



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

### NOTICE OF FILING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

D.P.U. 19-45

March 29, 2019

Joint Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unutil, Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company, each d/b/a National Grid, NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy, and the Division of Energy Resources for approval of a proposed timetable and method for the solicitation and execution of long-term contracts for offshore wind energy generation, pursuant to Section 83C of An Act Relative to Green Communities, St. 2008, c. 169, as amended by St. 2016, c. 188, § 12.

On March 27, 2019, Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unutil (“Unutil”), Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company, each d/b/a National Grid (“National Grid”), and NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy (“Eversource”) (collectively, “Companies”), jointly with the Department of Energy Resources (“DOER”), filed a petition with the Department of Public Utilities (“Department”) for approval of a proposed timetable and method for the second solicitation and execution of long-term contracts for offshore wind energy generation resources, pursuant to Section 83C of An Act Relative to Green Communities, St. 2008, c. 169, as amended by St. 2016, c. 188, § 12 (“Section 83C”).<sup>1</sup> The Department docketed this petition as D.P.U. 19-45.

<sup>1</sup> In Timetable and Method of Solicitation of Long-Term Contracts for Offshore Wind Energy Generation Pursuant to Section 83C, D.P.U. 17-103 (2017), the Department approved the timetable and method solicitation for the first solicitation pursuant to Section 83C. The contracts resulting from the first solicitation are currently under review by the Department in NSTAR Electric Company Long-Term Contracts with Vineyard Wind for Offshore Wind Energy Generation Pursuant to Section 83C, D.P.U. 18-76, Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company Long-Term Contracts with Vineyard Wind for Offshore Wind Energy Generation Pursuant to Section 83C, D.P.U. 18-65, and Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company Long-Term Contracts with Vineyard Wind for Offshore Wind Energy Generation Pursuant to Section 83C, D.P.U. 18-66.

Pursuant to Section 83C, the Companies are required to conduct one or more competitive solicitations for offshore wind energy generation and, provided that reasonable proposals have been received, to enter into cost-effective long-term contracts for offshore wind energy generation equal to approximately 1,600 megawatts (“MW”) of nameplate capacity by June 30, 2027. See also 220 CMR 23.00 et seq. The Companies, in coordination with the DOER, shall consult with the Attorney General of the Commonwealth (“Attorney General”) regarding the choice of solicitation methods. In addition, DOER and the Attorney General shall jointly select an Independent Evaluator to monitor and report on the solicitation and bid selection process. The Companies and DOER shall jointly propose a timetable and method for the solicitation and execution of long-term contracts, subject to review and approval by the Department. Finally, the Independent Evaluator shall issue a report to the Department analyzing the timetable and method of solicitation. Section 83C; 220 CMR 23.00 et seq.

The Department will accept written comments regarding the proposed timetable and method for the solicitation on or before the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Thursday, April 11, 2019**. Reply comments will be due no later than the close of business on **Thursday, April 18, 2019**.

The original of all written comments must be filed with Mark D. Marini, Secretary, Department of Public Utilities, One South Station, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110. 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](mailto:dpu.efiling@mass.gov) and the hearing officer, [alan.topalian@mass.gov](mailto:alan.topalian@mass.gov); or (2) on a CD-ROM. The text of the e-mail or CD-ROM label must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 19-45); (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, <https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/DPU/Fileroom> (“enter 19-45”).

In addition, all written comments should be distributed electronically to the service lists in the following dockets: (1) Investigation Regarding Competitively Solicited Long-Term Contracts for Offshore Wind and Clean Energy Generation Resources, D.P.U. 16-191; (2) Timetable and Method of Solicitation of Long-Term Contracts for Offshore Wind Energy Generation Pursuant to Section 83C, D.P.U. 17-103; and (3) NSTAR Electric Company Long-Term Contracts with Vineyard Wind for Offshore Wind Energy Generation Pursuant to Section 83C, D.P.U. 18-76, Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company Long-Term Contracts with Vineyard Wind for Offshore Wind Energy Generation Pursuant to Section 83C, D.P.U. 18-77, and Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company Long-Term Contracts with Vineyard Wind for Offshore Wind Energy Generation Pursuant to Section 83C, D.P.U. 18-78.

The filing is available on the Department's website. A copy of the filing is also available for inspection during regular business hours at the Department's offices, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts. To request materials in accessible formats (braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), contact the Department's ADA coordinator at [DPUADACoordinator@mass.gov](mailto:DPUADACoordinator@mass.gov) or (617) 305-3642. Any person desiring further information regarding the petition should contact: (1) William D. Hewitt, Esq., at (207) 747-4870 (counsel for Unital); (2) Laura Bickel, Esq., at (781) 907-1846, Matthew S. Stern, Esq. or John K. Habib, Esq., both at (617) 951-1400 (counsel for National Grid); and (3) Danielle Winter, Esq. at (617) 951-1400 (counsel for Eversource). Any person desiring further information regarding this notice should contact Alan Topalian, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities at (617) 305-3647.