



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

NOTICE OF FILING, PUBLIC HEARING, AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

D.P.U. 19-144

January 17, 2020

Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company, each d/b/a National Grid, for approval of the Company's annual vegetation management factor compliance filing and cost recovery pursuant to the Company's Vegetation Management Pilot Provision tariff.

On November 26, 2019, Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company, each d/b/a National Grid ("National Grid" or "Company") submitted a compliance filing with the Department of Public Utilities ("Department") requesting the recovery of costs and tariff revisions associated with the Company's enhanced vegetation management pilot program ("VM Pilot"). The Department has docketed this matter as D.P.U. 19-144.

The Department approved the VM Pilot and current vegetation management pilot provision ("VMP") tariff, M.D.P.U. No. 1343, in Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company, D.P.U. 17-92 (2018).

National Grid requests recovery of actual and estimated incremental operation and maintenance costs incurred for implementation of the VM Pilot through December 31, 2019, totaling \$3,461,162. The Company requests recovery for these costs through the following proposed vegetation management pilot factors ("VMFs") effective March 1, 2020, pursuant to the Company's VMP tariff:

| Rate Class | Proposed VMFs (\$/kWh) |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| R-1/R-2 | \$0.00024 |
| G-1 | \$0.00023 |
| G-2 | \$0.00020 |
| G-3 | \$0.00009 |
| Streetlighting | \$0.00029 |

Approval of the Company's proposed rate adjustments for effect March 1, 2020, exclusive of changes in basic service rates, would result in an increase of \$0.14 or 0.1 percent for the bill of a typical residential customer using 600 kilowatt-hours ("kWh") of electricity per month. For specific bill impacts of all other rate classes, contact the Company as set forth below. Additionally, National Grid proposes a replacement VMP tariff,

M.D.P.U. No. 1435, reflecting the updated overhead line allocator approved by the Department in the Company's most recent base distribution rate case, Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company, D.P.U. 18-150.

The Department will conduct a public hearing to receive comments on the Company's petition on **Tuesday, February 11, 2020, at 2:00 p.m.**, at the Department's offices, One South Station, 5th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110. A procedural conference will immediately follow the public hearing. Any person who desires to comment on the Company's petition may do so at the time and place noted above or submit written comments to the Department not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Tuesday, February 11, 2020**.

Any person who desires to participate in the evidentiary phase of this proceeding must file a written petition for leave to intervene with the Department not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Monday, February 3, 2020**. A petition for leave to intervene must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 220 CMR 1.03. Receipt by the Department, not mailing, 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 under 220 CMR 1.01(4). To be allowed, a petition under 220 CMR 1.03(1) must satisfy the standing requirements of G.L. c. 30A, § 10.

Any person who desires to file written comments or to participate otherwise in this proceeding shall file an original and one (1) copy of such written comments or petition for leave to intervene in the proceeding with Mark D. Marini, Secretary, Department of Public Utilities, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts, 02110, and serve one copy on counsel for the Company, Meabh Purcell, Esq., National Grid, 40 Sylvan Road, Waltham, Massachusetts 02451.

All documents should also be submitted to the Department in electronic format using one of the following methods: (1) by e-mail attachment to dpu.efiling@mass.gov and to the hearing officer kerri.phillips@mass.gov; or (2) on a CD-ROM or USB drive. The text of the e-mail, CD-ROM label, or USB must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 19-144); (2) the name of the person or company submitting the filing; and (3) a brief descriptive title 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. The electronic file name should identify the document but should not exceed 50 characters in length. All documents submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's website at <https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/DPU/Fileroom/dockets/bynumber> (enter "19-144").

Copies of the filing are available for inspection during regular business hours at the Department's offices. The filing is also available on the Department's website as noted

above. To request materials in accessible formats (braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), contact the Department's ADA coordinator at DPUADACoordinator@mass.gov or (617) 305-3500. For further information regarding the filing, please contact counsel for the Company, Meabh Purcell, Esq., at (781) 907-1789. For further information regarding this notice, please contact Kerri DeYoung Phillips, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at (617) 305-3500.

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 the Department 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.