is routed out of the railroad ROW and into a NEP utility ROW that enters the East Beverly #51 Substation.

Public Review of the Company’s Petitions

The general location, layout, dimensions, and configuration of the Preferred Route and Noticed Alternative Route for the Project are shown on maps and plans included with the Company’s filing. Copies of the Company’s petitions, including all attachments, are available for public inspection in hard-copy format at the Siting Board, One South Station, Boston, MA 02110, and at the offices of National Grid’s counsel, Catherine Keuthen, Esq., Keegan Werlin LLP, 99 High Street, Suite 2900, Boston, MA 02110. Copies are also available at the Salem and Beverly City Clerk’s Offices, and at the Salem Public Library at 370 Essex Street in Salem and the Beverly Public Library at 32 Essex Street in Beverly.

In addition, the Company's Petitions, including all attachments, are electronically available via the Department of Public Utilities' website at: <https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/DPU/Fileroom/dockets/bynumber/EFSB19-04>.

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.

Written Comments

Written comments regarding the proposed Project will be accepted at the public comment hearing or may be filed with the Siting Board until **5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 27, 2019**. Any person wishing to submit written comments regarding the Project should send them by email or email attachment to: (1) dpu.efiling@mass.gov and (2) Robert.J.Shea@mass.gov. Alternatively, written comments may be sent by U.S. mail to Robert J. Shea, Esq., Energy Facilities Siting Board/DPU, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts, 02110.

Intervention and Participation

Persons or groups who wish to be involved in the Siting Board proceeding beyond providing comments at the public comment hearing may seek either to intervene as a party or to participate as a limited participant. Intervention as a party allows the person or organization to participate in

the evidentiary phase of this proceeding, including evidentiary hearings in Boston, and grants the right to appeal a final decision. A limited participant may receive many of the documents that will be submitted to the Siting Board and present written or oral argument to the Siting Board after evidentiary hearings conclude.

Any person interested in intervening as a party or participating as a limited participant in this proceeding must file a written petition with the Presiding Officer. Petitions must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 980 CMR 1.05, the Siting Board's procedural rules, which can be found on the Board's website at: <https://www.mass.gov/how-to/file-a-petition-to-intervene-in-an-efsb-or-dpu-siting-case>

A petition to intervene or participate as a limited participant must be filed in three places.

First, the petition must be filed in hard copy with the Presiding Officer, Robert J. Shea, Energy Facilities Siting Board, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts, 02110 no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on Friday, December 27, 2019.

Second, the petition must be filed with the Siting Board in electronic format by e-mail attachment to dpu.efiling@mass.gov with a copy to Robert.j.shea@mass.gov. The text of the email must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (e.g., EFSB 19-04); (2) the name of the person or entity 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.

Third, the petition must be sent to counsel for National Grid, Catherine J. Keuthen, Esq., Keegan Werlin LLP, 99 High Street Suite 2900, Boston, MA 02110; or ckeuthen@keeganwerlin.com.

Reasonable accommodations 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, by December 2, 2019, if 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 about intervention or participation in the adjudicatory proceeding, may contact the Presiding Officer at the contact information below:

Robert J. Shea, Presiding Officer
Energy Facilities Siting Board
One South Station
Boston, MA 02110
(617) 305-3514
Robert.J.Shea@mass.gov