



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS; REQUEST FOR COMMENTS AND PETITIONS FOR INTERVENTION

D.P.U. 11-119-A

November 21, 2011

Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities on its Own Motion into the Preparation and Response of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company, each d/b/a National Grid, to the October 29, 2011 snowstorm.

On November 8, 2011, the Department of Public Utilities (“Department”) issued an Order opening an investigation into efforts by Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company, each d/b/a National Grid (jointly “National Grid” or “Company”) to prepare for and restore power following the October 29, 2011 snowstorm (“October Snowstorm”). The Department conducts this investigation pursuant to its authority to open an investigation upon its own initiative to determine whether an electric or gas distribution company has violated the Department’s standards regarding acceptable performance for emergency preparedness and restoration of service, G.L. c. 164, § 1J, 220 C.M.R. § 19.00 et seq.; the Department’s authority to review the performance of an electric or gas distribution company in restoring service during an emergency event, G.L. c. 164, § 85B; and the Department’s general supervisory authority over electric distribution companies, G.L. c. 164, § 76. This matter has been docketed as D.P.U. 11-119-A.

The Department will conduct five public hearings in the Company’s service territory to receive comments regarding National Grid’s preparation for and performance during the October Snowstorm. The hearings will take place as follows:

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| Monday, December 5, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. | East Longmeadow High School, 180 Maple Street, East Longmeadow, MA 01028 |
| Wednesday, December 7, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. | Belchertown High School, Room 317, 142 Springfield Road, Belchertown, MA 01007 |
| Thursday, December 8, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. | DCU Center, 50 Foster Street, Worcester, MA 01608 |
| Tuesday, December 13, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. | Brookfield Town Hall, 6 Central Street, Brookfield, MA 01506 |
| Thursday, December 15, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. | Tyngsborough High School, 36 Norris Road, Tyngsborough, MA 01879 |

Any person who desires to comment may do so at the time and places noted above or submit written comments to the Department not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Thursday, December 22, 2011**. An original of all written comments must be filed with Mark D. Marini, Secretary, Department of Public Utilities, One South Station, 5th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110. Three (3) copies of all written comments must also be sent to Jennifer M. Murphy, Hearing Officer, at the Department of Public Utilities.

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 on **Thursday, December 22, 2011**. A petition for leave to intervene must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 220 C.M.R. § 1.03. Petitioners must demonstrate, among other things, that they are substantially and specifically affected by the proceeding and that their interests are unique and cannot be adequately represented by any other party, including the Attorney General. Receipt by the Department, not mailing, constitutes filing and determines whether a petition has been filed on time. A petition filed late may be disallowed as untimely, unless good cause is shown for waiver under 220 C.M.R. § 1.01(4). To be allowed, a petition under 220 C.M.R. § 1.03(1) must satisfy the standing requirements of G.L. c. 30A, § 10. An original of all petitions to intervene must be filed with Mark D. Marini, Secretary, Department of Public Utilities, One South Station, 5th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110. Two (2) copies of all petitions to intervene must also be sent to Jennifer M. Murphy, Hearing Officer, at the Department of Public Utilities. One copy of all petitions to intervene should also be sent to the Company's attorney, Patricia Crowe, Senior Counsel, National Grid, 40 Sylvan Road, Waltham, Massachusetts 02451.

All documents (including comments and petitions to intervene) should also be submitted to the Department in electronic format using one of the following methods: (1) by e-mail attachment to dpu.efiling@state.ma.us and the hearing officer, Jennifer.M.Murphy@state.ma.us; or (2) on CD-ROM. The e-mail or CD-ROM label must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 11-119-A); (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. All documents submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's website: <http://www.mass.gov/dpu>.

By Order of the Department,

/s/

Mark D. Marini, Secretary