



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

NOTICE OF FILING, PUBLIC HEARING, AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

D.P.U. 24-25

February 23, 2024

Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for Approval of a Gas Supply Agreement with Constellation LNG, LLC, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94A.

On February 9, 2024, Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid (“National Grid” or “Company”) filed a petition with the Department of Public Utilities (“Department”) for approval of an agreement with Constellation LNG, LLC (“Constellation”) for the sale and purchase of natural gas in either liquid or vapor form for the period June 1, 2024 through May 31, 2030 (“Agreement”). The Agreement is conditioned on the Department’s approval of the Agreement by May 1, 2024. The Company made the filing pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94A. The Department docketed this petition as D.P.U. 24-25.

The Agreement will provide National Grid with up to 27,000 dekatherms (“Dth”) of natural gas per day in liquid or vapor form, with a maximum seasonal quantity of 500,000 Dth, in the first year of service during the winter season (i.e., December 1 through March 31) through Constellation’s Everett Marine Terminal. The Agreement will provide the Company with increasing maximum daily and seasonal quantities of natural gas each year thereafter during the winter season, with a maximum daily quantity of 78,000 Dth and a maximum seasonal quantity of 2,100,000 Dth in the final year of service. The Company states that Constellation’s Everett Marine Terminal is uniquely positioned to support the Company’s gas system reliability during the demand seasons and demand days due to both its location and significant send-out capacity.

National Grid states that the Agreement is necessary to address the deficit in the Company’s available peak day and peak season assets and to ensure safe and reliable service for its customers. Further, the Company states that the Agreement is consistent with the portfolio objectives established in the forecast and supply plans approved in Boston Gas Company, D.P.U. 20-132 (2021) and Boston Gas Company, D.P.U. 22-149 (2023) and is the only viable, cost-effective option to meet the Company’s incremental natural gas supply needs.

On February 12, 2024, Eversource Gas Company of Massachusetts d/b/a Eversource Energy filed for approval by the Department under G.L. c. 164, § 94A of a similar agreement

with Constellation, which the Department has docketed as D.P.U. 24-26. Also on February 12, 2024, NSTAR Gas Company d/b/a Eversource Energy filed for approval by the Department under G.L. c. 164, § 94A of a similar agreement with Constellation, which the Department has docketed as D.P.U. 24-27. The Department has not consolidated these proceedings; however, the Department seeks to investigate them in parallel to the extent feasible given the overlap of counsel and issues.

The Department will conduct public hearings to receive comments on the Company's filing as follows:

- The Department will conduct an in-person public hearing on **March 12, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.** at Everett City Hall 484 Broadway, Everett, Massachusetts 02149. Interpretation services (Spanish, Portuguese, and Haitian Creole) will be available at the in-person public hearing.
- The Department will conduct a virtual public hearing using Zoom videoconferencing on **March 15, 2024, at 2:00 p.m.** Attendees can join by entering the link, <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86722188823>, from a computer, smartphone, or tablet. No prior software download is required. For audio-only access to the hearings, attendees can dial in at 1 (646) 931-3860 (**not toll free**) and then enter the **Meeting ID# 867 2218 8823**. Interpretation services (Spanish, Portuguese, and Haitian Creole) will be available over the Zoom platform by clicking the "Interpretation" button on the menu at the bottom of the Zoom application screen and selecting your language (*i.e.*, English, Spanish, Portuguese, or Haitian Creole).

Any person interested in commenting on this matter may submit written comments no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **March 18, 2024**. Written comments from the public may be sent by email to dpufiling@mass.gov, scott.seigal@mass.gov, and the Company's attorneys, John K. Habib, Esq., at jhabib@keeganwerlin.com, Ashley S. Marton, Esq., at amarton@keeganwerlin.com, Patrick Houghton, Esq., at Patrick.Houghton@nationalgrid.com, and Andrea Keeffe, Esq., at andrea.keeffe@nationalgrid.com. Please note that, in the interest of transparency, any comments will be posted to our website as received and without redacting personal information, such as addresses, telephone numbers, or email addresses. As such, consider the extent of information you wish to share when submitting comments. The Department strongly encourages public comments to be submitted by email. If, however, a member of the public is unable to send written comments by email, a paper copy may be sent to Mark D. Marini, Secretary, Department of Public Utilities, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts, 02110.

Any person who desires to participate otherwise in the evidentiary phase of this proceeding shall file a petition for leave to intervene no later than 5:00 p.m. on **March 11, 2024**. A petition for leave to intervene must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 220 CMR 1.03. Receipt by the Department 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. All responses to petitions to intervene must be filed by the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on the second business day after the petition to intervene was filed.

The Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (“Attorney General”) filed a notice to intervene in this matter pursuant to G.L. c. 12, § 11E. Further, pursuant to G.L. c. 12, § 11E(b), the Attorney General filed a notice of intent to retain experts and consultants to assist her investigation of the Company’s filing and has requested Department approval to spend up to \$150,000 in this regard. Pursuant to G.L. c. 12, § 11E(b), the costs incurred by the Attorney General relative to her retention of experts and consultants may be recovered in the Company’s rates. Any person who desires to comment on the Attorney General’s notice of intent to retain experts and consultants may submit written comments to the Department not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **March 5, 2024**.

All documents should be submitted to the Department in **.pdf format** by e-mail attachment to dpu.efiling@mass.gov and Scott.Seigal@mass.gov. The text of the e-mail must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 24-25); (2) the name of the person or company submitting the filing; and (3) a brief descriptive title of the document. All documents submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department’s website through our online File Room as soon as practicable (enter “24-25”) at: <https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/DPU/Fileroom/dockets/bynumber>. In addition, one copy of all written comments and petitions to intervene should be emailed to the Company’s attorneys, John K. Habib, Esq., at jhabib@keeganwerlin.com, Ashley S. Marton, Esq., at amarton@keeganwerlin.com, Patrick Houghton, Esq., at Patrick.Houghton@nationalgrid.com, and Andrea Keefe, Esq., at andrea.keefe@nationalgrid.com.

The filing and all subsequent related documents submitted to the Department or issued by the Department will be available on the Department’s website as referenced above as soon as is practicable. To the extent a person or entity wishes to submit comments or intervene in accordance with this Notice, electronic submission, as detailed above, is sufficient. To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), contact the Department’s ADA coordinator at Andrea.R.Casul@mass.gov.

For further information regarding the Company’s filing, please contact the Company’s attorneys, identified above. For further information regarding this Notice, please contact Scott Seigal, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at scott.seigal@mass.gov.