

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

NOTICE OF FILING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

D.P.U. 25-177

December 16, 2025

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 December 1, 2025, Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company, each d/b/a National Grid ("National Grid" or "Company") submitted a cost recovery and reconciliation filing with the Department of Public Utilities ("Department") involving any remaining over- or under-recovery expenses incurred by National Grid for work performed prior to October 1, 2024, associated with the Company's implementation of its enhanced vegetation management pilot program ("EVM Pilot"). The Company submitted the filing pursuant to its vegetation management pilot provision ("VMP") tariff, M.D.P.U. No. 1563, and the Department's directives in the Company's most recent base distribution rate proceeding, Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company, D.P.U. 23-150. The Department docketed the matter as D.P.U. 25-177.

Pursuant to its VMP tariff, the Company recovers EVM Pilot costs through two rate factors: the vegetation management factor ("VMF") and the vegetation management reconciliation factor ("VMRF"). EVM Pilot costs are allocated to each rate class based on overhead line allocator percentages established in the Company's most recent base distribution rate proceeding, D.P.U. 23-150. The VMF recovers eligible EVM Pilot operations and maintenance ("O&M") expenses incurred by the Company during the calendar year, with the recovery period beginning March 1 of the subsequent year if authorized by the Department. The VMRF recovers from or credits to customers with interest the difference between the revenue billed through the VMF from the prior period and the allowed O&M expenses authorized for recovery by the Department for the prior period. The Department approved the EVM Pilot and original VMP tariff in Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company, D.P.U. 17-92 (2018), and modified the pilot parameters and annual filing requirements in subsequent proceedings. Pursuant to the directives in D.P.U. 23-150, the EVM Pilot concluded on September 30, 2024.

Based on the Department's findings in D.P.U. 23-150 and effective October 1, 2024, enhanced circuit-related work conducted under the pilot became a permanent component of the Company's overall vegetation management program, and the Department transferred a representative level of costs associated with this work to base distribution rates. The Department

also permitted the EVM Pilot mechanism to stay in place to allow for the recovery of prudently incurred EVM Pilot costs for work performed through September 30, 2024. The tariff will remain in place until final reconciliations for cost recovery have been completed.

In the instant proceeding, the Company proposes the following VMFs and VMRFs for effect March 1, 2026:

<u>Rate Class</u>	<u>Proposed VMFs (\$/kWh)</u>	<u>Proposed VMRFs (\$/kWh)</u>
R-1/R-2	0.00005	0.00001
G-1	0.00004	0.00001
G-2	0.00003	0.00001
G-3	0.00001	0.00000
Streetlighting	0.00008	0.00003

The proposed VMFs are designed to recover \$796,471 in carry-over pilot costs for work performed through September 30, 2024 (i.e., condition assessments, enhanced pruning and tree removals, and police details), but which were billed from October 2024 through June 2025 to implement the EVM Pilot. The proposed VMRFs include a reconciliation adjustment of \$284,011, consisting of a prior-period under-recovery of allowed O&M expenses from the VMFs subject to interest.

If the Company's request is approved as proposed, and based on the rates in effect at the time of the Company's filing, the monthly bill impact for a typical Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company, residential basic service customer on Rate R-1 using 600 kilowatt-hours ("kWh") of electricity would result in a monthly bill decrease of \$0.17, or 0.1 percent. Bill impacts for all other rate classes will vary based on customer class and usage. Customers should contact the Company for specific bill information.

Additionally, effective March 1, 2027, the Company proposes to terminate the VMP tariff and conclude the VMFs and VMRFs. Any remaining reconciliation balances for both the 2025 and 2056 VMFs and VMRFs would be rolled into the revenue decoupling mechanism adjustment factors effective March 1, 2027.

The Department will accept written comments on the Company's filing until close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Wednesday, January 14, 2026**. Any person who otherwise desires to participate in the evidentiary phase of this proceeding shall file a petition for leave to intervene no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Wednesday, January 14, 2026**. 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.

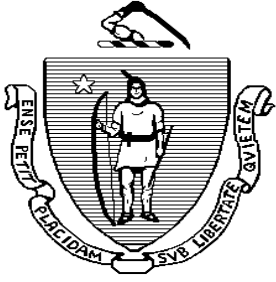
All documents should be submitted to the Department in **.pdf format** by e-mail attachment to dpu.efiling@mass.gov and kerri.phillips@mass.gov. In addition, one copy of all

written comments and petitions to intervene should be emailed to the Company's attorneys, Christopher R. Tuomala, Esq., at christopher.tuomala@nationalgrid.com, Joseph F. Dorfler, Esq., at jdorfler@richmaylaw.com, and Ashley M. Berger, Esq., at aberger@richmaylaw.com. The text of the e-mail must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 25-177); (2) the name of the person or company submitting the filing; and (3) a brief descriptive title of the document. The electronic file name should identify the document but should not exceed 50 characters in length. Importantly, all large files submitted must be broken down into electronic files that do not exceed 20 MB. All documents submitted in electronic format will be posted to the Department's website through our online File Room as soon as practicable (enter "25-177") at: <https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/dpu/fileroom/#/dockets>.

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. If a member of the public is unable to send written comments by e-mail, a paper copy may be sent to Peter Ray, Secretary, Department of Public Utilities, One South Station, 3rd Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110. 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 e-mail addresses. As such, consider the extent of information you wish to share when submitting comments.

To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), please contact the Department's ADA coordinator at eeadiversity@mass.gov or (617) 626-1282.

For further information regarding the Company's filing, please contact the Company's attorneys through the e-mails identified above. For information regarding this Notice, please contact Kerri DeYoung Phillips, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at kerri.phillips@mass.gov.



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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Translation and Interpretation Services

English

ATTENTION: Translation and/or interpretation services are available upon request. Please email Kaylee Burgess at dpu.ej@mass.gov to request language services, specifying your preferred language and contact information.

Português (Portuguese)

ATENÇÃO: Disponibilizamos nossos serviços de tradução e/ou interpretação de acordo com a sua demanda. Para solicitar um serviço linguístico, envie um e-mail para Kaylee Burgess através do endereço dpu.ej@mass.gov, informando o idioma desejado e seus dados para contato.

(Traditional Chinese)

提醒您：您可依照需求申請筆譯和/或口譯服務。請以電郵聯絡Kaylee Burgess (dpu.ej@mass.gov) 來申請語言服務請求，請在電郵內註明需要的語言和聯絡資訊。

Tiếng Việt (Vietnamese)

LƯU Ý: Các dịch vụ biên dịch và/hoặc phiên dịch có sẵn theo yêu cầu. Vui lòng gửi email đến Kaylee Burgess theo địa chỉ dpu.ej@mass.gov để yêu cầu dịch vụ ngôn ngữ, nêu rõ ngôn ngữ ưa thích của quý vị và thông tin liên lạc

(Arabic) العربية

يُرجى الانتباه: تتوفر خدمات الترجمة و/أو الترجمة الفورية عند الطلب. لطلب خدمات لغوية يُرجى التواصل مع Kaylee Burgess بإرسال رسالة إلكترونية إلى العنوان dpu.ej@mass.gov، تحدد فيها اللغة المفضلة لديك وتذكر معلومات الاتصال.

ខ្មែរ (Khmer)

ជូនចំពោះ: សេវាកម្មប្រែក្លាយ និង/ឬអ្នកបកប្រែផ្ទាល់ គឺមានតាមការស្នើសុំ។ សូមផ្ញើអ៊ីមែលទៅ Kaylee Burgess តាម dpu.ej@mass.gov ដើម្បីស្នើសុំសេវាកម្មប្រែក្លាយ ដោយបញ្ជាក់ភាសាដែលអ្នកចង់បាន និងព័ត៌មានទំនាក់ទំនង។

Español (Spanish)

ATENCIÓN: Los servicios de traducción y/o interpretación están disponibles bajo solicitud. Por favor envíe un correo electrónico a Kaylee Burgess en dpu.ej@mass.gov para solicitar los servicios de idiomas, especificando su idioma preferido e información de contacto.

中文 (Simplified Chinese)

提醒您：您可依需要申请提供笔译和/或口译服务。请发送电子邮件给 Kaylee Burgess (dpu.ej@mass.gov) 来申请语言服务要求，并注明您的首选语言和联系信息。

Kreyòl Ayisyen (Haitian Creole)

ATANSYON: Gen sèvis tradiksyon ak/oswa entèpretasyon ki disponib sou demann. Tanpri voye imèl bay Kaylee Burgess nan dpu.ej@mass.gov pou mande sèvis lang, ki enfòm lang ou pi pito a ak enfòmasyon kontak ou.

Français (French)

ATTENTION : Des services de traduction et/ou d'interprétation sont disponibles sur demande. Veuillez envoyer un e-mail à Kaylee Burgess à l'adresse dpu.ej@mass.gov pour demander des services linguistiques, en précisant votre langue préférée et vos coordonnées.

Русский (Russian)

ВНИМАНИЕ!

Услуги письменного и/или устного перевода предоставляются по запросу. Для запроса услуг перевода обращайтесь к Kaylee Burgess по адресу dpu.ej@mass.gov. В запросе укажите язык перевода и контактную информацию.

한국 (Korean)

주의: 요청 시 번역 및/또는 통역 서비스가 제공됩니다. Kaylee Burgess에게 dpu.ej@mass.gov로 이메일을 보내 선호하는 언어와 연락처 정보를 명시하여 언어 서비스를 요청하십시오.