



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

### MEMORANDUM

TO: D.P.U. 21-50/EFSB 21-01 Distribution List

FROM: Laurie Ellen Weisman, Senior Counsel, Department  
Scott Seigal, Hearing Officer, Department  
Donna Sharkey, Presiding Officer, Energy Facilities Siting Board

RE: Public Awareness and Participation Procedures, D.P.U. 21-50  
Enhancing Public Awareness and Participation, EFSB 21-01  
Request for Comments

DATE: August 26, 2022

CC: Mark Marini, Secretary, Department  
Joan Foster Evans, General Counsel, Energy Facilities Siting Board  
Sandra Merrick, Assistant General Counsel, Department

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THIS IS AN IMPORTANT NOTICE. PLEASE HAVE IT TRANSLATED. ESTE É UM AVISO IMPORTANTE. QUIERA MANDÁ-LO TRADUZIR. ESTE ES UN AVISO IMPORTANTE. SIRVASE MANDARLO TRADUCIR. QUESTA È UN'INFORMAZIONE IMPORTANTE, SI PREGA DI TRADURLA. 此为重要通知。请加以翻译。 ĐÂY LÀ MỘT THÔNG BÁO QUAN TRỌNG. XIN HÃY DỊCH NÓ. SA A SE YON AVI ENPÒTAN. TANPRI FÈ LI TRADUI. KEL LI E UN AVIZU INPORTANTI. FAVOR MANDA TRADUZIL.

#### I. INTRODUCTION

On August 25, 2022, the Department of Public Utilities (“Department”) and Energy Facilities Siting Board (“Siting Board”) conducted a joint stakeholder roundtable (“roundtable”) to gather input on improving public and stakeholder involvement in our proceedings. The roundtable addressed the following three topics:

- Improved communication with customers, community-based organizations, and local government officials to maximize public engagement in our proceedings.
- Whether all notices for agency proceedings should receive the same level of publication and outreach, or whether there should be some prioritization or variation in approach to avoid overwhelming or desensitizing readers with frequent notices. If there should be variation, discuss the types of proceedings that warrant additional publication and outreach efforts.
- The most effective methods that Distribution Companies use currently to reach customers.

We invite any interested person to provide written comments on the above-noted matters.

## II. REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

All written comments should be filed with the Department **no later than Friday, September 16, 2022**. All comments must be submitted to the Department by email attachment to [dpu.efiling@mass.gov](mailto:dpu.efiling@mass.gov), [laurie.e.weisman@mass.gov](mailto:laurie.e.weisman@mass.gov), [scott.seigal@mass.gov](mailto:scott.seigal@mass.gov), and [donna.sharkey@mass.gov](mailto:donna.sharkey@mass.gov). The text of the email must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 21-50); (2) the name and contact information 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. Written comments will be posted on the Department's website through our online file room at <https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/DPU/Fileroom/dockets/bynumber/21-50> and <https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/DPU/Fileroom/dockets/bynumber/EFSB21-01>.

At this time, all documents will be submitted only in electronic format consistent with the Commission's June 15, 2021 directive related to modified filing requirements. Ordinarily, all parties would follow Sections B.1 and B.4 of the Department's Standard Ground Rules (D.P.U. 15-184-A, App. 1 (March 4, 2020)); however, until further notice, parties must retain the original paper version and the Department will later determine when the paper version must be filed with the Department Secretary.

## III. QUESTIONS

For any questions regarding this memorandum, please contact Laurie Ellen Weisman, Hearing Officer, at [laurie.e.weisman@mass.gov](mailto:laurie.e.weisman@mass.gov), Scott Seigal, Hearing Officer, at [scott.seigal@mass.gov](mailto:scott.seigal@mass.gov), or Donna Sharkey, Hearing Officer, at [donna.sharkey@mass.gov](mailto:donna.sharkey@mass.gov).