

**THE COMMONWEALTH OF  
MASSACHUSETTS  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**



**2015 ANNUAL REPORT**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

The Department of Public Utilities (the “Department” or “DPU”) has a dual role of promoting public safety and ensuring that regulated industries provide quality service at reasonable rates. Public safety, particularly in the natural gas pipeline and transportation industries, is one of the Department’s most important responsibilities.

The Department is overseen by the three member commonwealth utilities commission (“Commission”) appointed by the Secretary of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (“Secretary”). The Secretary designates one of the Commissioners as Chairman.

The Department's responsibilities include establishing rates and ensuring service quality for the investor owned electric power, natural gas, and water industries; regulating safety in the transportation and gas pipeline areas; and for the siting of energy facilities. The Department does not regulate municipal electric companies or public water authorities.

Highlights from 2015 include approval of three precedent agreements demonstrating the need for additional interstate pipeline capacity for the region, approval of gas system enhancement plans—one of the most aggressive programs in the nation—for the replacement of aged gas infrastructure, issuance of 79 municipal aggregation orders, and the undertaking of no less than six base rate case proceedings. Additionally, the DPU approved a three state Request for Proposals for 817 GWh of clean energy, launched an interim website to help customers shop for competitive electric supply, and concluded its landmark investigation into the means by which electric distribution companies can pursue gas capacity contracts to improve winter reliability and lower winter electricity costs.

This report summarizes the responsibilities of the various divisions within the Department, provides information regarding the day-to-day functions of the agency, and outlines the major activities and accomplishments during 2015.

## CONSUMER DIVISION

### Mission

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The Consumer Division is the Department's primary link with utility customers. The Consumer Division works to ensure that customers, utilities, and the public receive fair and equitable treatment through education, complaint resolution, and evaluation of utility compliance with consumer protection rules and policies. The Consumer Division educates the public and utilities about customer rights and responsibilities, investigates and resolves disputes between customers and utilities, and evaluates utilities' compliance with the Commonwealth's statutes, Department regulations, Orders, and the utilities' terms and conditions for service. The Consumer Division conducts informal hearings as appropriate to try to resolve customer complaints against their respective utility companies.

### Responsibilities

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#### Investigation and Resolution of Customer Complaints

The Consumer Division is available to assist customers in resolving problems they are having with their providers. Most complaints are made by phone, but also by mail, email, and via the Department's website. The majority of the complaints concern billing disputes, credit issues, or poor quality of service allegations. In those cases in which the utility company is found to be at fault, the Consumer Division will order the company to correct the problem, and make any necessary bill adjustments. This past year, the Consumer Division directed the utilities to make \$60,687.30 in adjustments.

If a customer or utility company is not satisfied with the resolution of a complaint filed with the Consumer Division with respect to residential billing and service termination issues, either party may request an informal hearing. An informal hearing for a residential complaint is conducted by a Consumer Division Hearing Officer. Parties may appeal the Hearing Officer's decision to the Department's Commission.

#### Utility Monitoring

The Consumer Division collects extensive data about the quality of service utility customers receive. This data is used to generate monthly reports, which include cases, inquiries, and bill adjustment amounts and their percentage increase or decrease in the previous twelve-month average. The reports compare companies using measures such as the number of residential complaints per 1,000 customers, and the total number of complaints per month. This data is also used to evaluate whether to grant energy supply licenses and renewals.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Massachusetts customers may choose to obtain electric and gas supply from a competitive supplier other than from their local distribution utility. The Department annually certifies the suppliers and agents selling this competitive supply.

To facilitate compliance with Department regulations and policies, Consumer Division staff reviews regulations pertaining to billing, protections from shut-offs, policies on abatements, and other areas of consumer protection. The Consumer Division also reviews utility billing materials and notices. The Consumer Division reviews bill format changes, bill inserts and notices, including rate change notices, as well as informational letters sent to customers. The Consumer Division may recommend changes to notices where necessary to ensure that customers are provided clear and accurate information.

### Storms

It is crucial for customers to have utility service that is both safe and reliable at all times, including during serious weather events. The Consumer Division gathers and disseminates timely and accurate information regarding outages and restoration efforts during weather-related events so that appropriate actions may be taken by customers, communities, and utilities. The Consumer Division Director serves as a point person to streamline communication between the Department and the utilities during storm-related events.

### Distributed Generation/Interconnection Dispute Resolution

As developers apply to interconnect their distributed generation projects to a company's distribution system, disputes can arise. The Consumer Division Director is the Department-designated ombudsperson for these disputes. The goal of the ombudsperson is to be easily accessible and provide independent problem solving assistance to the parties.

## Department Proceedings

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### Service Quality

The Consumer Division is intimately involved with two of the four prongs set forth in the Department's mission statement:<sup>2</sup> the provision of the most reliable service at the lowest possible cost; and ensuring that residential customers' rights are protected. As part of this involvement, the Consumer Division works with the Department's other divisions to compile and review each utility's annual performance regarding customer service, billing, customer satisfaction, safety and reliability. This past year, the Consumer Division worked with the Department's other divisions to revamp and refine the performance measures by which the utilities are evaluated.

### Municipal Aggregation

Massachusetts General Law c. 164, § 134 authorizes municipalities to aggregate the electrical load of customers within their borders to procure competitive supply of electricity. The Director of the Consumer Division participates in the review of aggregation plans to ensure customer education and outreach.

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<sup>2</sup> The mission of the Department is to ensure that utility customers are provided with the most reliable service at the lowest possible cost; to protect the public safety from transportation and gas pipeline related accidents; to oversee the energy facilities siting process; and to ensure that residential customers' rights are protected.



## DIVISION OF REGIONAL AND FEDERAL AFFAIRS

### Overview

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Wholesale electricity and transmission costs can constitute as much as two thirds of the retail price of electricity and commodity prices for natural gas. These costs constitute the majority of the bill paid by natural gas and electric customers in Massachusetts. The Division of Regional and Federal Affairs (“DRFA”) supports the Department by collecting, synthesizing, and evaluating the federal and regional factors driving electric system reliability and wholesale energy costs in Massachusetts. DRFA seeks to monitor and influence changes in regional market rules for the New England wholesale electric market administered by ISO-New England (“ISO-NE”), and federal policies related to transmission infrastructure planning, operations and competitive wholesale market pricing to assure the best interest of Massachusetts consumers. DRFA also helps to coordinate with other energy and environmental agencies in Massachusetts and within New England to influence regional and federal policies.

DRFA actively monitors ISO-NE transmission planning, operations, and implementation of competitive wholesale markets and actively engages in ISO-NE’s stakeholder processes including monitoring and participating in various New England Power Pool (“NEPOOL”) technical committees (i.e., Markets Committee, Reliability Committee, Transmission Committee, NEPOOL Participants Committee, Planning Advisory Committee and various other committees and working groups). In total, these committees and working groups held approximately 100 meetings in 2015.

DRFA also participates in national and regional policy groups including the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (“NARUC”), the Eastern Interconnection States’ Planning Council (“EISPC”), the New England Conference of Public Utility Commissioners (“NECPUC”), and the New England States Committee on Electricity (“NESCOE”).

DRFA monitors, oversees, and actively engages in proceedings before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (“FERC”), as well as other federal agencies that take action relative to system reliability and/or issues with cost implications for Massachusetts electric and gas consumers.

### Legal Proceedings

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Over the course of 2015, DRFA has been involved in matters before the federal and state courts and the FERC, representing Massachusetts’s view on issues affecting system reliability and consumer costs. The following is a sampling of these matters:

- Appeal of FERC’s compliance orders relative to ISO-NE’s compliance with Order No. 1000. NESCOE and state agencies from five New England states filed a petition with the U.S. Court of Appeals (D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals, No. 15-1139).
- Allco Renewable Energy Limited’s complaint alleging violations of the Supremacy and Dormant Commerce Clause of the U.S. Constitution, the Federal Power Act and the

Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 by the DPU and others (U.S. District Court, District of Massachusetts, 15-cv-13515-PBS).

- Winter Reliability Program. NESCOE and the six New England states filed Protest/Comments (FERC Docket No. ER15-2208).

## Representative Matters

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The following sections detail some of the major issues DRFA was engaged in during 2015.

### Reliability

ISO-NE and the New England states recognize that the reliability of electricity supply to New England faces a number of challenges, key among them:

- Retirement of large coal and nuclear units due to relatively low energy market revenues driven by low-cost Marcellus gas and more stringent regulatory requirements dictated by the EPA and the Nuclear Energy Regulatory Commission. In December 2015, ISO-NE reported in its review of the retirement of the Pilgrim nuclear plant that it did not find the loss of the plant would result in local or regional reliability problems.
- Increasing penetration of intermittent renewable energy resources requires ISO-NE to contract for more fast-start resources and to have the ability to resolve the voltage and frequency deviations resulting from intermittent resources.
- After many years of studying transmission upgrades to expand the import capacity of the Greater Boston area, ISO-NE, supported by all the New England states, voted to approve the package of expansions to the alternating current (“AC”) system proposed by Eversource (merger of Northeast Utilities and NSTAR) instead of the combination of underwater high voltage direct current and AC project proposed by New Hampshire Transmission (“NHT”). Notably, this Greater Boston Reliability Project was the first project to pit a non-incumbent transmission company, NHT, against an incumbent, Eversource.
- Insufficient pipeline supplies of natural gas for generators in winter months (see Winter Reliability Program description below).

### Demand Response

A legal challenge has been mounted at the federal level by some of the existing generators to the inclusion of demand response (“DR”) in the capacity and energy markets. On May 4, 2015, the U.S. Supreme Court agreed to review the case and conducted oral arguments on October 14, 2015. DRFA will continue to monitor this issue closely and will work closely with the other New England states to assure that DR continues to be a viable resource.

### Continued need for winter reliability programs

In response to serious reliability challenges experienced in the winter of 2012-13, when generators could not get access to a sufficient amount of natural gas, ISO-NE first implemented an out-of-market program in the winter of 2013-14. Out-of-market programs were implemented again in winter 2014-2015. These programs procured demand response, incented construction of

dual-fuel capability, and incented dual-fuel and oil-fired generators to build and hold inventory to ensure that NE generators have access to a sufficient supply of fuel to operate during periods when local gas distribution companies are close to their contracted maximum gas transmission capacity. The 2014-2015 Winter Reliability Program also allowed participation by LNG. During 2015, ISO-NE worked with stakeholders to develop a modified Winter Reliability Program that would continue for the winters of 2015-2016, 2016-2017, and 2017-18, at which point the ISO-NE Pay for Performance plan would incent resources to develop winter reliability measures without out-of-market incentives. DRFA was very involved in the stakeholder process and helped to assure that the successful and relatively low-cost programs utilized in winters 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 would be continued and a broader, more expensive ISO-NE proposed program would not be implemented.

## Competitive Wholesale Markets

### *Forward Capacity Market (“FCM”)*

#### Implementation of the zonal demand curves

DRFA continues to be active in issues involving the redesign of the FCM auction in which generators (as well as energy efficiency and demand response) bid to supply load three years ahead. In January 2014, FERC ordered ISO-NE to submit a system demand curve for the FCM by April 2014 to be implemented in time for the ninth Forward Capacity Auction (“FCA”) to be held in February 2015. A system demand curve prescribes the capacity price that the region would pay for a given quantity of capacity committed in the annual capacity auction. The FERC-approved system demand curve was utilized in February 2015. The objective for 2015 was for ISO-NE, working with DRFA and other stakeholders, to design local demand curves for each capacity zone that assured procurement of sufficient capacity within the individual zones in the most economical fashion. The design of zonal curves proceeded throughout 2015, with ISO-NE unveiling its proposed approach in early December. The focus of DRFA participation has been on securing required zonal capacity at the lowest possible cost. The design of zonal capacity procurement (along with a potential redesign of the system procurement process) will continue into 2016.

#### Incorporation of Distributed Energy Resources in the Capacity Market

As the quantity of distributed resources (especially photovoltaic (PV) resources) has increased, Massachusetts and the other New England states, expressed concern that ISO-NE had not directly accounted for the capacity associated with distributed resources in their annual Forward Capacity Auctions. Historically, the impact of expanding PV resources (totaling 1,175 MWac for New England as a whole and 855 MWac for Massachusetts as of 8/31/15) was primarily reflected in lower load growth. However, in 2015, ISO-NE—at the urging of Massachusetts and other states—developed a forecast of PV capacity through 2024 and for the first time incorporated the PV forecast into its projections of capacity requirements. The incorporation of PV capacity reduced total New England capacity requirements for the 2017-18 period by 413MW, with further reductions in subsequent years. Procuring fewer capacity resources will lower consumer electricity bills.

## *Planning*

### Order 1000 Implementation

DRFA continues to monitor and participate in the shaping of ISO-NE's implementation of FERC's Order 1000 (FERC's landmark transmission order opening up transmission planning and construction for long-term projects (greater than 3-years ahead) to non-incumbent transmission companies and setting out cost allocation principles). The current phase of Order 1000 implementation is focused on the process for developing transmission required by individual state policy objectives (e.g. expansion of renewable resources).

### Need for expansion of gas pipelines serving New England

New England's increased reliance on natural gas to generate electricity has led to severe constraints in the region's natural gas transmission capacity during the winter months. Two 2015 studies of this issue ("The Low Gas Demand" study by Synapse for the MA DOER [issued in January 2015] and "Power System Reliability in New England: Meeting Electric Resource Needs in an Era of Growing Dependence on Natural Gas" prepared by The Analysis Group [November, 2015]) added further to the discussion of the most economical and reliable way to meet the Commonwealth's winter fuel needs.

### Planning for future electricity needs while meeting environmental goals

The New England states have been studying how to reliably provide for future electricity demand while simultaneously striving to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. While the announced and anticipated retirement of some the region's older, fossil fuel fired generators will reduce emissions, the nearly simultaneous loss of two zero emission nuclear units (Vermont Yankee and Pilgrim), will only serve to increase the region's dependence on natural gas and leave it vulnerable in high LDC gas load periods.

To address the environmental degradation implied in the loss of almost 1300 MW of zero emission base load generating capacity and to enable the region to meet more stringent air pollution standards in the future, the New England Region has been exploring the possibility of importing additional amounts of hydro-generated power from Canada. Governor Baker has introduced legislation aimed at facilitating the importation of these Canadian hydro resources. In addition, Massachusetts has combined with Connecticut and Rhode Island to issue a competitive RFP for clean energy resources. Bids from the three-state RFP are due January 28, 2016.

### Cyber Security Concerns

Concerns about the potential for significant disruption of regional and national electrical grids from cyber attacks has prompted DRFA to closely monitor the development of deterrent measures and regulations. At the Federal level, the FERC and the North American Reliability Council ("NERC") are specifically charged with developing protection standards and issuing regulations to secure the nation's high voltage power grid. Other federal agencies—such as Homeland Security, the National Institute of Standards and Technology ("NIST"), and the Department of Defense—share overlapping responsibilities with FERC and NERC. Local electric distribution companies will be responsible for securing the low voltage power grid (generally below <115 kV).

Clean Power Plan

In 2015 the Federal Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) promulgated its landmark Clean Power Plan to limit future emissions of Green House Gases (“GHGs”) by power plants, and, thereby abate global warming. Beginning in 2009, Massachusetts, as well as all 5 other New England states plus New York, Maryland, and Delaware, began participating in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (“RGGI”), a regional cap and trade program for GHG emissions from power plants. As a result of its participation in RGGI, Massachusetts power producers are well positioned to meet the GHG limits incorporated in the Federal Clean Power Plan. DRFA monitors compliance with the RGGI program and, via its participation in ISO-NE proceedings, engages in assuring Massachusetts’ compliance with the Clean Power Plan.

## ELECTRIC POWER DIVISION

### Overview

The Electric Power Division (“EPD”) provides technical support to the Department in the regulation of the state’s five investor-owned electric distribution companies: Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company, doing business as Unitil (“Unitil”); Massachusetts Electric Company (“MECo”) and Nantucket Electric Company (“Nantucket Electric”), together doing business as National Grid (“National Grid”)<sup>3</sup>; NSTAR Electric Company (“NSTAR Electric”); and Western Massachusetts Electric Company (“WMECo”), each doing business as Eversource Energy (“Eversource”). EPD’s responsibilities fall into five general categories: (1) energy efficiency; (2) renewable energy resources, including development of distributed generation interconnection standards; (3) “grid modernization,” including “smart grid;” (4) the retail power supply markets in Massachusetts; and (5) safe and reliable electric service. In addition to these specific categories, EPD staff work with other Department divisions on larger cases such as distribution company rate cases and merger proposals.

### Energy Efficiency

Massachusetts electric distribution companies have administered and implemented ratepayer-funded energy efficiency (“EE”) programs for over 20 years. The Green Communities Act<sup>4</sup> includes provisions that significantly change the manner in which the program administrators (“PAs”)<sup>5</sup> provide EE services. The GCA requires PAs to develop, in consultation with the Energy Efficiency Advisory Council, three-year plans that acquire all available cost effective EE resources.

On October 30, 2015, the electric and gas PAs filed Three-Year EE Plans, covering the years 2016 through 2018. The Department must review these plans by January 30, 2016. If approved as filed, the electric Three-Year Plans are expected to provide net benefits of approximately \$6.2 billion on a statewide basis, resulting in almost three dollars in benefits for every dollar spent over the lifetime of the efficiency measures installed. In addition, the EE programs in the Three-Year Plans are expected to reduce statewide greenhouse gas emissions by roughly 1.6 million tons each year. In addition, the energy efficiency sector in Massachusetts currently employs more than 56,000 people in the state.

During 2015, the Department also issued orders allowing expanded budgets for the 2013-2015 Three Year Plan as result of higher than expected interest in energy efficiency from customers.

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<sup>3</sup> MECo and Nantucket Electric frequently make joint filings.

<sup>4</sup> An Act Relative to Green Communities, Chapter 169 of the Acts of 2008 (“Green Communities Act” or “GCA”), enacted on July 2, 2008

<sup>5</sup> Program Administrators are those entities that administer energy efficiency programs, including the distribution companies and municipal aggregators.

## Renewable Energy Resources

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### Introduction

The Green Communities Act and subsequent legislation include provisions on the following policies related to renewable energy resources: (1) net metering; (2) long-term contracts; (3) ownership by electric distribution companies of solar generation facilities; and (4) interconnection.

### Net Metering

Section 78 of the Green Communities Act requires the Department to adopt rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions relating to net metering. Net metering refers to the process of measuring the difference between (1) the electricity generated by a customer-owned generator and fed back to the grid, and (2) the electricity delivered to the customer by its distribution company. In 2014, Chapter 251 of the Acts of 2014, an Act Relative to Credit for Thermal Energy Generated with Renewable Fuels was signed into law. This legislation, along with prior legislation passed in 2010 and 2012, requires the Department to adopt rules and regulations implementing certain changes to the net metering provisions of G.L. c. 164, §§ 138 and 139. St. 2010, c. 359, §§ 25-30; St. 2012, c. 209, §§ 23-30.

In regard to net metering in 2015, the Department: (1) continued the implementation of a net metering system of assurance<sup>6</sup>; (2) participated in and co-led a solar and net metering task force, required by the aforementioned 2014 legislation, tasked with assessing the costs and benefits of the existing net metering framework; (3) reviewed ten petitions for an exemption from the net metering regulations; (4) reviewed 70 applications for classification of entities as municipalities or other governmental entities (together “public”) for the purposes of net metering, thus allowing them to qualify for the public net metering cap; and (5) answered many implementation questions.

### Long-Term Contracts

Section 83 of the Green Communities Act and Section 83A of the 2012 Energy Law,<sup>7</sup> require the Department to adopt rules and regulations necessary to implement the provision relating to long-term contracts between electric distribution companies and renewable energy project developers. In 2015, pursuant to its long-term contract regulations (220 C.M.R. § 21.00), the Department approved solicitations allowing the electric utilities to procure long term contracts from small emerging distributed generation technologies as well as from utility-scale renewable energy facilities. The distribution companies will now solicit proposals using the approved solicitations and file any resulting cost-effective contracts with the Department during 2016.

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<sup>6</sup> The website is available at: [www.massACA.org](http://www.massACA.org).

<sup>7</sup> An Act Relative to Competitively Priced Electricity in the Commonwealth (“2012 Energy Law”), Chapter 209 of the Acts of 2012, enacted on August 3, 2012.

## Interconnection

Interconnection is the process by which distributed generation is electrically integrated into the electric power system. In 2011, the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (“DOER”) filed a petition with the Department requesting that the Department open a proceeding on the interconnection of distributed generation. DOER’s petition was accompanied by a report entitled “Massachusetts Distributed Generation Interconnection Report,” which identified various issues associated with the current distributed generation interconnection standards and application procedure. As a result of DOER’s petition, the Department issued a notice of investigation and opened a generic proceeding, the purpose of which was to ensure an efficient and effective interconnection process. This investigation and proceeding concluded this year with the Department’s approval of a model Standard for Interconnection of Distributed Generation Tariff (“Tariff”) for adoption by the electric distribution companies.

In compliance with Department Orders issued in the above proceeding and the Tariff, the Companies submitted their first timeline enforcement mechanism (“TEM”) metric reports in March 2015. The TEM measures a Company’s performance in complying with interconnection timeframes as required by the Tariff. Performance by the Companies is measured annually by aggregating the average time spent to execute a final interconnection service agreement and comparing that average performance to the total days allowed under the Tariff’s timeframes. The Companies are then either penalized or earn offsets depending on their performance for that year. For their first year each Company earned the full amount of offsets allowed under the TEM, which can be applied in the following year to offset penalties.

In addition, the Department is monitoring the 12-month pilot of the Group Study process established in the Tariff. The Group Study process allows the Companies to group interconnection customers in a common electrical area for expediting the sequential system impact study process, limiting redundant utility engineering work, realizing economies of scale, and sharing system modification costs on a pro rata basis. At the end of the 12 month period the Department may review this process. The Department’s Interconnection Ombudsperson facilitates and reviews the “good faith negotiation” of parties involved in interconnection as required by the Tariff and offers independent problem-solving. Further, staff from EPD monitors the Massachusetts Technical Standards Review Group (“TSRG”), an ongoing effort to address various interconnection related technical challenges. The Department’s Interconnection Ombudsperson is also an Ex Officio of the TSRG.

## Grid Modernization or Smart Grid

Section 85 of the Green Communities Act requires each electric company to file a plan with the Department to establish a Smart Grid pilot program. Each pilot program must include advanced technology that provides for (1) real-time measurement and communication of energy consumption, (2) automated load management systems, and (3) remote status detection and operation of distribution system equipment. The pilots from NSTAR Electric and Unitil are complete, while National Grid’s two year pilot is ongoing.

In August of 2015, the electric distribution companies filed Grid Modernization Plans with the Department. As required by the Department, each plan laid out each company’s ten-year investment strategy to achieve measureable improvement in four grid modernization



objectives: (1) reduce the impact of outages; (2) optimize demand; (3) integrate distributed resources; and (4) improve workforce and asset management. The Grid Modernization Plans include detailed capital plans over five years and information on the costs and benefits of these investments. Department review of the plans is ongoing.

In addition, the Department held a stakeholder meeting, in conjunction with the DOER and Massachusetts Clean Energy Center, to help us understand the regulatory issues related to energy storage and the barriers that may hinder its development in Massachusetts. The meeting was attended by 134 representatives from a wide array of organization including energy storage developers, electric distribution companies, and environmental advocates.

## Retail Power Supply Markets

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### Introduction

Prior to the enactment of Chapter 164 of the Acts of 1997 (the “Electric Restructuring Act”), customers had no choice but to purchase both the delivery and supply (commodity) components of their electric service from their electric company. The Electric Restructuring Act introduced competition in the Massachusetts electric industry by giving consumers the option to purchase the supply component of their electric service from a competitive retail supplier or to continue receiving electricity procured by their electric company.

### Competitive Power Supply

Consistent with the objectives of the Electric Restructuring Act, the Department’s goal is to provide electricity customers with a broad choice of competitive supply options to allow customers to fully realize the benefits of the restructured electric industry. The Department grants licenses to qualified entities to serve as competitive suppliers<sup>8</sup> and electricity brokers<sup>9</sup> in the restructured industry. EPD staff review license applications to determine whether the applicant has demonstrated, among other things, the financial and technical capability to provide the applicable services. During 2015, the Department approved licenses for eleven competitive suppliers and 46 electricity brokers. As of year-end 2015, there were 67 licensed competitive suppliers and 230 licensed electricity brokers in Massachusetts. While these suppliers and brokers provide services primarily to large and medium-sized commercial customers, they are increasingly serving residential customers as well.

During 2015, the Department took the following steps to improve the retail electric competitive supply market and remove barriers to participation: (1) the development of a Shopping for Competitive Supply website to allow electricity consumers to effectively and efficiently shop for competitive electric supply products; (2) improvements to the existing

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<sup>8</sup> Competitive suppliers are entities that procure electricity from generation facilities at the wholesale level and sell the electricity to consumers at retail cost.

<sup>9</sup> Electricity brokers are entities that facilitate or arrange for the sale of electricity to customers, acting as "middlemen" between suppliers and customers.

information disclosure label that competitive suppliers provide to their customers to allow the customers to make more informed decisions in purchasing electric supply products; and (3) elimination of the “bill recalculation” provision that applied to customers that switched to a competitive supplier during the six-month basic service pricing term.

As part of this work, the Department launched an Interim Shopping tool in November, 2015, that allows residential customers to compare prices from competitive suppliers. The Department also released a Request for Proposals (“RFP”) to hire a contractor to build a one-stop competitive supply shopping website.

The Electric Restructuring Act included provisions that allow a municipality (or group of municipalities) to aggregate the electrical load of customers located within its municipal boundary for the purpose of purchasing competitive power supply. A municipality that seeks to implement a “municipal aggregation” plan must receive Department approval. In 2015, the Department issued 79 municipal aggregation orders.

### Basic Service

Basic service, formerly known as “default service,” is the retail power supply service that each electric distribution company provides to customers not receiving such service from the competitive market. Each distribution company procures power supply for its basic service customers from the wholesale electricity markets through competitive solicitation processes.

For its residential and small commercial and industrial (“C&I”) customers, each distribution company issues a Request For Proposals (“RFP”) for basic service supply on a semi-annual basis. Each solicitation procures 50 percent of the company’s basic service supply requirement for these customers for a twelve-month term. As such, at any point in time, basic service rates for residential and small C&I customers are based on the winning bid prices from the two most recent solicitations.

For its medium and large C&I customers, a distribution company issues an RFP solicitation for basic service supply on a quarterly basis. Each solicitation procures 100 percent of the company’s basic service supply requirement for these customers for a three-month term.

In addition to procuring power supply for its basic service customers, each distribution company must comply with the state’s Renewable Portfolio Standard (“RPS”). The RPS requires that competitive suppliers and distribution companies providing basic service provide Renewable Energy Certificates for certain percentages of sales for various classes of renewable energy resources.

EPD staff reviews each company’s solicitations to ensure that they (1) comply with the Department’s rules and regulations, and (2) are sufficiently competitive such that the results of the solicitations are consistent with prevailing market conditions.

In response to high basic service prices for the winter of 2014-2015, this year the Department opened an investigation into ways to change basic service pricing and procurement in order to reduce basic service costs, mitigate seasonal price variability, and increase participation in basic service procurements. As part of this proceeding we have solicited input

from stakeholders, including receiving written comments and holding an in-person technical session. The Department is currently considering our options in this proceeding.

### **Distribution Service Quality and Reliability**

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EPD is responsible for ensuring that Massachusetts electric companies provide their customers with safe and reliable distribution service. EPD discharges this responsibility through three primary tools. First, the Department requires electric companies to submit periodic reports on issues related to distribution service quality and reliability. Some of the periodic reports are described below. Second, the Department requires that the companies maintain an outage reporting website, which allows the Department to access real-time information regarding significant power outages that occur on their distribution systems. Finally, the Department reviews the companies' annual service quality reports to determine if a penalty is warranted.

### **Reporting Requirements**

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The Department requires each electric distribution company to periodically file reports on issues related to distribution service quality and reliability. EPD staff review these reports and meet with the companies, as necessary, to ensure that the companies' actions are consistent with Department requirements. Some of the periodic reports filed with the Department are described below.

#### **Annual Planning and Reliability Report**

The annual planning and reliability report includes an analysis of the company's distribution system, including (1) a ten-year load growth forecast capable of identifying high-growth areas/zones; (2) a description of the company's transmission and distribution design and planning criteria and an explanation of how those criteria are applied; (3) a distribution system operating study focused on contingency analysis and management; and (4) an update to corrective actions and significant capital investments planned for the next five years.

#### **Annual Storm and Emergency Restoration Report**

The annual storm and emergency restoration report details the company's storm and emergency plans ("ERPs") to respond to any emergency event such as hurricanes or snowstorms. The companies are required to file their ERPs annually, including actions taken to prepare for an emergency event. The ERPs are established pursuant to 220 C.M.R. § 19.00, Standards of Performance for Emergency Preparation and Restoration of Service for Electric Distribution and Gas Companies, and Emergency Response Plan Guidelines for electric companies. In addition, the Department closely monitors storm events and assigns staff to the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency ("MEMA") bunker when necessary.

In 2014 the Department of Public Utilities ("Department") opened an investigation to revise the Emergency Response Plan Guidelines ("ERP Guidelines") for electric distribution companies. On April 28, 2015, the Department issued an Order adopting revised ERP Guidelines. On May 18, 2015 the companies filed the companies filed a Joint Motion for clarification regarding certain definition.

On December 30, 2015, the Department issued an Order clarifying how the companies shall respond to downed wires priority calls. Specifically, the Order required the utilities to respond to priority 1 calls, that by definition involve life-threatening circumstances, immediately with the nearest trained resource, regardless of whether or not a municipal official is en route or standing by. For priority 1 and 2 calls the companies will respond when a municipal official is en route or standing by.

### **Quarterly Outage Report**

The quarterly outage report summarizes all significant outages that occurred in a company's electric system, within the reporting quarter, including the actions taken or planned to mitigate the outage causes.

### **Quarterly Stray Voltage and Manhole Safety Report**

The quarterly stray voltage and manhole safety report describes each company's practices with regard to stray voltage and manhole issues, including systematic testing/inspection and corrective actions performed consistent with the approved distribution safety plans. In addition, the companies are required to report stray voltage and manhole incidents as soon as they occur, including corrective actions. EPD continues to track those corrective actions and related activities.

### **Semi-Annual Double Pole Reports**

The semi-annual double pole report details the companies' efforts to address the double pole issue, including removal of poles and transfer of wires owned by various attachers. The double pole reports are filed pursuant to the Department's regulations relative to reducing the number of double utility poles in the Commonwealth, as required by Chapter 46 of the Acts of 2003. The source of the double pole data comes from a pole life-cycle management system ("PLM") database jointly developed by the utilities. The Department continues to monitor the semi-annual double pole reports.

### **Reporting of Outage Events**

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Each electric distribution company is required to maintain, on a real-time basis, information regarding outages that occur on its distribution system. Each company's outage report can be accessed by Department staff via a secure internet-based Outage Reporting Protocol ("ORP") system. The ORP information includes, for example, (1) the location of the outage; (2) number of customers affected; (3) number of circuits affected or out-of-service; (4) likely cause; (5) any bodily injury; and (6) whether a critical facility, such as a hospital, is involved. EPD staff monitors the ORP data, and responds to reports of significant and/or frequent interruptions to customers, and when a reliability trend is observed. In addition, each company files, annually, a report of all customer outages that occurred on its system in the prior year.

## Service Quality Standards

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The Department requires that each electric distribution company submit an annual service quality report that details how the company has performed with respect to standards established in the Department's Service Quality Guidelines. A major component of these guidelines relates to companies' performance regarding the frequency and duration of outages during the previous year, both on a system-wide and circuit-specific level, and performance relating to customer billing and other complaints. EPD staff reviews each electric company's service quality report to evaluate performance. A company can incur a penalty of up to 2.5 percent of its distribution and transmission revenue if its service quality performance degrades in comparison to historic benchmark performance levels.

On December 11, 2012, the Department opened a generic investigation regarding the service quality guidelines established in Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 99-84 (2001) and amended in Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116 (2007). After a multi-year process including comments on a straw proposal, on December 22, 2014, the Department issued an Order revising the Service Quality Guidelines. Subsequently, on January 12, 2015, the Electric and Gas Companies filed a Joint Motion for reconsideration and/or clarification on certain components of the Department's Revised Service Quality Guidelines. After a technical session and further consideration, on December 18, 2015 the Department issued an Order intended to resolve the issues addressed in the Joint Motion as a result of the Department's changing policy goals relating to service quality. With the revised Service Quality Guidelines, the Department is shifting from a paradigm of no-degradation in service to a paradigm of improved service over time; discontinuing the use of offsets so that companies achieve a minimum standard of performance on all metrics; updating or eliminating metrics that it deemed to be outdated and meaningless due to technological improvements that automate the functions; and adding new reporting metrics for gas safety and customer service.

## NATURAL GAS DIVISION

### Overview

The Natural Gas Division (“Gas Division”) provides technical support to the Department in the regulation of the state’s eight investor-owned natural gas companies (also called “local distribution companies” or “LDCs”): Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts; The Berkshire Gas Company; Blackstone Gas Company; Fitchburg Gas & Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil; Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company, each d/b/a National Grid; Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities; and NSTAR Gas Company d/b/a Eversource Energy. In total, these companies serve approximately 1.59 million gas customers, and have combined operating revenues of approximately \$2.86 billion.

Over the last several years, the Gas Division has worked to promote competition in the local gas distribution industry through the “unbundling” of rates. The Gas Division has brought about regulatory changes that provide gas customers with opportunities to participate in a competitive gas market, while maintaining traditional consumer protections. The Gas Division has the authority and the responsibility to:

- Review LDCs’ forecast and supply plans and long-term gas supply contracts;
- Review non-tariff contracts for the sale and transportation of natural gas;
- Review the appropriateness and accuracy of LDC filings made pursuant to the Cost of Gas Adjustment Clause (“CGAC”) and the Local Distribution Adjustment Clause (“LDAC”);
- Review LDCs’ energy efficiency filings;
- Assist the Rates and Revenue Requirements Division in base rate, merger, and financing filings;
- Review LDCs’ service quality filings;
- License gas suppliers and retail agents; and
- Review and, where appropriate, intervene in federal regulatory proceedings and activities that affect the interests of gas consumers in the Commonwealth.

## Natural Gas Division Responsibilities

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### Forecast and Supply Plans<sup>10</sup>

#### *Substance of Forecast and Supply Plans Filed*

In Massachusetts, the LDCs under the Department's jurisdiction have the obligation to plan for and procure gas supplies for all of their firm customers. Pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 69I, the LDCs must submit a five-year forecast and supply plan to the Department for approval every two years. In its review of the forecast component, the Gas Division determines whether the company has accurately projected the gas requirements of the company's service area. A forecast must contain accurate and complete historical data and employ reasonable statistical projection methods. In its review of the supply plan, the Gas Division must determine whether the plan is adequate to meet projected customer demand under a range of contingencies.

During 2015, the Gas Division reviewed and issued orders on 5 forecast and supply plans; the Gas Division is currently reviewing 2 forecast and supply plans, with orders due to issue in 2016. Below is a table compiled from the information presented to the Department in these five forecast and supply plans. The table indicates expected demand and the types of resources for which the LDCs have contracted to meet this demand.

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<sup>10</sup> Pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 69I, the Department must prepare and file with the general court an annual report detailing the substance of all forecast and supply plans filed pursuant to this section, any and all actions taken by the Department pursuant to implementing the provisions of this section, and an analysis of the reliability and the diversity of the natural gas systems in Massachusetts.

Company	Design Year	
Docket No. and Order date	Requirements <sup>11</sup>	Available Supplies
Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company, d/b/a Unutil DPU 14-148; November 24, 2015	1,661,494 MMBtu (2018-2019)	Pipeline gas, Upstream Storage, LNG, Liquid Propane-Air and city-gate purchases
Blackstone Gas Company DPU 14-138; October 30, 2015	250,067 MMBtu (2018-2019)	Pipeline gas and city-gate purchases
The Berkshire Gas Company D.P.U. 14-98; July 30, 2015	5,331,000 MMBtu (2018-2019)	Pipeline gas, Upstream Storage, LNG, Liquid Propane-Air, and city-gate purchases
Liberty Utilities DPU 14-91; July 27, 2015	4,984,487 MMBtu (2018-2019)	Pipeline gas, Upstream Storage, LNG, Liquid Propane-Air and city-gate purchases
NSTAR Gas Company DPU 14-63; April 3, 2015	58,676,000 MMBtu (2017-2018)	Pipeline gas, Upstream Storage, LNG, and city-gate purchases

### *Reliability of Gas Supply*

Massachusetts LDCs currently hold several types of natural gas contracts: pipeline capacity, upstream storage, gas commodity contracts and liquefied natural gas (“LNG”) contracts. The pipeline capacity serves to transport gas from domestic production facilities, the Canadian border or upstream storage areas, to the Commonwealth’s LDCs. Upstream storage refers to subsurface facilities used for storing natural gas that has been transferred from its production location, during the summer, for use during the winter. Gas commodity contracts are contracts the LDCs have entered into for the purchase of natural gas commodity in vapor form and LNG contracts refer to contracts that the LDCs have entered into with the two primary facilities in the northeast – primarily, Engie’s (formerly GDF Suez) facility in Everett, MA, operated by its subsidiary, Distrigas of Massachusetts Corp. (“DOMAC”) and to a lesser extent, National Grid’s facility in Providence, R.I. for the delivery of liquefied natural gas to refill local storage facilities.

The majority of gas supply (also referred to as commodity) contracts are short term with a duration of between one to five years. The ability to rely on a hub-based futures market such as NYMEX and the plethora of sources of supply allow the jurisdictional LDCs to enter into these short-term contracts. The two benefits of such contracts are that they allow the Massachusetts LDCs to: (1) benefit from the availability of new supplies from areas such as the Marcellus Shale gas basin in the Appalachian region (Pennsylvania, West Virginia); and (2) diversify their supply portfolios and respond to the availability of new resources, thereby reducing the risk associated with production interruptions in a specific area.

Massachusetts LDCs receive gas from the Marcellus Shale, Texas, Louisiana, and Canada. These supplies are sufficient to meet demand during the greater portion of the year.

<sup>11</sup> The years in parentheses indicate the last year of the forecast for which the consumption is forecast.



During the colder winters and as a result of the limited availability of pipeline capacity to transport natural gas, Massachusetts LDCs also rely on city-gate purchases (spot purchases) of commodity. These spot purchases that are priced at a high premium, are entered into with marketers who have secured pipeline capacity and can command a significant margin. As mentioned above, the pricing of all supply contracts is based on market indices such as the Henry Hub or NYMEX. To meet specific-day increased customer demand during the winter peaking months (December, January and February) when there are no available pipeline resources, LDCs also rely on LNG and propane-air. Two LDCs use company-owned facilities to liquefy natural gas during the summer months for delivery during the coldest days of the year. Eversource (formerly known as NSTAR) relies on its affiliate Hopkinton LNG, located in Hopkinton, MA. Similarly, Bay State Gas Company (d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts) relies on its own facilities to liquefy gas during the summer months. Propane-air, although readily available from a multitude of vendors is not used as extensively due to pricing and engineering considerations.

There are three major pipelines that deliver gas in Massachusetts: Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of Kinder Morgan; Algonquin Gas Transmission Company, a subsidiary of Spectra Energy; and the Joint Facilities of Portland Natural Gas Transmission System (“PNGTS”) and Maritimes and Northeast Pipeline (“M&N”). The M&N pipeline, which extends from Westbrook, ME to Dracut, MA, is jointly owned by the two pipeline companies that feed into it and use it to deliver Canadian gas supplies. The Iroquois pipeline, a partnership of TransCanada Pipeline, Dominion and Iberdola, delivers Canadian natural gas indirectly via its interconnections with the Tennessee pipeline in Wright, NY and the Algonquin pipeline in Brookfield, CT.

As mentioned above, Canadian gas flows via the M&N and the PNGTS pipelines into the PNGTS/M&N Joint Facility. A number of pipelines, such as Texas Eastern, Boundary, CNG and Penn-York, deliver natural gas to the Tennessee and Algonquin pipelines. This year’s approved and pending forecast and supply plans indicate that the LDCs have adequate supplies to meet demand during design year conditions. That is, in the event that Massachusetts experiences a winter that is significantly colder than average, these LDCs can use a combination of pipeline gas, LNG, and propane to meet the higher-than-usual demand. The security of these gas supplies reaching gas customers in Massachusetts is also assured because the LDCs have primary delivery rights to transport these supplies to their distribution systems.

### *Diversity of Gas Supplies*

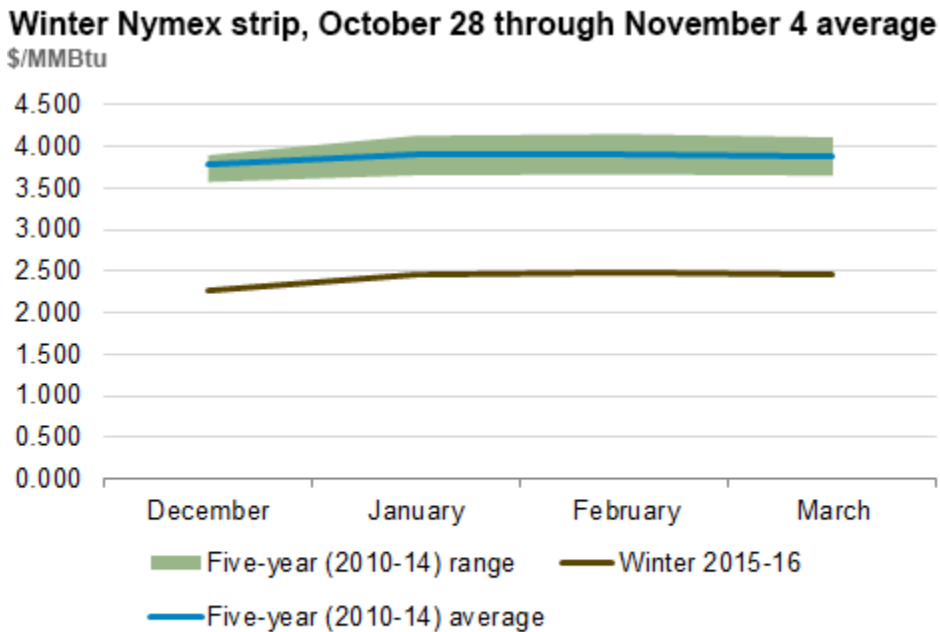
As discussed above, gas flowing into Massachusetts comes from a variety of production areas, including Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Texas, Louisiana, and Canada. Natural gas from Western Canada currently arrives through the TransCanada Pipeline at two delivery points at the Canadian border: (1) in upstate New York (Iroquois), and (2) in New Hampshire (PNGTS). Additional Canadian gas produced in the Sable Island area off the coast of Nova Scotia is shipped into the United States via the M&N pipeline. This same pipeline can also be used to transport, if need be, re-gasified LNG from Repsol’s Canaport LNG facility in Saint John, New Brunswick.

To meet the increasing demand during the winter peaking months (December, January, February), LDCs rely on additional supplies such as LNG, and propane/air mix. Most LNG used

in Massachusetts is imported from Trinidad & Tobago and Yemen. Out of 28,824,956 Mcf imported during calendar 2014, only 28% was imported from Yemen; and although statistics are available only through October 31, 2015, only 12.2% of the LNG imported originated in Yemen. Imported LNG arrives in Massachusetts in liquid form and is stored in DOMAC’s LNG terminal in Everett, MA.

This year, across the United States, the market continues to experience a significant drop in the price of natural gas. As the chart below indicates, the price of natural gas is expected to remain significantly lower this heating season than the previous five heating seasons.

NYMEX Winter Strip (Source: U.S. DOE)



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, based on data from SNL financial  
 Note: In calculating the five-year range, in years in which October 28 was not a trading day, the closest following trading day was used. Nymex is the New York Mercantile Exchange.



### Long-Term Gas Supply Contracts

LDCs must submit all supply contracts with terms longer than one year to the Department for review and approval. Long-term supply contracts include both gas commodity (the natural gas itself) and capacity (the pipeline required to transport the natural gas from the production areas to the LDC’s distribution system). In evaluating a gas company’s proposed contract for commodity or capacity, the Gas Division examines whether the acquisition of the resource would be consistent with the public interest. To do so, the Gas Division determines whether the LDC has shown that the acquisition (1) would be consistent with the company’s portfolio objectives, and (2) would compare favorably to the range of options reasonably available to the company and its customers. During 2015, the Gas Division reviewed nine long-term supply contracts.

### Non-Tariff Contracts

Large commercial and industrial gas customers capable of burning alternative fuels, such as oil or coal, sometimes find that their gas companies' Department-approved tariffs are not competitive with alternative fuel options. To retain these customers and assure a continued stream of revenue, LDCs may offer them non-tariff contracts, subject to Department approval. In its review, Gas Division staff ensures that (1) the customer is capable of burning an alternative fuel; (2) the price charged under the contract exceeds the marginal cost of providing this service; and (3) the company's existing ratepayers are not responsible for any of the costs associated with providing the specified service. In 2015, the Gas Division reviewed 31 non-tariff contracts.

### Requests for Cost Adjustments

Department regulations allow costs incurred by gas companies for the purchase, storage, and interstate transportation of gas ("gas supply costs") to be recovered through cost-of-gas adjustment factor filings. These filings are semi-annual due to the fact that the market price for gas fluctuates seasonally. The Gas Division reviews these filings to ensure accounting accuracy and prudent company practices, and approves new factors for effect on May 1<sup>st</sup> and November 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. In 2001, the Department amended its regulations to require gas companies to make interim filings when projected collections of gas supply costs change by more than five percent. These adjustments help reduce the impact on customers' bills when there are significant changes in gas supply costs. During 2015, the Gas Division reviewed 32 requests for cost-of-gas adjustments.

Similarly, the Department allows gas companies to recover, on a fully-reconciling basis, a variety of costs that have been determined to be distribution-related but are not included in base distribution rates.<sup>12</sup> The charge used to recover all of these costs is referred to as the Local Distribution Adjustment Factor ("LDAF"). Examples of recoverable expenses include the costs of energy efficiency programs and costs related to the gas system enhancement plans. LDCs can also recover costs associated with federal and state-mandated cleanups of past contamination at sites polluted by wastes from gas manufacturing plants. Although most gas manufacturing plants in Massachusetts ceased operations by the early 1950s, their wastes continue to present environmental hazards. The Gas Division reviews all company requests for adjustments via the LDAF to ensure accounting accuracy and prudent company practices. During 2015, the Gas Division reviewed 14 LDAF requests.

### Energy Efficiency Filings

Since 1992, the Department has required LDCs to develop energy efficiency plans that bring cost savings to consumers and reduce the overall need for gas. With the passing of the Green Communities Act in 2008, gas companies are now required to submit energy efficiency plans to the Department for approval every three years. The companies' plans include weatherization service programs (e.g., energy audits, attic and wall insulation, air sealing, and

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<sup>12</sup> Base distribution rates are designed to recover distribution-related costs (i.e., the costs to operate the LDC), including plant and equipment, labor, taxes, interest on borrowed funds, return on investment, billing, metering, and customer service.

heating system repairs), behavioral feedback programs, and rebates for the installation of thermostats or for the replacement of boilers, furnaces, and water heaters with high-efficiency units. Gas companies must submit energy efficiency plans to the Gas Division, which reviews the proposed plans to ensure that, among other things, (1) the programs are delivered cost-effectively, capturing all available energy efficiency opportunities; (2) administrative costs have been minimized to the fullest extent practicable; and (3) competitive procurement processes have been used to the fullest extent practicable, while also being mindful of rate and bill impacts on consumers. The companies can then recover energy efficiency-related costs via the energy efficiency surcharge in the LDAF. In 2015, the Gas Division reviewed five energy efficiency filings.

### **Cooperation with the Rates and Revenue Requirements Division**

The Gas Division works closely with the Rates and Revenue Requirements Division to review various rate case filings and merger and acquisition petitions. In traditional rate cases, Gas Division staff is responsible for reviewing the terms and conditions of distribution service, the allocation of local production and storage costs, weather normalization, gas-related cash working capital, marginal costs, and the treatment of revenues from off-tariff contracts. In 2015, the Gas Division participated in the Department's review of 15 rate related filings.

### **Service Quality Filings**

In June 2001, the Department issued an order finalizing service quality standards for all electric and gas distribution companies. The order established performance measures for customer service, billing, customer satisfaction, staffing levels, safety, and reliability. Pursuant to this order, the LDCs filed company-specific service quality plans for Department review, which the Department approved in spring 2002. Each gas company filed a service quality report in March 2006 (and must do so every March), comparing its actual performance against the service quality standards established by the Department. The Gas Division is responsible for the review of all gas service quality plans to ensure that the companies maintain a minimum quality of service. During 2015, the Gas Division reviewed 29 service quality plans.

### **Licensing of Gas Suppliers and Retail Agents**

Massachusetts customers may choose a gas supplier other than the LDC serving the customer's neighborhood. This allows customers to comparison shop and negotiate for the best value in gas commodity from competitive suppliers. The price charged by these competitive suppliers for natural gas, however, is not regulated. Instead, competitive gas suppliers set their own prices, just like the sellers of most goods and services in the marketplace.

Gas suppliers and retail agents wishing to sell natural gas to Massachusetts retail customers must be certified by the Department on an annual basis. The Gas Division reviews the applications for these licenses and conducts interviews with the applicants. Staff determines whether the applicants have the technical ability to procure and deliver natural gas, and whether they are familiar with the Department's rules and the gas industry in general. The Gas Division also evaluates documentation of the applicant's financial capability, such as the level of capitalization or corporate backing, to provide the proposed services. In 2015, the Gas Division reviewed 86 applications for Gas Supplier or Gas Retail Agent licenses. Of the licenses

reviewed, the Gas Division has recommended and the Department approved 86 applications. Of them: 16 were applications for renewal of Gas Supplier licenses; 52 were applications for renewal of Gas Retail Agent licenses; and 18 were new applications for Gas Retail Agent licenses. No applications have been rejected. Any outstanding applications are due to the applicant's failure to submit additional materials, as requested by the Gas Division, in order to complete the application.

### **Participation in Federal Policy-Making**

Over the past decade, actions taken by FERC, the U.S. Department of Energy, and Congress have dramatically changed federal regulation of the natural gas industry. These changes directly affect the interests of Massachusetts customers who are served by federally regulated pipelines and liquefied natural gas ("LNG") import terminals. Gas Division staff work with other state agencies and regional organizations to stay informed regarding current federal statutory and regulatory proposals, and to develop public positions on issues that may affect the Commonwealth's interests.

### **Public Information and Review of Consumer Complaints**

Gas Division staff provide information and assistance on a daily basis to consumers, government officials, marketers, regulated companies, consultants, and financial analysts. In addition, Gas Division staff assisted the Department's Consumer Division in addressing gas-related consumer issues.

## **2015 Gas Division Accomplishments**

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During 2015, the Gas Division reviewed:

- 7 forecast and supply plan filings;
- 9 long-term gas supply contracts;
- 31 non-tariff contracts for the sale and transportation of natural gas (firm service, quasi-firm service);
- 32 gas-cost-recovery filings pursuant to the CGAC;
- 14 cost recovery filings pursuant to the LDAC;
- 5 energy efficiency filings;
- 15 rates related filings;
- 29 service quality reports; and
- 86 applications for the licensing of gas suppliers and gas retail agents.

## RATES AND REVENUE REQUIREMENTS DIVISION

### Overview

The Rates and Revenue Requirements Division (“Rates Division”) is responsible for providing the technical expertise to determine the appropriate levels of revenues to recover through rates, and determining the rate design for the five investor-owned electric companies, eight investor-owned gas companies, and seventeen investor-owned water companies conducting business in Massachusetts. The technical support provided by the Rates Division includes expertise in economics, finance, accounting, and public policy.

The Rates Division assists the Department’s Legal Division in developing the evidentiary record in adjudicatory proceedings concerning the rates and finances of the investor-owned natural gas, electric, and water companies doing business in Massachusetts. The Department’s decisions in these proceedings are directly appealable to the Supreme Judicial Court under G.L. c. 25, § 5.

The regulation of the natural gas, electric, and water industries requires the Rates Division to:

- Analyze electric utility restructuring-related filings including reconciliation of basic/default service, transmission and transition costs and revenues;
- Analyze requests to change base distribution rates through historic test year cost-of-service regulation, as well as Offers of Settlement regarding base distribution rates;
- Analyze Revenue Decoupling proposals;
- Analyze financing petitions (issuing securities);
- Analyze mergers and acquisitions proposals;
- Assist in determining the annual assessment of electric, gas and water utilities;
- Analyze municipal streetlight purchase agreements;
- Assist the Electric Power Division in implementing the provisions of the Green Communities Act, the Energy Act of 2012, retail power supply markets, and service quality investigations where expertise in rates is needed;
- Analyze Gas System Enhancement Plans (“GSEP”);
- Provide information and assistance to the public, government agencies, press, private industries, and other government officials where expertise in rates is needed.

## Review of Electric Utility Restructuring-Related Filings

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As part of the continued implementation of Chapter 164 of the Acts of 1997 (the “Electric Restructuring Act”), the Department annually conducts a reconciliation (or true-up) and adjustment to the rate for each electric company’s transition, basic service, and transmission factors. Under the Electric Restructuring Act, each electric distribution company may collect (1) those stranded or transition costs associated with divesting its generation business that it cannot mitigate; (2) the costs it incurs to procure electric power to meet its basic service obligations; and (3) the costs it incurs on behalf of its retail customers to provide transmission service. In a true-up, the Rates Division evaluates the costs and revenues that each electric distribution company proposes to reconcile to determine if they meet the requirements of the Restructuring Act and its restructuring plan.

## Review of Requests to Change Base Rates

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The Rates Division investigates petitions to change base rates as follows:

- Reviewing the filings
- Participating in informal technical conferences
- Issuing information requests to the Company and Intervenors
- Drafting pre-hearing memoranda for the Commission
- Cross-examining Company and Intervenor witnesses during hearings
- Developing the evidentiary record
- Developing and discussing with the Commission various options for resolution of issues
- Preparing Draft Orders per the directives from the Commission
- Reviewing and approving compliance filings

Changes to base rates are based on historic test year cost-of-service regulation. The Department sets rates using cost-of-service pricing principles where electric, gas, and water rates are based upon the cost to serve various classes of ratepayers. Under cost-of-service pricing, the Rates Division reviews the costs incurred by utility companies during a historic test year adjusted for known and measurable changes to determine the reasonableness of such costs and to determine whether they were prudently incurred. The categories of costs include the companies’ annual operation and maintenance expenses, capital investments, and rates of return for shareholders (*i.e.*, return on equity). Appropriate annual expenses plus a return on undepreciated rate base (*i.e.*, return on net capital investment) make up the company’s cost of service or the revenue requirement upon which rate structures must be designed to recover.

Once the company’s cost of service has been determined, a rate structure must be established that affords the company a reasonable opportunity to earn its allowed rate of return

while meeting other policy goals. Rate structure is the level and pattern of prices that customers are charged for the use of utility services. A customer class rate structure is a function of the cost of serving that rate class and the design of rates calculated to cover that cost. In setting rates, the Department balances its goals for utility rate structure by taking into consideration multiple factors such as economic efficiency, energy efficiency, continuity, fairness, earnings stability, and simplicity.

For water companies, the traditional review of rate cases through adjudicatory proceedings is not always cost-effective because the administrative costs of preparing and litigating a rate case for a small water company can equal or exceed the rate relief sought. To streamline the regulatory process, the Department has created a Settlement Intervention Staff, or SIS, comprised of Rates Division staff and Legal Division staff, that independently reviews rate requests and conducts off-the-record negotiations with water company officials and intervenors. The Settlement Intervention Staff does not have direct communication with the Commission regarding pending cases. Rather, the Settlement Intervention Staff and the other parties on the case may submit a proposed rate settlement to the Commission. An Adjudicatory Team comprised of Rates Division and Legal Division staff review the proposed settlement and make recommendations to the Commission. The Commission may approve the settlement, return it to the settling parties with suggested modifications, or reject it with or without subsequent evidentiary hearings. To date, this process has saved the Department, water companies, and ratepayers considerable amounts of time, resources, and expenses.

The Department's regulatory authority over investor-owned water systems is in certain areas concurrent with that of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection ("MDEP"). In situations where cross-over issues are involved, such as in water conservation and adequacy of service, Rates Division staff work with staff at the MDEP to ensure that the provisions of the agencies' respective duties are implemented in a harmonious manner.

Replacement of gas infrastructure through a mechanism known as the Targeted Infrastructure Reinvestment Factor, or TIRF, allows gas companies accelerated recovery through retail rates of the cost to replace aged mains and services pursuant to the recovery plan approved by the Department in its last base rate case. Annual recovery of the revenue requirement associated with these investments is approved subject to further review.

### **Green Communities Act Legislation Initiatives**

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In response to the requirements of the 2008 Green Communities Act, the Rates Division reviewed long-term purchase power contracts for renewable energy, analyzed solar installation programs, smart grid pilot programs, as well as assisted the Department's Electric Power Division in establishing net metering tariffs.

### **2012 Energy Legislation**

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In 2012, legislation was passed that focused on energy issues in the Commonwealth. In response to this legislation, Rate Division staff spent considerable time developing a plan for addressing the provisions of the legislation that directly deal with work performed by the Rates Division, such as Section 51, which requires that reconciling factors be cost-based.



### Gas System Enhancement Plans (“GSEP”)

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In 2014, legislation was passed allowing gas distribution companies to each file with the Department a plan to address aging natural gas infrastructure via the accelerated repair or replacement of such infrastructure. Pursuant to this legislation, almost all of the gas distribution companies filed gas system enhancement plans (“GSEPs”) for review and approval by the Department. Rates staff played a primary role in the review of the GSEPs. The initial GSEPs, which covered the 2015 construction year, were approved by the Department, with modifications, in May of 2015. Subsequent GSEP filings, which cover the 2016 construction year were filed in October of 2015.

### Review of Requests to Change Reconciling Rates

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In addition to reviewing changes to base rates, the Rates Division is responsible for reviewing proposed rate changes to items for which the Companies are allowed to collect their actual costs (*i.e.*, where dollar-for-dollar recovery is intended). These items include the pension and post-retirement benefit adjustment factors, PAFs, and the Residential Assistance Adjustment Factors, or RAAFs. (PAFs are factors designed to annually recover a company’s costs related to providing their employees with pensions. RAAFs are designed to recover costs related to low-income discounts and arrearage management programs). Further, the Department has approved, where appropriate, storm cost recovery adjustment factors to recover costs associated with major storms. The annual cable surcharge for Nantucket Electric is also a reconciling rate mechanism that is reviewed by the Rates Division. Additionally, pursuant to a Department approved settlement, the Department annually reviews the recovery of costs associated with NSTAR Electric’s Capital Projects Scheduling List, or CPSL, that recovers costs associated with measures NSTAR has taken to mitigate the occurrence of stray voltage, to inspect manholes, and to reduce the amount of double utility poles in its service area.

Another reconciling factor is the Revenue Decoupling Mechanism, or RDM, that allows the electric and gas companies to reconcile the revenues collected from base distribution rates with the revenue requirement approved by the Department in its last base rate case, pursuant to the revenue decoupling plan approved by the Department. RDM adjustments are filed annually for the electric companies and semi-annually for the gas companies. Further, for National Grid’s electric subsidiaries, the Department approved a Capital Expenditure, or Cap-Ex, Mechanism that allows National Grid to recover the revenue requirement associated with a pre-determined amount of its annual capital investment incurred since its prior rate case.

### Review of Financing Requests

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The Rates Division is also responsible for the review of financing petitions. Financing petitions include the issuance of debt or equity securities, as well as investment of funds or guaranteeing the indebtedness of other companies. The primary focus in such cases is to carry out statutory mandates that require utilities to issue only those securities reasonably necessary for utility operations and to avoid overcapitalization. During 2015, the Rates Division evaluated and approved four financing petitions involving a total of \$1,079,000,000.

### Review of Mergers and Acquisitions

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Pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 96, the Rates Division reviews all intrastate merger and acquisition proposals that are filed with the Department to determine if they are in the ratepayers' best interests. The Rates Division analyzes the proposal's effect on:

- Rates
- Service Quality
- Net Savings
- Competition
- The financial integrity of the post-merger entity
- Fairness in the distribution of resulting benefits between shareholders and ratepayers
- Societal effects such as job loss and economic development
- Long-term strategies to ensure a reliable and cost-effective delivery system
- Any anticipated disruption in service
- Other factors that may negatively affect customer service

### Coordination of Annual Assessments

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Pursuant to G.L. c. 25, § 18, electric and gas companies that do business in Massachusetts are subject to an annual assessment on a percentage of their intrastate revenues. The Rates Division is responsible for gathering the revenue figures for the electric and gas utilities.

### Review of Retail Electric Contracts

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The Rates Division is responsible for the mandatory review of negotiated electric contracts between electric distribution companies and retail customers. Such contracts are evaluated to ensure consistency with Department standards. The onset of competitive options for generation service for industrial customers has reduced the number of requests for electric contracts in recent years.

### Review of Utility Accounting Matters

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Utility companies are required to maintain their books in accordance with Department regulation. To maintain uniformity of accounting, utilities are required to submit questions concerning the appropriate interpretation of the Department's accounting regulations to the Department. The Rates Division also reviews requests involving accounting practices, including

requests by companies to defer expenses on their books for later review in a base rate proceeding.

The Rates Division also provides technical support to the Department in the defense of Department decisions that are appealed to the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court.

### Oversight of Municipal Utilities

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The Department's role in regulating municipal light plants is limited in comparison to the jurisdiction exercised over investor-owned utilities. Municipal light plant rates are set by public officials acting under legislative mandate and therefore do not require the close scrutiny and measure of Department supervision that is authorized or required in the case of investor-owned utilities. For example, the Department does not have authority over municipal light plant financing, and does not have authority to suspend and investigate the rates of municipal light plants. The Department generally defers to the ratemaking authority and policies vested by statute in the municipality unless the rates are prohibited by statute or rise to the level of undue discrimination.

The Department's jurisdiction over municipal light plants can be summarized as follows:

- requiring annual returns pursuant to General Laws ("G.L.") c. 164, § 63;
- requiring that accounting records be maintained in accordance with the Department's Uniform System of Accounts pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 63;
- requiring rate filings pursuant to G.L. c. 164, §§ 58, 59;
- reviewing and approving changes in depreciation accrual rates from the statutory permitted 3.0 percent set forth in G.L. c. 164, § 57;
- requiring compliance with the Department's billing and termination regulations in accordance with 220 C.M.R. §§ 25.00 et seq.; and
- hearing petitions from customers who have been denied service, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 60.

The Department does not have any jurisdiction over the municipal light plant in Gosnold. While this system is subject to the requirements of G.L. c. 164, Gosnold was exempted from Department oversight by special legislation in 1936 and 1941. Similarly, the Department does not exercise any jurisdiction over Devens Utilities, a combination gas/electric/water/wastewater system operated by the Massachusetts Development Finance Agency ("MDFA") that serves the Devens Economic Area at the site of the former Fort Devens. The MDFA is authorized pursuant to G.L. c. 23G, § 3 to provide utility services to the former Fort Devens facility; § 31 of the 1998 enabling act exempts the MDFA as a quasi government agency from any state oversight of its utility rates.

### Review of Municipal Depreciation Requests

Pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 57, municipal utilities are allowed to include in their rates an annual provision for depreciation expense equal to three percent of depreciable plant (plant less land and land rights), unless otherwise allowed by the Department. Because municipal utilities rely on depreciation funds as a source of funds for plant improvements and expansions without resorting to outside financing, municipal utilities may seek authorization to increase their depreciation rate for a particular year. During 2015, the Rates Division evaluated and approved eight requests for increases in municipal depreciation rates.

### Review of Customer Complaints

The Rates Division provides assistance to the Department's Consumer Division in the review of rate and billing disputes by residential customers. In addition, because billing disputes by commercial and industrial customers are not generally handled by the Consumer Division, the Rates Division, has, at times, provided informal assistance in resolving these billing disputes, primarily through review and interpretation of the applicable tariffs.

### Public Information

Another important responsibility of the Rates Division is to provide timely and accurate information to the public regarding activities in the electric, gas, and water industries. This task requires working with other regulatory agencies, consumer groups, public interest groups, power suppliers, and utility companies to help them understand Department regulations and policies. The Rates Division also assists in the development of agency regulations to address the changing circumstances in the utility industry such as electric industry restructuring, gas unbundling, and new financial accounting standards. The Rates Division also works with the Department's Consumer Division to respond to consumer complaints and to draft policy recommendations regarding consumer issues.

### 2015 Rates Division Major Activities

During 2015 the Rates Division actively participated in the following significant filings:

- Plymouth Water, D.P.U. 14-120. Rate Case
- NStar Gas, D.P.U. 14-150. Rate Case
- Bay State Gas, D.P.U. 15-50. Rate Case
- Liberty Utilities, D.P.U. 15-75. Rate Case
- Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light, D.P.U. 15-80/81. Rate Case
- Harbor Electric, D.P.U. 15-157. Rate Case
- Massachusetts Electric and Nantucket Electric, each d/b/a National Grid, D.P.U. 15-155. Rate Case

- Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light, D.P.U. 14-130. Gas System Enhancement Plan (GSEP)
- The Berkshire Gas Company, D.P.U. 14-131. Gas System Enhancement Plan (GSEP)
- Boston Gas and Colonial Gas, each d/b/a National Grid – Gas, D.P.U. 14-132. Gas System Enhancement Plan (GSEP)
- Liberty Utilities, D.P.U. 14-133. Gas System Enhancement Plan (GSEP)
- Bay State Gas, D.P.U. 14-134. Gas System Enhancement Plan (GSEP)
- NStar Gas, D.P.U. 14-135. Gas System Enhancement Plan (GSEP)
- Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light, D.P.U. 15-GSEP-01. Gas System Enhancement Plan (GSEP)
- The Berkshire Gas Company, D.P.U. 15-GSEP-02. Gas System Enhancement Plan (GSEP)
- Boston Gas and Colonial Gas, each d/b/a National Grid – Gas, D.P.U. 15-GSEP-03. Gas System Enhancement Plan (GSEP)
- Liberty Utilities, D.P.U. 15-GSEP-04. Gas System Enhancement Plan (GSEP)
- Bay State Gas, D.P.U. 15-GSEP-05. Gas System Enhancement Plan (GSEP)
- NStar Gas, D.P.U. 15-GSEP-06. Gas System Enhancement Plan (GSEP)
- Massachusetts Electric and Nantucket Electric, each d/b/a National Grid – Electric, D.P.U. 14-85. Storm Fund Cost Recovery
- Western Massachusetts Electric, D.P.U. 14-126. Storm Fund Cost Recovery
- Western Massachusetts Electric, D.P.U. 13-135. Storm Fund Cost Recovery
- NStar Gas, D.P.U. 15-57. Bad Debt
- Western Massachusetts Electric, D.P.U. 15-127. Debt Financing
- Massachusetts Electric and Nantucket Electric, each d/b/a National Grid, D.P.U. 15-144. Debt Financing
- Bay State Gas, D.P.U. 15-139. Debt Financing
- NStar Gas, D.P.U. 15-01. Debt Financing

- Massachusetts Electric and Nantucket Electric, each d/b/a National Grid – Electric, D.P.U. 15-120. Grid Modernization Plan
- Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light, D.P.U. 15-121. Grid Modernization Plan
- NSTAR Electric, D.P.U. 15-122. Grid Modernization Plan
- Western Massachusetts Electric, D.P.U. 15-123. Grid Modernization Plan
- The Berkshire Gas Company, D.P.U. 15-26. Merger/Change in Control

## TRANSPORTATION OVERSIGHT DIVISION

### Overview

The Transportation Oversight Division (“Transportation Division”) regulates the rates and practices of common carriers used to transport passengers and property, including trucks, railways, buses, household moving companies, towing companies, and hazardous waste companies. In addition, the Transportation Division licenses all intra-state Massachusetts-based motor bus companies. The Transportation Division investigates and may hold fitness hearings after a consumer complaint, a driving violation, or an accident involving a common carrier. Undoubtedly, the most critical function of the Transportation Division is public safety. The other major responsibility of the Transportation Division is consumer protection.

Although no assessments are levied against regulated common carriers, these companies are subject to fees for services such as licensing, inspection, and examination. These revenues are not retained by the Department, but are deposited directly into the Commonwealth’s General Fund. During 2015, the Transportation Division generated approximately \$649,196 in revenues, which was deposited into the General Fund.

### Critical Public Safety Functions

In accordance with the provisions of G.L. c.90, § 8A, and G.L. c.159A, § 9, the Transportation Division issues School Bus Driver Certificates and Motor Bus Driver Certificates. Ensuring that a core group of qualified, trained, and reliable school bus drivers are properly screened and vetted is essential to children’s safety. During 2015, the Transportation Division issued over 768 new School Bus Driver Certificates. The Transportation Division licenses all school bus drivers in Massachusetts after (1) reviewing a physician’s exam, (2) evaluating driving records, (3) performing a criminal record check and Sex Offender Registry Review, and (4) administering a three-part driving skills test. The Transportation Division works with the Registry of Motor Vehicles (“RMV”) and the school bus industry to set standards for school bus drivers as well as providing other commercial driver training and qualification requirements.

#### **School Bus Driver Certificates and Motor Bus Driver Certificates issued in 2015**

School Bus Driver Certificates: (New and Renewals)	10,648
Motor Bus Driver Certificates:	1,023
Total Certificates Issued:	
	11,671

### Destination Specific Compliance Inspections

Under a Memorandum of Understanding with the Massachusetts State Police Truck Team, the Transportation Division Bus Inspectors perform Joint Passenger Carrier Compliance Inspections (“Compliance Inspection Program”) to check passenger for-hire vehicles, motor coaches and drivers. The inspections are conducted at multiple locations throughout the Commonwealth at sites with high frequency of subject vehicles. Examples include: South

Station, Logan Airport, Jiminy Peak, Wachusett Ski Mountain, The Big “E” and Six Flags New England.

Working with the State Police and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (“FMCSA”), a passenger-carrier destination specific vehicle/driver inspection schedule is created quarterly to reflect seasonal trends specific to various programs scheduled throughout the calendar year in the state. The target inspection locations and times (specific to the compliance schedule) are designed to prevent passenger disruption where ever possible. The compliance schedule includes: 1 to 2 passenger-carrier compliance checks per week at various locations such as, Logan Airport, the Seaport District, Six Flags New England, Plymouth, MA and assorted ski areas. The Compliance Inspection Program is funded through the Unified Carrier Registration Program (“UCR”) which supports random inspections to ensure that passenger-carriers are operating with the correct authority, proper insurance levels and have safe drivers and equipment.

Transportation Division field staff also conduct what the FMCSA defines at 49 C.F.R. Part 385.311 as a “Safety Assessment” (“SAs”). The SAs are a type of audit designed to provide a regulated carrier with an overview of its compliance with various federal safety regulations. Unlike a FMCSA Compliance Review which is defined at 49 C.F.R. Part 385.109 as a comprehensive audit performed at the request of the FMCSA, results of the SA are not reported to the FMCSA, rather, this is an outreach tool the Department provides to carriers in an effort to help them identify any deficiencies that will need attention without imposing a penalty.

### **Safety Oversight of Transit Authorities and Passenger-For-Hire Bus Companies**

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State law specifies the Department as the oversight agency responsible for the safety of equipment and operations of all Massachusetts regional transit authorities and passenger-for-hire bus companies based in Massachusetts, including transit bus systems, motor coaches, and sightseeing vehicles. The Transportation Division performed 976 safety inspections during 2015.

The Federal Transit Administration (“FTA”) requires that states oversee the safety and security of Rail Fixed Guideway Systems. The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (“MBTA”) is the only Massachusetts transit authority that operates a Rail Fixed Guideway System. As required by G.L. c. 161A, § 3(I), and 49 C.F.R. Part 659, the Transportation Division approves and monitors the safety and security program plans of the MBTA, the fifth largest transit authority in the United States. The Transportation Division also monitors the MBTA’s compliance with the Department’s System Safety and Security Program Standard (“SSSPS”) which is a requirement of 49 C.F.R. Part 659. While other states with smaller transit authorities often dedicate an entire regulatory division to overseeing the transit authority’s Rail Fixed Guideway System, MBTA oversight is but one responsibility of the Transportation Division. Random inspection of MBTA subway cars, and operation facilities inspections such as, carhouses and external safety audits are examples of oversight program activities designed to monitor compliance with program requirements.

During 2015, the Transportation Division also participated in 165 internal MBTA safety/security audits. In accordance with the provisions of 49 C.F.R. Part 659, the



Transportation Division annually reviews, tests, and approves the System Safety Plan and Security Program Plan created by the MBTA. Transportation Division staff work closely with MBTA staff conducting on-site inspections of facilities and equipment. In addition, Transportation Division staff review and participate in internal safety and security audits to further enhance compliance and safety/security plans.

In 2015, the DPU conducted an audit of the tunnel and ventilation systems on the MBTA properties as mandated by the FTA. A full assessment of both systems was completed by the Division in July 2015. Both systems were within the prescribed standards defined by the FTA.

Following a series of derailments on the Green Line specific to the Breda Car Type 8 (light rail vehicles/trolleys), the DPU initiated an audit with respect to the current practices of the MBTA related to the wheel profile of the Type 8 car and the wheel rail interface. The audit focused on compliance with a 2003 DPU Order whereby the DPU issued a Corrective Action Plan (“CAP”) to mitigate the deficiencies associated with the Breda Car low floor trolley. The audit was conducted in November of 2015 and identified that the MBTA was not in full compliance with the 2003 Breda Car CAP. The DPU directed, among other items, that the MBTA return to the track standards memorialized in the 2003 CAP in order to eliminate the hazard and Breda Car derailments. The audit findings included the need to reduce trolley speeds at certain locations and reevaluate the current Safety Rules Compliance Program.

As required by the DPU State Safety Oversight program standard, 220 CMR Section 151.00, the Department performed an External Audit of the MBTA in 2015. The MBTA was formally notified on September 22, 2015 that the Department would conduct an audit of 7 of the 21 elements of the MBTA Safety Plan. The audit included interviews with MBTA department managers and field activities necessary to observe, record, and validate data. The Department interviewed several MBTA managers regarding the MBTA Safety Plan in order to gain an understanding of their knowledge of the Plan elements. Following these interviews, field activities were performed as a follow up to allow the Department an opportunity to observe the procedures required by the Plan. The audit activities were completed on December 11, 2015. A comprehensive final report will be submitted to the MBTA that will include all findings and recommendations.

In addition, under authority delegated by the Federal Railroad Administration and as required by G.L. c. 160, the Transportation Division performs inspections of new installations and upgrades of highway/railroad grade crossing signal systems.

### Safety Inspections (Bus and Rail) in 2015

Transit bus, motor coach, and sightseeing vehicles	976
Highway/railroad grade crossing signal systems (New installation/upgrades)	2
Transit audits	165
FTA Safety Directives	2
Safety Assessments	8
Compliance Reviews	12
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Total Safety Inspections:	1,165

### Licensing of Certain Common Carriers

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In accordance with G.L. c. 159B, § 3, and G.L. c. 159A, §§ 7 and 11A, the Transportation Division licenses common carriers transporting people or property by vehicle. During 2015, the Transportation Division conducted 63 licensing hearings.

#### Licensing Hearings in 2015

Bus Companies	19
Tow Companies	15
Household Movers	29
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Total:	63

In addition, five licenses were revoked or disciplinary action was taken against carriers that failed to maintain insurance and/or to obtain current-year identification devices.

### Provision of Decals and Permits

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Vehicle specific decals and permits (for trucks, buses, etc.) are required by law to denote a licensed common carrier. In 2015, the Transportation Division issued 2,548 decals and permits, collecting over \$101,920 in revenues.

### 2015 Tow Company Audits

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In 2015, the Transportation Division conducted five random tow company audits designed to monitor compliance with the Department's tow regulations/rates published at 220 C.M.R. Section 272.00. These audits uncovered various violations with respect to the rates charged for "involuntary tows" which include, police ordered tows, accident tows and/or arrests, public authority ordered tows such as, snow emergencies, street cleaning and also trespass tows. In 2016, the Transportation Division plans to expand this audit program so as to improve overall compliance with Department tow rules/regulations.

## PIPELINE ENGINEERING AND SAFETY DIVISION

### Overview

The Pipeline Engineering and Safety Division (“Pipeline Division”) is responsible for technical and safety oversight of seven investor owned natural gas companies and four municipal gas departments in Massachusetts. As a certified agent of the U.S. Department of Transportation (“US DOT”), the Pipeline Division enforces federal safety regulations pertaining to natural gas distribution pipelines within the Commonwealth. The Pipeline Division also enforces the Department’s pipeline safety regulations and the state’s Dig Safe program. The Dig Safe statute and regulation require companies and individuals performing excavation work to notify the Dig Safe call center to ensure safe excavation around underground facilities. The Pipeline Division is also responsible for oversight of Steam Distribution companies and testing of gas meters for use in the state.

The Pipeline Division’s authority over technical and safety issues requires it to:

- Inspect gas facilities for compliance with federal and state pipeline safety regulations concerning design, construction, operation, maintenance, emergency response, and plant security, and the enforcement of such regulations;
- Investigate and determine the cause of gas related incidents for cause and origin and make recommendations to minimize recurrences;
- Develop regulations applicable to the gas industry to enhance the protection of life and property and to further public safety;
- Enforce the Dig Safe Law by investigating alleged violations and assessing civil penalties;
- Examine and investigate a steam distribution company’s safety performance and investigate steam release incidents;
- Inspect and test gas meters for accuracy and safety before the meters are installed at consumers’ premises;
- Resolve consumer complaints regarding the accuracy of electric and gas meters by field tests;
- Ensure that natural gas distribution operators restore the streets and roads after excavating in the public way; and
- Ensure that gas natural gas operators restore natural gas service due to outages, safely and as promptly as possible.

## Pipeline Safety Division Responsibilities

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Natural gas is considered a hazardous fuel by both the state and the federal government. Massachusetts has over 23,000 miles of gas mains and eleven operators with 18 liquefied natural gas (“LNG”) plants and eight Liquid Propane Gas (“LPG”) air plants. These facilities serve over 1.4 million customers.

To protect consumers and the general public from the potential hazards involved in the transmission, distribution, production, storage, and use of natural gas and liquid propane gas, both the US DOT and the Department regulate these facilities. In addition to enforcing the Department’s regulations, the Pipeline Division acts as an agent for the US DOT in the enforcement of federal regulations. The Pipeline Division inspects natural gas distribution pipeline facilities within the Commonwealth, investigates incidents, and imposes remedial actions. These remedial actions can include civil penalties when the Department determines that a natural gas operator did not comply with federal and state pipeline safety regulations.

The Department is authorized to assess civil penalties for violations of federal and state safety regulations. The penalties cannot exceed \$200,000 per violation for each day the violation persists or \$2,000,000 for any related series of violations.<sup>13</sup>

## Gas Facility Inspections

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The Pipeline Division’s Public Utility Engineers inspect jurisdictional gas facilities — pipelines, meter stations, regulator stations, dispatch centers, LNG plants, and propane air plants — for compliance with federal and state safety regulations. If the Pipeline Division determines that violations may exist, the Pipeline Division issues a Notice of Probable Violation (“NOPV”), Warning Letter (“WL”) or Letter of Concern, (“LOC”) to the alleged violator along with a Consent Order. The Consent Order includes proposed action(s) to be taken by the alleged violator to correct the violation, and a proposed civil penalty. The alleged violator may agree to the Consent Order, thereby resolving the case, or may request an informal review conference with the Pipeline Division. Following a requested informal review conference, the Pipeline Division issues a written decision. If a company disputes the written decision, it may request an adjudicatory hearing before the Department.

In 2015, the eight Public Utilities Engineers spent over 700 days performing pipeline safety inspections. The Pipeline Division issued four NOPVs and levied \$1,500,000 in civil penalties. All civil penalties are deposited into the General Fund of the Commonwealth.

## Intrastate Transmission Pipelines

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There are approximately 21 miles of intrastate gas transmission lines in Massachusetts. The increased use of natural gas to generate electricity has resulted in the construction of new intrastate transmission pipelines to connect power plants directly to interstate gas transmission lines. As intrastate facilities, these pipelines fall under the aegis of the Pipeline Division, whose

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<sup>13</sup> G.L. c. 164, § 105A.

engineers inspect their design, construction, operation, and maintenance. Such pipelines typically operate at pressures significantly higher than local gas distribution pressures.

### Investigation of Natural Gas Incidents

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When a gas related incident occurs that results in personal injury and/or significant property damage, the Pipeline Safety Division's engineers investigate to: (1) determine its cause and origin; (2) determine whether the pipeline operator is in violation of federal or state pipeline safety regulations; and (3) ascertain what actions an operator shall take to prevent or eliminate a recurrence. During 2015, the Pipeline Division did not have any incidents that required investigation.

### Intrastate LNG/LPG Facilities

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LNG/LPG plants are an important part of the gas supply in Massachusetts. Particularly in the winter months, LNG and LPG plants provide a significant source of gas for use during peak demand times. Ensuring the safe and effective operation of these plants has always been a priority for the Pipeline Division.

The Pipeline Division comprehensively inspects each LNG/LPG plant once every four years. In addition, the Pipeline Division conducts specialized inspections at each LNG/LPG plant at least once in a 24-month period. In addition to the safety and reliability of the plants, oversight for the security of these plants is also the responsibility of the Pipeline Division. The Pipeline Division continually monitors the security of the LNG and LPG plants. Monitoring includes on-site inspections, reviews of procedures, and reviews of operating and maintenance records.

### Dig Safe Law Enforcement

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Massachusetts' Dig Safe law requires any person who proposes to excavate in a public way or on private property to pre-mark the excavation site and to notify the Dig Safe Call Center of the intent to excavate. The Dig Safe Center then contacts all operators of underground gas pipelines and electric, telecommunication, and television cables in the excavation locale. These operators must mark the locations of their facilities in advance of the excavation to minimize the risk of potential damage by the excavation. The excavator must take adequate precautions to prevent damage to the facilities while digging.

Any person aware of possible violations of Dig Safe procedures may report them to the Pipeline Division. Utility operators are mandated by regulation to report possible Dig Safe violations. The Division investigates the reports, issues NOPVs, conducts informal review conferences with the respondents and operators of the facilities, and performs field inspections, as necessary. The Pipeline Division then issues a written decision, and has the authority to assess a civil penalty of \$1,000 for a first offence, \$5,000 for a second offence and up to \$10,000 for each subsequent offence. An alleged violator that disputes the written decision may request an adjudicatory hearing before the Department.

In 2015, the Division received 934 reports of possible Dig Safe violations. After investigating these reports, the Division at year end issued 777 NOPVs, and collected \$944,000 in civil penalties.

### Steam Distribution

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State regulations for Steam Distribution Companies apply to every steam distribution company operating a plant, equipment or facilities for the manufacture, production, transmission, furnishing or distribution of steam to or for the public for compensation within the Commonwealth. The Steam Regulations prescribe minimum safety requirements for the design, fabrication, installation, inspection, testing, operation, and maintenance of steam facilities by steam distribution companies. The Department has the authority to conduct examinations and investigations into a steam distribution company's safety performance, and to levy fines against steam distribution companies for failure to comply with G.L. c. 164B, or Department regulations.

### Gas Meter Testing

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State law requires that each natural gas meter be tested by the Pipeline Division for volumetric accuracy and for leakage once every seven years, or when the meter is removed from service. Gas companies and municipal gas departments ("Operators") typically remove meters to be tested and replace them with previously approved meters. Operators then deliver meters to their meter shops where one of the Pipeline Division's compliance officers tests them to ensure that they are not leaking and that the consumer is getting the correct amount of gas. In 2015, the Pipeline Division collected \$1,741,930 in meter testing fees. These revenues are not retained by the Department, but are deposited into the Commonwealth's General Fund.

### Consumer Metering Complaints

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The Pipeline Division assists the Department's Consumer Division in addressing complaints by customers pertaining to both electric and gas metering. In the case of an electric meter, a member of the Pipeline Division's staff will serve as an observer when a meter that has generated a complaint is tested for accuracy. For gas meters, the meter that has generated a complaint is removed and tested on calibrated meter testing equipment by a Pipeline Division compliance officer.

### Restoration of the Public Way after Utility Openings

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In response to complaints from municipalities and the industry about the lack of repairs made to public roads after utility work was completed, the Department promulgated street restoration standards in 1998. The regulations set standards for soil compaction, paving, and other activities affecting road condition.

### Partnership with Industry

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The Pipeline Division has worked with regulators in the other New England states and the Northeast Gas Association ("NGA") to develop qualification procedures for welders of steel pipelines and fusers of plastic pipelines. This effort resulted in uniform qualifications for welders and fusers throughout New England that allow operators to avoid expending resources

for the requalification of an employee from another New England state. At the same time, pipeline safety regulators are assured that the personnel are qualified in these essential pipeline construction functions.

The Division also worked with utilities and the Dig Safe Center to conduct training sessions for excavators. The sessions provide excavators with information about underground utility lines and precautions to take when excavating near those lines. Programs such as Managing Underground Safety Training are an important tool for preventing damage to underground pipelines and cables.

### Precedent, Policies, and Practice

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The Department is a national leader in gas pipeline safety. The Pipeline Division's actions in response to violations of the pipeline safety regulations have gained the recognition of US DOT and other pipeline safety organizations across the United States. With more LNG plants than any other state in the country, the Commonwealth's LNG safety regulations are among the most stringent in the country.

Massachusetts has continued to address the important issue of replacement or abandonment of aging pipe consisting of unprotected bare steel, cast-iron pipe and unprotected coated steel pipelines. The Department's regulations require pipeline operators to prioritize and replace segments of unprotected bare steel and cast-iron pipe in accordance with Department developed criteria. In addition, companies must replace or abandon cast iron pipes, subject to specific criteria, when third-party excavation occurs nearby.

In 2014, the Massachusetts State Legislature passed An Act Relative to Natural Gas Leaks ("Gas Leak Act"). The Gas Leaks Act permits local distribution companies to submit to the Department annual plans to repair or replace aged natural gas infrastructure in the interest of public safety. On October 31, 2014, seven gas distribution companies (Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil, Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company both d/b/a National Grid, The Berkshire Gas Company, Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities, Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts, and NSTAR Gas Company d/b/a Eversource Energy) submitted Gas System Enhancement Plans ("GSEPs") setting forth their plans for replacing aged pipe during the 2015 construction year. Pursuant to the Gas Leaks Act, all the companies included a timeline to replace all aged infrastructure on an accelerated basis, specifying an annual replacement pace and a program end date. On April 30, 2015, the Department approved each company's GSEP. The GSEP orders specify that operators of natural gas distribution system utilize the Distribution Integrity Management Plan ("DIMP") to prioritize the replacement of aged pipelines. DIMP is contained in the pipeline safety regulations that are promulgated by the US DOT. Each operator has their DIMP program reviewed by the Division for accuracy and compliance with 49 CFR Part 192.

The Pipeline Division will be verifying the proposed GSEPs to ensure the replaced pipe complies with the DIMP program. This will be an on-going function of the Pipeline Division.

The Department has taken measures to address the potential safety hazards posed by unused service lines. The Department has updated existing regulations requiring the abandonment of unused lines. The regulations also specify more stringent gas leakage survey methods for operating lines.

### **2015 Pipeline Safety Division Accomplishments**

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In Summary, in 2015 the Pipeline Division:

- Conducted natural gas facility inspections, resulting in the issuance of 4 compliance actions for violations of pipeline safety regulations and assessed \$1,500,000 in civil penalties.
- Investigated 934 reports of Dig Safe violations and issued 777 Notices of Probable Violation for violations against the Dig Safe Law, and collected \$944,000 in civil penalties from Dig Safe violators.
- Tested approximately 174,550 gas meters, and collected \$1,741,930 in meter testing fees.



## LEGAL DIVISION

### Overview

The Legal Division staff serves as the chief legal and policy advisor to the Commission and provides legal support to all divisions of the Department.

### Legal Division Responsibilities

#### Formal Adjudications

The Legal Division's primary duty is presiding over adjudicatory proceedings conducted under the Massachusetts Administrative Procedures Act (G.L. c. 30A) and the Department's procedural regulations (220 C.M.R. § 1.00). During 2015, the Legal Division participated in the issuance of 561 Orders. Some of the more notable dockets include the issuance of the three-state clean energy request for proposals, the institution of a competitive supplier toolbox for retail choice for customers, Gate Box Compliance and Gas Leak reports to the Legislature, three Precedent Agreements for the Northeast Energy Direct pipeline project, Massachusetts' gas system enhancement program plans for the remediation of aged gas infrastructure, updated emergency response plan guidelines and regulations, Eversource's Hopkinton LNG Facility upgrades, the Hampshire Council of Government dockets associated with municipal aggregation, additional municipal aggregation plan approvals, the Plymouth Water Company rate case proceeding, and several forecast and supply planning dockets for the natural gas distribution companies. The Department has also worked diligently this year to move prior backlogged proceedings. A list of the Department's 2015 Orders is attached at Appendix 2.

Adjudications are the formal determination of parties' rights through a quasi-judicial process. All parties — both the party filing the action and any intervenors — are entitled to due process safeguards, meaning that the parties are entitled to adequate notice and the opportunity to be heard. Parties to the action have the right to present evidence, cross-examine witnesses, and receive a written decision from the Department. Pursuant to G.L. c. 25, § 4, the Chairman of the Department may delegate authority to an attorney from the Legal Division, known as the "Hearing Officer," to preside over Department adjudications.

Adjudicatory proceedings vary in complexity and include a wide range of subjects, such as reviews of:

- rates;
- contracts for the sale and purchase of electric power, natural gas, and water;
- long-term contracts for renewables;
- long-range forecast and supply planning;
- energy efficiency plans;

- service quality plans;
- financial transactions (e.g., stock, bond, and security issuances);
- proposed mergers;
- storm investigations;
- emergency response plans;
- municipal aggregation plans;
- proposed energy facility construction and siting (e.g., electric generation facilities and transmission lines); and
- billing disputes between residential consumers and utilities.

In conducting a formal adjudicatory proceeding, the Department generally holds two types of hearings: (1) a public hearing; and (2) an evidentiary hearing. Public hearings are publicized throughout the utility's service territory. In certain types of cases, public hearings are held in a utility's service territory. Public hearings are transcribed by a stenographer. If held in a utility's service territory, public hearings are conducted during the evening, usually in an easily accessible public building such as the Town Hall, and are often presided over by a Commissioner. The public hearings afford local consumers the opportunity to learn more about a rate request, offer their input about a pending case, and comment on the practices of the utility. Residential and business customers are a valuable source of information to the Department in developing a case record.

Evidentiary hearings are conducted in a courtroom setting in the Department's Boston offices. These proceedings are also transcribed by a stenographer. The hearings are presided over by the Hearing Officer, with the active participation of the Department's technical staff. The technical staff participates by questioning witnesses to ensure that the record is accurate and complete.

While the adjudicatory process does not require adherence to all formal rules of evidence, the evidentiary hearing process follows many rules of civil procedure as set forth in the Department's regulations, 220 C.M.R. § 1.00., and parties are almost always represented by counsel from the utility bar. Evidentiary hearings afford intervenors and the Department the opportunity to question company witnesses. In many cases, the Attorney General of the Commonwealth is an intervenor. Other intervenors may include public interest organizations, the Division of Energy Resources ("DOER"), and local consumer, business, or neighborhood groups. Sometimes intervenors put on a direct case with witnesses of their own.

Based on the evidence in the record, the Department issues a Final Order at the conclusion of each adjudicatory proceeding. Pursuant to G.L. c. 25, § 5, the Department's Final Order is appealable directly to the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court.

## Other Types of Proceedings

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### Requests for Advisory Rulings

The Department is sometimes called upon to issue advisory rulings with respect to the applicability of any statute or regulation enforced or administered by the Department. The Department has discretion to decline a request for an advisory ruling. G.L. 30A, § 8; 220 C.M.R. § 2.08. In calendar year 2015, the Department did not issue any advisory rulings.

### Notice of Inquiry Proceedings

The Department issues a Notice of Inquiry (“NOI”) when the agency desires public input on a particular issue. Thus, NOIs are Department-initiated investigations that are neither formal adjudications nor rulemakings. The goal of the NOI is to encourage broad input into the development of public policy. The Department derives authority to issue an NOI from G.L. c. 164, § 76.

Participants in an NOI proceeding file comments and may provide sworn testimony. However, participants normally are not subject to cross-examination and do not have appeal rights. The order issued at the close of the investigation is usually a general policy statement with guidelines for future actions by utilities or by the Department. The policy established through the NOI may be further developed in the future through company-specific adjudications. In 2015, the Department issued four NOIs: (1) D.P.U. 15-12, Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into Gas Operator Compliance with the Directives set forth in D.T.E./D.P.U. 06-48-A; (2) D.P.U. 15-37, Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into the means by which new natural gas delivery capacity may be added to the New England market, including actions to be taken by the electric distribution companies; (3) D.P.U. 15-40, Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into the Provision of Basic Service; and (4) D.P.U. 15-184, Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities to Establish Electronic Filing Guidelines.

### Rulemakings

The Department conducts rulemakings pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, §§ 2 – 5, and 220 C.M.R. § 2.00, to adopt, amend, or repeal regulations pertaining to the activities of all industries the Department is charged by statute with regulating. A rulemaking proceeding may involve simple procedural regulations or may address complex regulatory issues. The Department is required to provide public notice of a proposed rulemaking and to allow an opportunity for public comment. After consideration of the public comment, the Department may issue final regulations. Any final regulation must be published in the Code of Massachusetts Regulations. In 2015, the Department reviewed its regulations pursuant to Executive Order 562 which requires all state agencies to sunset its regulations on or before March 31, 2016, unless the regulations are mandated by law or essential to the health, safety, environment, or welfare of the Commonwealth’s residents. As part of the Executive Order 562 review, the Department opened two rulemaking proceedings: D.P.U. 15-183, Investigation of the Department of Public Utilities, instituting a rulemaking pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, § 2; 220 C.M.R. § 2.00 et seq.; and Executive Order 562 to amend or rescind 220 C.M.R. §§ 1.00, 2.00, 5.00, 6.00, 9.00, 11.00, 14.00, 30.00, 77.00, and 79.00 and D.P.U. 15-185, Investigation of the Department of Public Utilities,

instituting a rulemaking pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, § 2, 220 C.M.R. § 2.00 et seq., and Executive Order 562 to amend or rescind 220 C.M.R. §§ 150.00, 250.00, and 271.00.

## ENERGY FACILITIES SITING BOARD AND DEPARTMENT SITING DIVISION

### Overview

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The Energy Facilities Siting Board (“Siting Board”) is a nine-member board charged with reviewing proposed energy facilities defined by statute so as to provide “a reliable energy supply for the Commonwealth with a minimum impact on the environment at the lowest possible cost.” The Siting Board’s primary function is to review, and where appropriate, issue approvals to construct, certificates, zoning exemptions, and other approvals necessary for the construction and operation of major energy infrastructure in Massachusetts, including large power plants, electric transmission lines, intrastate natural gas and oil pipelines, and storage facilities for natural gas and fuel oil (over 500,000 barrels). The Siting Board also has the authority to override unwarranted regulatory or legal impediments to the construction of necessary energy infrastructure by issuing or altering the terms of other state and local permits.

Administratively, the Siting Board is located within the Department, although by statute it is not subject to the Department’s supervision or control. The nine-member Board is comprised of the Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs, who is the Chairman of the Board, two Commissioners of the Department of Public Utilities, the Secretary of Housing and Economic Development, the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection, the Commissioner of the Department of Energy Resources, and three public members appointed by the Governor for a term coterminous with that of the Governor. The Siting Board is supported by the staff of the Department’s Siting Division.

The Department has its own areas of statutory jurisdiction regarding the siting of energy facilities that pre-dates the establishment of the Energy Facilities Siting Council in 1973 (the predecessor agency of the Energy Facilities Siting Board). The Department’s siting authority may be adjudicated in Department-only cases or, if there is a related Siting Board case, consolidated with the Siting Board case and assigned to the Siting Board for review.

Siting Division responsibilities to the Siting Board and to the Department require its staff to:

- Adjudicate petitions to site and construct major energy infrastructure;
- Represent the Commonwealth in proceedings before FERC with respect to energy facilities to be sited in Massachusetts;
- Adjudicate petitions by public service corporations for exemptions from local zoning requirements;
- Adjudicate petitions by utility companies for eminent domain and for land survey access;
- Adjudicate petitions for override of state and local permits, licenses, or other requirements;

- Adjudicate petitions by electric companies for approval to construct transmission lines; and
- Enforce decisions of the Siting Board through the issuance of orders and civil penalties.

A list of Siting Board decisions and Department Siting Division orders from 2015 is attached as Appendix 1.

## **Siting Board Responsibilities**

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### **Overview**

The Siting Board reviews petitions to construct major new energy infrastructure, including power plants, electric transmission lines, natural gas pipelines, and natural gas and fuel oil storage facilities. G.L. c. 164, §§ 69 G-S. Siting Board review is conducted by means of a formal adjudicatory proceeding in accordance with G.L. c. 30A. Final decisions of the Siting Board are appealable directly to the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court.

The Siting Board's review of most types of energy infrastructure encompasses the need for the facility, alternative means of meeting that need, alternative sites, and environmental impacts and costs. However, since restructuring of the electric utility industry in 1997, the Board's review of power plants is generally limited to potential environmental impacts and their mitigation. The Siting Board's environmental review covers a broad range of issues, including: (1) potential impacts of a project on air quality, land use, water resources, noise, traffic, visual impacts, habitat areas, flora and fauna, safety, and health; (2) impact mitigation measures; and (3) the cost of impact mitigation. Siting Board decisions represent a balancing of cost, local and regional environmental impacts, and the benefits of the project in terms of contributing to a reliable energy supply.

### **Review of Generation Facilities**

On March 13, 2015, Exelon West Medway, LLC ("Exelon") filed a petition with the Siting Board for approval to construct a new 200 megawatt ("MW") simple-cycle, quick-start, dual-unit, power plant on an existing Exelon-owned site in the Town of Medway. On May 1, 2015, Exelon also filed a petition with the Department seeking certain zoning exemptions for the proposed power plant from the Town of Medway Zoning Bylaw, which was consolidated with the Siting Board petition for review by the Siting Board. The proposed generating facility would be a dual-fuel plant capable of using natural gas or ultra-low sulfur distillate fuel oil. At the end of 2015, evidentiary hearings for the Exelon proposal were well underway.

On December 3, 2015, NRG Canal 3 Development LLC ("NRG") filed a petition with the Siting Board for approval to construct a new 350 MW simple-cycle, single-unit, quick-start power plant on an existing NRG site where the Canal Generating Station is located. On December 18, 2015, NRG filed a petition with the Department seeking certain zoning exemptions from the Town of Sandwich Zoning Bylaw, which was consolidated with the Siting Board petition for review by the Siting Board. The proposed generating facility would be a dual-fuel plant capable of using natural gas or ultra-low sulfur distillate fuel oil. At the end of 2015,

the case was just getting underway, with a public comment hearing anticipated sometime in early 2016.

### Review of Transmission Facilities

At the start of 2015, there were two transmission projects pending before the Siting Board, both petitions of Eversource Energy. On April 28, 2014 NSTAR Electric Company filed EFSB 14-02/D.P.U. 14-73/74 – a petition to construct a new 115 kilovolt (“kV”) transmission line on an existing right-of-way between Walpole and Holbrook and to construct a new switching station in Sharon. Staff deferred discovery on the filing until early 2015 when the ISO-NE confirmed need for the project and its continued selection as the preferred solution. The case was additionally delayed for proper identification and protection of Critical Energy Infrastructure Information (“CEII”) and completion of required mailing of notice to abutters after the Company determined in July 2015 that its original distribution of notice had been incomplete. Following completion of the required public notice, an additional public comment hearing was held in December 2015. Evidentiary hearings are scheduled to begin in early 2016.

On December 23, 2014, NSTAR Electric Company filed petitions to the Siting Board and the Department for approval to construct two new 115 kV underground transmission lines in Chelsea, Everett, and East Boston, to build a new substation in East Boston, and to modify existing substations in Chelsea and Everett. As part of the filing, the Company also sought exemptions from the City of Boston’s zoning ordinance. The case was docketed as EFSB 14-4/DPU 12-128/129. Evidentiary hearings will commence in early 2016. As with the Walpole-Holbrook case, this case was delayed pending the proper identification and protection of CEII material.

On May 20, 2015, Eversource Energy filed petitions with the Siting Board and the Department seeking to construct and operate a new 7.7-mile, 115 kV underground transmission line from an existing substation in Woburn to a substation adjacent to Mystic Station in Everett. The proposed line would operate in parallel with an existing underground 115 kV transmission line. The petitions were docketed as EFSB 15-03/D.P.U. 15/64/15-65. A public comment hearing was held in July 2015, with discovery continuing through the end of 2015. Evidentiary hearings are scheduled to take place during January 2016.

On September 25, 2015, Eversource Energy filed petitions with the Siting Board and the Department seeking to construct and operate a new 8.53-mile, 345 kV underground transmission line from an existing substation in Woburn to an existing substation in Wakefield. The petitions were docketed as EFSB 15-04/D.P.U. 15/140/15-141. A public comment hearing was held in November, 2015, and discovery was ongoing through the end of 2015, continuing into 2016.

In a filing on August 8, 2014, (docketed as EFSB 02-2B/EFSB 07-8A) Cape Wind Associates, LLC (“Cape Wind”) and NSTAR Electric Company submitted for Siting Board review proposed changes to the Barnstable Switching Station to accommodate interconnection requirements of the Cape Wind project delineated by ISO-NE. The 18.4-mile transmission line from the proposed Cape Wind off-shore wind farm to the existing Barnstable Switching Station had been approved by the Siting Board in prior cases. The project change submission consisted of new equipment required at the Switching Station and enlargement of the site to accommodate

the equipment. On November 17, 2014, the Siting Board approved the proposed project change, with conditions. On December 5, 2014, the Town of Barnstable and the Barnstable Fire District appealed the Siting Board's decision to the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, and the case is currently pending.

On April 7, 2015, Cape Wind filed a request with the Siting Board for a two-year extension of Siting Board approvals in the original Cape Wind Decision in 2005 (EFSB 02-2) and the Siting Board's approval of a Certificate for Cape Wind in 2009 (EFSB 07-8). These approvals were set to expire on May 1, 2015. On April 30, 2015, the Siting Board issued a decision (through Action By Consent) to defer final action on the Cape Wind extension request until such time as the Board issues a Final Decision in this case. Parties in the proceeding submitted comments on the extension request in May and June of 2015. In December, the Siting Board issued information requests to Cape Wind and the Town of Barnstable, and established a procedural schedule for hearings and an anticipated decision by the Siting Board in April 2016.

### Review of Natural Gas Pipelines and Storage Facilities

On April 21, 2015, the University of Massachusetts Amherst ("UMASS") filed a petition in EFSB 15-2 seeking a determination from the Siting Board as to whether UMASS's proposed construction of a new LNG storage facility, adjacent to its Central Heat and Power generation facility in Hadley, is subject to Siting Board jurisdiction. UMASS asserted that the LNG storage facility is not subject to provisions of G.L. c. 164, §§ 69G - 69S, and therefore, would not require Siting Board approval. Siting Board staff issued discovery on the petition and received several written comments from various commenters. On September 21, 2015, the Siting Board issued a Decision concluding that it does not have jurisdiction over the proposed UMASS LNG storage facility, given the language of the UMASS enabling statute and other regulatory and legal considerations.

### Federal Licensing Proceedings

The Siting Board represents the Commonwealth in proceedings before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") with respect to the construction of energy facilities in Massachusetts. In the past several years, there have been several pipeline project proposals submitted to FERC, and the Siting Board has been actively involved in each case.

The Algonquin Incremental Market ("AIM") project includes approximately 38 miles of looped and new pipeline corridor, six new compressor stations and new/modified meter stations. In Massachusetts, the project entails 5.1 miles of new 16- and 24-inch diameter lateral pipeline known as the "West Roxbury Lateral" and also includes a new meter station. This project would serve the needs of several Massachusetts local distribution companies for additional gas volumes, as well as provide pressure augmentation on distribution systems in the West Roxbury section of Boston. FERC issued a Certificate for AIM on March 3, 2015. A number of individuals, elected officials, and organizations have requested a rehearing of the FERC Certificate, primarily citing safety concerns as well as other issues. FERC announced that it would require additional time to consider the rehearing requests. However, the request for rehearing does not stay construction, which has now begun. The EFSB participated actively in the FERC proceeding and submitted several sets of comments.



The Algonquin Gas Transmission Salem Lateral Project involves the construction of 1.2 miles of new 16-inch diameter pipeline and a new metering station to serve the needs of the Footprint Power generating facility being built in Salem. This project is being paid for entirely by Footprint as it will serve Footprint exclusively. FERC approved the Certificate on May 14, 2015. The project involves significant horizontal directional drilling under Beverly Harbor and Collins Cove to connect with the off-shore Maritimes and Northeast pipeline. Algonquin has begun construction, and completed much of it in 2015. Final completion of the project is expected in 2016. The EFSB participated actively in the FERC proceeding and submitted several sets of comments.

Another FERC jurisdictional pipeline proposal being addressed by the Siting Board is Tennessee Gas Pipeline's Connecticut Expansion Project that would include new pipeline in Sandisfield, Massachusetts. The Siting Board intervened in this proceeding (which was not conducted using the FERC pre-filing process) and has submitted written comments and continues to follow the matter closely. This project involves three new looping segments totaling 13.42 miles of pipeline in New York, Connecticut, and Massachusetts including 3.8 miles of 36-inch pipe in Sandisfield and 0.11 miles of 36-inch pipeline in Agawam, both segments adjacent to existing pipeline right-of-way ("ROW"). Construction would require use of 28.71 acres of the Otis State Forest, including temporary and permanent access roads, additional pipeline easements, with some wetlands impacts. Article 97 legislation is required to implement the easement for the Otis State Forest. An Article 97 authorization bill was filed in the Massachusetts legislature in July 2015 and a legislative hearing was held in November 2015. The legislation was pending at the end of 2015.

Perhaps the mostly widely publicized new pipeline proposal is Tennessee Gas Pipeline's Northeast Energy Direct Pipeline ("NED") project. The project entails a 322-mile overall length of 30-inch mainline pipe from Marcellus shale areas in Pennsylvania to Wright, New York (also known as the 135-mile "Supply Path") then to Dracut, Massachusetts (187-mile "Market Path") plus 89 miles of lateral pipelines. Approximately 84 percent of total project mileage is to be located adjacent to existing pipeline or power line ROW. Of the 64 miles of mainline in Massachusetts, 63 miles are parallel to existing power line ROW. 43.59 miles of "lateral" pipeline in Massachusetts range between 12-inch and 30-inch diameter pipe.

NED would be located in 27 Massachusetts communities in Berkshire, Essex, Franklin, Hampshire, Middlesex and Worcester counties. NED includes proposed major compressor station locations in Dracut, Northfield, and Windsor. Tennessee submitted a certificate application to FERC on November 20, 2015 following the conclusion of its "pre-filing" phase during the 2013-2015 period. FERC issued a formal notice accepting the application on December 7, 2015 and will accept intervention petitions through January 15, 2016. The Siting Board submitted two sets of comments to FERC during the pre-filing phase and held four public comment hearings in various locations across the Commonwealth during August 2015.

The Algonquin Gas Transmission Atlantic Bridge project involves construction in Connecticut, New York, and Massachusetts and has changed significantly since first proposed. The sole Massachusetts facility involves a 7,700 horsepower compressor station that would be built on the site of the Calpine Fore River power plant in Weymouth. This project would reverse

the flow of gas on the Spectra-owned Maritimes and Northeast Pipeline from north-to-south to south-to-north. A certificate application was filed on October 22, 2015, and notice of the certificate application was issued by FERC on November 5, 2015. The EFSB has filed to intervene in the proceeding and has submitted several sets of comments during the pre-filing phase and supplemental scoping period.

The Algonquin Gas Transmission Access Northeast Project involves looping in existing pipeline corridors, additional compression, and injections of LNG. Algonquin proposes to build up to one billion cubic feet per day (“Bcf/d”) in increments, as demand materializes. The pre-filing documents state that 28.9 miles of mainline pipeline (between 24 and 30 inches), 26.8 miles of lateral pipeline (16 inches), and one compressor station would be constructed in Massachusetts. The compressor station would be located on the same parcel in Weymouth as the compressor station proposed for the Atlantic Bridge project. The project also proposes an LNG facility in Acushnet, composed of two LNG storage tanks with a total combined capacity of 6.8 Bcf and associated liquefaction and gasification facilities. Algonquin submitted a request to use the pre-filing process at FERC on November 3; FERC approved the request on November 17, 2015.

### Permit Override Authority

Through the granting of a Certificate of Environmental Impact and Public Interest, the Siting Board has the authority to override a state or local ordinance, permit requirement, license, or other “burdensome condition or limitation” that would unduly delay or prevent construction of an energy facility approved by the Board. G.L. c. 164, §§ 69K-69O. A facility developer may also apply for a Certificate if it determines there are inconsistencies among resource use permits issued by state or local agencies. As noted above, Cape Wind sought an extension of a previously granted Siting Board Certificate for its proposed transmission facilities, and the case is currently pending.

### Enforcement

The Siting Board is authorized to levy a civil penalty when an applicant has violated any order of the Board. G.L. c. 164, § 69H. The maximum fine is \$1,000 per day per violation, with a maximum civil penalty of \$200,000 for any related series of violations. The Siting Board did not levy any civil penalties in 2015.

### Siting Board Regulations

The regulations of the Siting Board are contained in 980 C.M.R. §§ 1.00-12.00. In 2015, no new regulations were promulgated, nor were any rescinded or modified. Pursuant to Executive Order 562, issued March 31, 2015, Governor Baker has directed each Executive Agency, including the Energy Facilities Siting Board, to undertake a review of its regulations. The Governor has directed agencies to rescind, revise, or retain regulations in accordance with Executive Order 562 and as mandated by law. The Siting Board has begun a thorough assessment of its regulations to determine what action is required under Executive Order 562. A rulemaking proceeding will be conducted in 2016, with anticipated final regulatory action prior to the end of the year.

## Department Siting Division Responsibilities

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Beyond supporting the Siting Board, the Siting Division, comprised of attorneys and technical analysts, handles a variety of land use cases for the Department including petitions for zoning exemptions, for authority to exercise eminent domain and conduct utility surveys, and for permission to construct transmission lines.

### Electric Transmission Facilities

G.L. c. 164, § 72, requires electric companies to obtain Department approval prior to the construction or alteration of transmission lines. To receive such approval, the electric company must show that the proposed project is needed and that it serves “the public convenience and is consistent with the public interest.” The Siting Division typically adjudicates these petitions on behalf of the Department.

In late 2013, DPU 13-177/178 NSTAR Electric Company submitted a petition to construct a new substation on a parcel of company-owned land on Seafood Way in South Boston and also loop two of its existing 115 kV transmission lines from Northern Avenue into the new substation. The company requested both Section 72 approval and zoning exemptions from the Department. The Department approved the project, with conditions, on January 7, 2015.

In D.P.U. 13-187/188, filed on January 31, 2014, Western Massachusetts Electric Company and New England Power (“NEP”) jointly proposed to construct and operate four transmission system upgrades in the towns of Northfield and Erving. These upgrades include: (1) the expansion of the Northfield Mountain Substation and installation of a new 345/115 kV transformer, by WMECO; (2) a new switching station in Erving, by WMECO; (3) a new 1.2-mile 115 kV overhead transmission line from Northfield Mountain Substation to the new Erving Switching Station, by WMECO; and (4) a new 115 kV loop line connecting NEP’s existing overhead 115 kV A-127 Line to the proposed Erving Switching Station, by NEP. On July 14, 2015, the Department approved the petitions, with conditions.

In D.P.U. 14-03, filed by NSTAR Electric Company in January 2014, the Company sought zoning exemptions from the Town of Mashpee Zoning Bylaws to expand and upgrade the Company’s existing Mashpee Substation. On April 13, 2015, the Department approved the petition, with conditions.

In D.P.U. 14-08, filed by NSTAR Electric Company in February 2014, the Company sought approval to construct a new 7.8-mile 115 kV overhead transmission line along an existing NSTAR right-of-way between the Barnstable Switching Station and the Harwich Tap. On April 2, 2015, the Department approved the petition, with conditions.

In D.P.U. 14-55/14-56, filed by NSTAR Electric Company in April 2014, the Company sought approval to own and operate two 0.85-mile 115 kV underground transmission lines between Cambridge and Belmont. The new line would also connect to a new substation in Belmont that would serve the needs of the Belmont Municipal Light Department. On May 26, 2015, the Department approved the petitions, with conditions.

In D.P.U. 14-128/129, filed on November 5, 2014, NEP sought approval from the Department to construct 2.7 miles of 115 kV overhead transmission lines in the towns of Greenfield and Montague. On August 7, 2015, The Department approved the petitions, with conditions.

In D.P.U. 15-02, filed on January 21, 2015, Eversource Energy sought approval from the Department for zoning exemptions from the Town of Hopkinton Zoning Bylaws for a proposed expansion of the Company's existing Hopkinton Substation. On November 20, 2015, the Department approved the Company's petition, with conditions.

On April 14, 2015, New England Power filed petitions with the Department for approval to construct and operate a 345 kV overhead transmission line on an existing right-of-way in Tewksbury, Andover, and Dracut. The filing was docketed at D.P.U. 15-44/45. This project is one of the major components of the Greater Boston Reliability Project. At year's end, evidentiary hearings had been completed and briefs submitted. An order in the case is expected in the first half of 2016.

On June 30, 2015, Eversource Energy filed a petition with the Department for zoning exemptions from the Zoning Ordinances of the City of Woburn in order to construct proposed modifications to the existing Woburn Substation. The matter was docketed at D.P.U. 15-85. An order in the case is expected in the first half of 2016.

### **Zoning Exemption Review**

State law authorizes the Department to exempt public service corporations from compliance with specific municipal zoning ordinances or by-laws if it determines that the present or proposed use of the land or structure is reasonably necessary for the convenience or welfare of the public. G.L. c. 40A, § 3. The Siting Division adjudicates these cases for the Department. In several cases (described below under Electric Transmission Facilities) zoning exemptions are sought in conjunction with Section 72 approvals from the Department.

### **Eminent Domain and Survey Access**

On behalf of the Department, the Siting Division adjudicates petitions by electric, natural gas, water, and railroad companies for the right to exercise the power of eminent domain to meet their public service obligations. G.L. c. 164, §§ 72, 72A; G.L. c. 160, § 83. To grant eminent domain, the Department must determine that the project is necessary for the purpose alleged, will serve the public convenience, and is consistent with the public interest. No eminent domain petitions were filed with or reviewed by the Siting Division during 2015.

The Siting Division also administers the Department's authority to grant permission to electric, natural gas, and water companies to enter private lands for the purpose of making a survey in preparation of an application for facility construction or prior to initiating a request for an eminent domain proceeding. No survey petitions were filed with or reviewed by the Siting Division during 2015.

### **Assistance to Other Department Divisions**

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In 2015, the Siting Division provided technical and legal support to other Department divisions to assist with ongoing cases and special projects, as needed. In particular, several members of the Siting Division contributed to the Department's involvement in projects or studies or legislative proposals relating to the need for additional generating capacity in the NEMA/Boston area, and the New England market, in general.

**APPENDIX 1: 2015 SITING BOARD DECISIONS AND SITING  
DIVISION'S DEPARTMENT ORDERS**

- University of Massachusetts, EFSB 15-02
- NSTAR Electric Company, D.P.U. 13-177/178
- Western Massachusetts Electric Company, D.P.U. 13-187/188
- NSTAR Electric Company, D.P.U. 14-03
- NSTAR Electric Company, D.P.U. 14-08
- NSTAR Electric Company, D.P.U. 14-55/56
- New England Power Company d/b/a National Grid, D.P.U. 14-128/129
- NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy, D.P.U. 15-02

<b>APPENDIX 2: DEPARTMENT ORDERS ISSUED IN 2015</b>
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<b>Docket#</b>	<b>Caption</b>	<b>Order Date</b>
12-91	Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of updated cost estimates and project costs for its Solar Program.	1/5/2015
13-174	Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of the Company's Annual Compliance filing for its Solar Program.	1/5/2015
14-104	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities on its own Motion Commencing a Rulemaking pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, § 2 and 220 C.M.R. § 2.00 et seq. to Amend 220 C.M.R. § 18.00 et seq.	1/5/2015
13-177/178	NSTAR Electric Company petition pursuant to Section 6 of Chapter 665 of the Acts of 1956 for Exemptions from the Boston Zoning Code for a substation at Seafood Way in South Boston and Approval Pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 72 to loop two of its existing 115 kV transmission lines from Northern Avenue to the new substation.	1/7/2015
07-4	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company for approval by the Department of Telecommunications and Energy of supporting schedules calculating a revised Default Service Costs Adder.	1/7/2015
10-07	Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its revised Energy Efficiency Surcharge tariff and factors.	1/7/2015
10-08	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its revised Energy Efficiency Surcharge tariff and factors.	1/7/2015
10-09	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company each d/b/a National Grid, for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its revised Energy Efficiency tariff and factors (2009 EERF effective May 1, 2010).	1/7/2015
14-GC-18	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the First Amendment of a Firm Transportation Service Agreement between National Grid and Kraft Foods Group, Inc., Atlantic Gelatin Division, originally approved by the Department on February 26, 2013 in D.P.U. 13-GC-01.	1/7/2015
CS 11-12	Ambit Energy License	1/7/2015
14-150	Petition of NSTAR Gas Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of an increase in rates, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94, and 220 C.M.R. §§ 5.00 et seq.	1/22/2015
14-127	Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's annual Revenue Decoupling Mechanism.	1/26/2015
14-GAF-P1	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Cost of Gas Adjustment - Peak Period Local Distribution Adjustment Factors for the Period November 2014 through April 2015.	1/29/2015
14-GAF-P3	Petition of Blackstone Gas Company for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2014 Peak Cost of Gas Adjustment Clause filing.	1/29/2015
14-GAF-P5	Petition of Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of their 2014 Consolidated Peak Gas Adjustment Factors and Local Distribution Adjustment Factors.	1/29/2015
13-171	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of the Company's Net Metering Recovery Surcharge for effect January 1, 2014.	1/29/2015
13-173	Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of the Company's Net Metering Recovery Surcharge for effect January 1, 2014.	1/29/2015
13-179	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil Company to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of the Company's Net Metering Recovery Surcharge for effect January 1, 2014.	1/29/2015

Docket#	Caption	Order Date
14-GC-19	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of a Firm Transportation Service Agreement between National Grid and Quabaug Corporation.	1/30/2015
15-GC-01	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the second amendment of the Firm Transportation Service Agreement between National Grid and Massachusetts Development Finance Agency d/b/a MassDevelopment.	1/30/2015
08-52	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into NSTAR Electric Company's Provision of Retail Access for Competitive Suppliers of Renewable Energy Generation Attributes.	2/5/2015
15-ASMT-05	Request for a General Assessment for the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency.	2/5/2015
14-155	Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the First Amendment to the Company's Power Purchase Agreement with Blue Sky West, LLC (Bingham Wind Project).	2/11/2015
14-156	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the First Amendment to Unitil's long-term Power Purchase Agreement with Blue Sky West.	2/11/2015
14-157	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the First Amendment to the Company's Power Purchase Agreement with Blue Sky West, LLC.	2/11/2015
14-158	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid for approval of the First Amendment to the Company's Power Purchase Agreement with Blue Sky West, LLC.	2/11/2015
14-139	Petition of Middleborough Gas and Electric Department to the Department of Public Utilities for approval to use a rate of depreciation of five percent for the years ending December 31, 2014 and 2015.	2/23/2015
14-97	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil (Gas Division) for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Semi-Annual Peak Period Revenue Decoupling Adjustment Factor Reconciliation and Rate Filing.	2/23/2015
15-BSF-B1	Basic Service Filing of Western Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy, Summary of Electric Delivery Service Rates, M.D.P.U. No. 1052 for the period beginning April 1, 2015.	2/23/2015
15-BSF-C1	Request of NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy for approval of Tariffs M.D.P.U. Nos. 190, 290, and 390.	2/23/2015
11-85-B/11-119-B	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities on its Own Motion into the Preparation and Response of NSTAR Electric Company to Tropical Storm Irene.	2/24/2015
14-06	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil's Provision of Retail Access for Competitive Suppliers of Renewable Energy Generation Attributes.	2/24/2015
10-07	Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its revised Energy Efficiency Surcharge tariff and factors.	2/25/2015
10-08	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its revised Energy Efficiency Surcharge tariff and factors.	2/25/2015
10-09	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company each d/b/a National Grid, for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its revised Energy Efficiency tariff and factors (2009 EERF effective May 1, 2010).	2/25/2015
14-136	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Companies' annual Revenue Decoupling Mechanism filing for calendar year 2014, pursuant to M.D.P.U. No. 1231.	2/26/2015
14-RAAF-09	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of its Annual Residential Assistance Adjustment Factor Reconciliation and rate filing, effective Ma	2/26/2015



Docket#	Caption	Order Date
15-06	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company to the Department of Public Utilities for approval of its annual reconciliation filing for recovery of costs through its Solar Cost Adjustment Provision Tariff, M.D.P.U. No. 1245.	2/26/2015
14-GAF-P1	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Cost of Gas Adjustment - Peak Period Local Distribution Adjustment Factors for the Period November 2014 through April 2015.	2/27/2015
14-GAF-P6	Petition of New England Gas Company for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2013-2014 Peak Cost of Gas Adjustment Clause filing, and its proposed 2014-2015 Local Distribution Adjustment Factor.	2/27/2015
14-GAF-P8	Petition of NSTAR Gas Company for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2014 Peak Cost of Gas Adjustment Clause filing, and its Annual Remediation Adjustment Clause filing.	2/27/2015
15-12	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into gas operator compliance with the directives set forth in Investigation Into Compliance with the Gate Box Maintenance and Improvement Requirements of G.L. c. 164, § 116B, D.T.E./D.P.U. 06 48 A (2008).	2/27/2015
14-96	Petition of Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company) Corporation d/b/a Liberty Utilities for approval of its Revenue Decoupling Adjustment Factor for the 2014 Peak Period, November 1, 2014 through April 30, 2015.	2/27/2015
15-03	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of National Grid's Annual Retail Rate Filing, effective March 1, 2015.	2/27/2015
06-82	Boston Edison Company, Cambridge Electric Light Company, and Commonwealth Electric Company d/b/a NSTAR Electric's 2006 Distribution Rate Adjustment/Transition Cost Reconciliation Filing.	3/2/2015
13-186	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities on its own motion regarding the collection of energy efficiency-related pension and post-retirement other than pension expenses by NSTAR Electric Company and NSTAR Gas Company.	3/2/2015
10-126	Compliance filing of NSTAR Electric Company pursuant to the order of the Department of Public Utilities in D.T.E./D.P.U. 06-82-A, related to cost recovery of the Company's Capital Projects Scheduling List Program.	3/2/2015
14-100	Petition of the City of Lowell for approval by the Department of Public Utilities for an Amendment to its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	3/2/2015
14-151	Joint Motion by NSTAR Electric Company, NSTAR Gas Company and the Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for Approval of a Settlement Agreement in the following matters: NSTAR Electric Company (Capital Projects Scheduling Lists), dockets D.T.E./D.P.U. 06-82, D.P.U. 07-81, D.P.U. 08-55, D.P.U. 09-95, D.P.U. 10-124, D.P.U. 10-126, and D.P.U. 11-90; NSTAR Electric Company and NSTAR Gas Company (Energy Efficiency Charges and Pension Adjustment Factors), docket D.P.U. 13-186; and NSTAR Electric Company (Lost Base Revenues), dockets D.P.U. 10-06, D.P.U. 11-40, and D.P.U. 12-34.	3/2/2015
14-99	Petition of Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Peak Revenue Decoupling Adjustment Factors, effective for the period November 1, 2014 through April 30, 2015.	3/5/2015
15-GC-02	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of a Firm Transportation Service Agreement between National Grid and Hollingsworth and Vose Company.	3/5/2015
10-82	Smart Grid Pilot Evaluation Working Group.	3/9/2015

Docket#	Caption	Order Date
12-SQ-13	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into NSTAR Electric Company's 2011 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	3/11/2015
13-85	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid to the Department of Public Utilities for Approval of its Storm Fund Cost Recovery, filed in compliance with DPU 13-59.	3/11/2015
14-85	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's proposal to revise its Storm Recovery Adjustment Factor and Storm Fund Replenishment Factor.	3/11/2015
14-ASMT-02	Electric Trust Assessment of the Department of Public Utilities pursuant to G.L. c. 25, § 18, for fiscal year 2015.	3/13/2015
14-ASMT-03	Storm Trust Fund Assessment of the Department of Public Utilities pursuant to G.L. c. 25, §12P, and G.L. c. 25, § 18, for fiscal year 2015.	3/13/2015
12-SQ-13	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into NSTAR Electric Company's 2011 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	3/17/2015
11-93	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of its NSTAR Green Rate Adjustment/Reconciliation Filing.	3/20/2015
12-36	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of its NSTAR Green Rate Adjustment/Reconciliation filing.	3/20/2015
12-99	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company to the Department of Public Utilities for approval of its Green Rate Adjustment/Reconciliation filing.	3/20/2015
13-169	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of its NSTAR Green Semi-annual Rate Adjustment/Reconciliation filing.	3/20/2015
13-76	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of its NSTAR Green Rate Adjustment/Reconciliation Filing.	3/20/2015
13-SQ-01	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts 2012 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	3/20/2015
13-SQ-02	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into The Berkshire Gas Company's 2012 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	3/20/2015
13-SQ-03	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into Blackstone Gas Company's 2012 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	3/20/2015
13-SQ-04	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unital's Gas Division 2012 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	3/20/2015
13-SQ-05	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid's 2012 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	3/20/2015
13-SQ-06	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid's 2012 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	3/20/2015

Docket#	Caption	Order Date
13-SQ-07	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into Essex Gas Company d/b/a National Grid's 2012 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	3/20/2015
13-SQ-08	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into New England Gas Company's 2012 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	3/20/2015
13-SQ-09	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into NSTAR Gas Company's 2012 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	3/20/2015
14-78	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Green Rate Adjustment/Reconciliation Filing.	3/20/2015
13-79	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2012 Targeted Infrastructure Reinvestment Factor Compliance Filing, effective November 1, 2013.	3/24/2015
15-04	Petition of Peabody Municipal Light Plant for approval by the Department of Public Utilities to maintain a depreciation rate equal to four percent for 2014 and five percent for 2015.	3/24/2015
15-BSF-D1	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid for approval of National Grid's Basic Service filing for the periods May 1, 2015 through October 31, 2015 for the residential and commercial customer groups and May 1, 2015 through July 31, 2015 for the industrial customer group.	3/24/2015
14-GAF-P4	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2014 Peak Cost of Gas Adjustment Clause filing.	3/31/2015
15-11	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid to reconcile data in the system of assurance of net metering eligibility.	3/31/2015
15-05	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Annual Pension and Post-Retirement Benefits Other than Pensions Adjustment factors, in accordance with M.D.P.U. 1229.	3/31/2015
RA 15-01	Alternative Utility Services	4/1/2015
14-08	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company to the Department of Public Utilities pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 72, for approval for the construction of approximately 7.8 miles of new transmission line on existing NSTAR right-of-way between Barnstable Switching Station and the Harwich Tap in the towns of Barnstable, Yarmouth and Dennis.	4/2/2015
RA 14-20	Brightenergy	4/2/2015
RA 15-03	National Energy Discounters	4/2/2015
RA 15-04	Nextility	4/2/2015
14-63	Petition of NSTAR Gas Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's five-year Forecast and Supply Plan, for the period November 1, 2013 through October 31, 2018, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 69I.	4/3/2015
15-01	Petition of NSTAR Gas Company for authorization and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the issuance of long-term debt in an amount not to exceed \$100 million.	4/3/2015
GS 14-17	Agera	4/3/2015
RA 15-02	DNE Sales LLC	4/3/2015
RA 15-05	Energy Trust	4/3/2015
15-ASMT-01	General Assessment of the Department of Public Utilities pursuant to G.L. c. 25, § 18, for fiscal year 2015.	4/6/2015

Docket#	Caption	Order Date
10-124	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of its 2010 Distribution Rate Adjustment/Reconciliation filing.	4/8/2015
11-90	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its 2011 Distribution Rate Adjustment/Reconciliation Filing.	4/8/2015
12-112	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of its 2012 Distribution Rate Adjustment/Reconciliation filing.	4/8/2015
15-40	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities on its own Motion into the Provision of Basic Service.	4/9/2015
15-BSF-A2	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Company d/b/a Unitil's for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Basic Service Charges and Tariff Filing M.D.P.U. No. 281 effective June 1, 2015.	4/9/2015
10-06	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company to the Department of Public Utilities for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its revised Energy Efficiency Surcharge tariffs and factors.	4/10/2015
EB 15-05	National Energy Discounters	4/10/2015
EB 15-06	PRX Energy LLC	4/10/2015
EB 15-07	Neighborhood Energy of New England	4/10/2015
EB 15-09	Intelligen Resources	4/10/2015
14-03	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company for an Exemption to the Zoning Bylaws of the Town of Mashpee in connection with the proposed expansion of Mashpee Substation No. 946, located at 21 Orchard Road, Mashpee, Massachusetts, pursuant to G.L. c. 40A, § 3.	4/13/2015
14-140	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities on its own Motion into Initiatives to Improve the Retail Electric Competitive Supply Market.	4/13/2015
09-68	Petition of the Cape Light Compact to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of the Compact's 2007 Energy Efficiency Annual Report.	4/14/2015
09-69	Petition of the Cape Light Compact to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of the Compact's 2008 Energy Efficiency Annual Report.	4/14/2015
10-97	Petition of The Cape Light Compact to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of the its 2009 Annual Energy Efficiency Report.	4/14/2015
14-100	Petition of the City of Lowell for approval by the Department of Public Utilities for an Amendment to its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	4/15/2015
15-21	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of recovery of the Company's costs through December 31, 2014 for its Smart Grid Pilot Program in Worcester, Massachusetts, and for approval of the Company's proposed increases in its Smart Grid Customer Cost Adjustment Factors and Smart Grid Distribution Adjustment Factors.	4/15/2015
13-172	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of its 2013 Distribution Rate Adjustment/Reconciliation filing.	4/18/2015
15-50	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for approval of the rates and charges set forth in Tariffs M.D.P.U. Nos. 177 through 211, and approval of an increase in base distribution rates for gas service pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94 and 220 C.M.R. § 5.00 et seq.	4/21/2015
14-116	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company for approval of its semi-annual NSTAR Green Rate Adjustment and Reconciliation Filing.	4/24/2015
15-08	Petition of Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company) Corporation d/b/a Liberty Utilities for approval of its Revenue Decoupling Adjustment Factors for the 2015 Off-Peak Period, for effect May 1, 2015 through October 31, 2015.	4/24/2015

Docket#	Caption	Order Date
15-09	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Annual Off-Peak Revenue Decoupling Adjustment Factor Reconciliation and Rate Filing, to be effective May 1, 2015 through October 31, 2015.	4/24/2015
15-24	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for approval of its Revenue Decoupling Adjustment Factors for the 2014 Off-Peak Period, May 1, 2015, through October 31, 2015.	4/27/2015
15-37	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities on its own Motion into the means by which new natural gas delivery capacity may be added to the New England market, including actions to be taken by the electric distribution companies.	4/27/2015
14-72	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities on its own Motion to Revise Guidelines for Electric Companies' Emergency Response Plans.	4/28/2015
14-59	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company, each d/b/a National Grid, for Approval of Its Annual Basic Service Administrative Cost Factor Rate Adjustment and Reconciliation Filing.	4/28/2015
15-23	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company, each d/b/a National Grid, for Approval of its Annual Basic Service Administrative Cost Factor Rate Adjustment and Reconciliation Filing.	4/28/2015
14-140	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities on its own Motion into Initiatives to Improve the Retail Electric Competitive Supply Market.	4/29/2015
14-64	Petition of NSTAR Gas Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94A and § 94B, of a Gas Service Agreement between NSTAR Gas Company and Hopkinton LNG Corp.	4/29/2015
14-130	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2015 Gas System Enhancement Program Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 145, and for rates effective May 1, 2015.	4/30/2015
15-GAF-O1	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2015 Off-Peak Cost of Gas Adjustment Clause filing, for the period May 2015 through October 2015.	4/30/2015
15-GAF-O2	Petition of The Berkshire Gas Company for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2015 Off-Peak Cost of Gas Adjustment Clause filing, to be effective May 1, 2015 through October 31, 2015.	4/30/2015
15-GAF-O3	Petition of Blackstone Gas Company for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2015 Off-Peak Cost of Gas Adjustment Clause filing.	4/30/2015
15-GAF-O4	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2015 Off-Peak Cost of Gas Adjustment Clause filing, to be effective May 1, 2015 through October 31, 2015.	4/30/2015
15-GAF-O5	Petition of Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Companies' 2015 Off-Peak Cost of Gas Adjustment Clause filing, to be effective May 1, 2015 through October 31, 2015.	4/30/2015
15-GAF-O6	Petition of Liberty Utilities for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2015 Off-Peak Cost of Gas Adjustment Clause filing.	4/30/2015
15-GAF-O8	Petition of NSTAR Gas Company d/b/a Eversource Energy for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2015 Gas Adjustment Factor filing, to be effective on May 1, 2015.	4/30/2015
14-113	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2014-2015 Peak Period Revenue Decoupling Adjustment Factor, effective November 1, 2014.	4/30/2015

Docket#	Caption	Order Date
14-131	Petition of The Berkshire Gas Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Gas System Enhancement Program Plan for 2015, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 145, and for rates effective May 1, 2015.	4/30/2015
14-132	Petition of Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Companies' Gas System Enhancement Program for 2015, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 145, and for rates effective May 1, 2015.	4/30/2015
14-133	Petition of Liberty Utilities for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Gas System Enhancement Program Plan for 2015, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 145, and for rates effective May 1, 2015.	4/30/2015
14-134	Petition of Bay State Gas Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Gas System Enhancement Program Plan for 2015, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 145, and for rates to be effective May 1, 2015.	4/30/2015
14-135	Petition of NSTAR Gas Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Gas System Enhancement Program Plan for 2015, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 145, and for rates to be effective May 1, 2015.	4/30/2015
15-07	Petition of Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company each d/b/a National Grid for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2015 Off-Peak Revenue Decoupling Adjustment Factors, to be effective May 1, 2015 through October 31, 2015.	4/30/2015
15-15	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company, each d/b/a National Grid, for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of: (1) a Mid-Term Modification to its Three-Year Energy Efficiency Plan for 2013 through 2015; and (2) Revised 2015 Residential and Low-Income Energy Efficiency Reconciling Factors, for effect May 1, 2015.	4/30/2015
15-21	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company requesting approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its smart grid pilot program costs and of smart grid customer cost adjustment factors and distribution adjustment factors.	4/30/2015
15-37	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities on its own Motion into the means by which new natural gas delivery capacity may be added to the New England market, including actions to be taken by the electric distribution companies.	4/30/2015
15-GC-03	Petition of Colonial Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of a Firm Transportation Service Agreement between National Grid and Aggregate Industries - Northeast Region, Inc. to its facility in Chelmsford, Massachusetts.	4/30/2015
15-GC-04	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of a Firm Transportation Service Agreement between National Grid and Aggregate Industries - Northeast Region, Inc. to its facility in Saugus, Massachusetts.	4/30/2015
15-GC-05	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the first amendment of the Firm Transportation Service Agreement between National Grid and Rousselot Peabody, Inc.	4/30/2015
15-GC-06	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval of a Firm Transportation Service Agreement between National Grid and Simmons College.	4/30/2015
15-GC-07	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of a firm Transportation Service Agreement between National Grid and Wellesley College to its boiler plant account.	4/30/2015
15-GC-08	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of a Firm Transportation Service Agreement between National Grid and Wellesley College to its cogeneration plant account.	4/30/2015
15-POR-01	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Purchase of Receivables Program, effective May 1, 2015.	4/30/2015
15-POR-02	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Purchase of Receivables Program, effective May 1, 2015.	4/30/2015

Docket#	Caption	Order Date
15-POR-03	Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Purchase of Receivables Program, effective May 1, 2015.	4/30/2015
RA 15-09	Retail Group, Inc d/b/a New England Wireless	4/30/2015
14-137	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil (Electric Division) for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Annual Revenue Decoupling Adjustment Factor Reconciliation and Rate Filing.	5/1/2015
14-69	Petition of the Cape Light Compact for Continued Approval of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	5/1/2015
11-75	Department Investigation on Distributed Generation Interconnection.	5/4/2015
15-GAF-O6	Petition of Liberty Utilities for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2015 Off-Peak Cost of Gas Adjustment Clause filing.	5/5/2015
15-26	Joint Petition for Approval of a Change of Control of UIL Holdings Corporation, a Holding Company of The Berkshire Gas Company pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 96.	5/11/2015
15-34	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for Approval of a Firm Transportation Agreement with Tennessee Pipeline Company, LLC, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94A.	5/11/2015
15-39	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for Approval of a Firm Transportation Agreement with Tennessee Pipeline Company, LLC, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94A.	5/11/2015
14-106	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil for review and approval of its Annual Reconciliation and Rate Filing for the Basic Service Costs Adder, pursuant to Unitil's Tariff M.D.P.U. No. 263.	5/12/2015
15-35	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Energy Efficiency Reconciliation Filing, and Unitil's electric division's Tariff M.D.P.U. No. 280.	5/12/2015
15-BSF-B2	Request of Western Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy for approval of Basic Service rates, effective July 1, 2015.	5/14/2015
EB 15-11	Germ Patrol d/b/a GP Energy Solutions	5/14/2015
EB 15-13	J. Synergy, LLC	5/14/2015
EB 15-17	New River Group d/b/a Scioto	5/14/2015
EB 15-18	Siemens Industry	5/14/2015
11-101	Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities for a change to the Company's Pension/Post-Retirement Other Than Pension Adjustment Mechanism, and approval of its proposed tariff, M.D.P.U. No. 1052E.	5/15/2015
11-83	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of the Company's Pension and PBOP Expense Factor filing.	5/15/2015
11-88	Petition of Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Companies' Pension Adjustment Factor for effect November 1, 2011.	5/15/2015
12-12	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of the Company's annual reconciliation filing associated with its Pension and Post Retirement Benefits other than Pensions Adjustment Factor.	5/15/2015
12-73	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of the Company's Pension and PBOP Expense Factor filing.	5/15/2015
12-83	Petition of Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its 2012-2013 Pension/PBOP Adjustment Filing.	5/15/2015

Docket#	Caption	Order Date
12-89	Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities for a change to the Company's annual Pension and Post-Retirement Other Than Pension Adjustment Mechanism reconciliation mechanism.	5/15/2015
13-153	Petition of Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company d/b/a National Grid to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of the Company's 2013-2014 Pension and PBOP Mechanism filing.	5/15/2015
13-155	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of the Company's 2013-2014 Pension and PBOP Expense Factor filing.	5/15/2015
13-185	Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities for a change to the Company's annual Pension and Post-Retirement Other Than Pension Adjustment Mechanism reconciliation mechanism.	5/15/2015
13-48	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of the Company's annual reconciliation filing associated with its Pension and Post Retirement Benefits other than Pensions Adjustment Factor.	5/15/2015
14-148	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2014 Integrated Gas Resource Plan for the Company's forecasted Planning Load for the period of November 1, 2014 through October 31, 2019.	5/15/2015
14-52	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of the Company's annual reconciliation filing associated with its Pension and Post Retirement Benefits other than Pensions Adjustment Factor.	5/15/2015
14-69	Petition of the Cape Light Compact for Continued Approval of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	5/18/2015
05-GAF-P4/06-28	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil, for review and approval by the Department of Telecommunications and Energy of the Company's 2005/2006 Peak Cost of Gas Adjustment Clause filing.	5/20/2015
09-AD-4	Adjudicatory hearing in the matter of complaint of Kim Orsini-Penta relative to the rates and charges for electricity sold by NStar/Boston Edison Company.	5/20/2015
15-70	Notice of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil that it intends to file rate schedules on or about June 16, 2015, for its Electric Division that would constitute a general change in rates under G.L. c. 164, § 94.	5/20/2015
15-71	Notice of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil that it intends to file rate schedules on or about June 16, 2015, for its Gas Division that would constitute a general change in rates under G.L. c. 164, § 94.	5/20/2015
15-72	Notice of Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company) Corp. d/b/a/ Liberty Utilities that it intends to file rate schedules on or about June 15, 2015, that would constitute a general change in rates under G.L. c. 164, § 94.	5/20/2015
14-140	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities on its own Motion into Initiatives to Improve the Retail Electric Competitive Supply Market.	5/21/2015
15-41	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil for approval of the Company's mid-term modification for the 2013-2015 three-year gas energy efficiency budget.	5/22/2015
15-48	Petition of The Berkshire Gas Company for Approval of a Precedent Agreement with Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, LLC, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94A.	5/26/2015
15-BSF-C2	Request of NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy request for approval of Basic Service rates, effective July 1, 2015.	5/27/2015
15-BSF-C-3A	Request of NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource for approval of its Basic Service Filing.	5/27/2015



Docket#	Caption	Order Date
15-50	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for approval of the rates and charges set forth in Tariffs M.D.P.U. Nos. 177 through 211, and approval of an increase in base distribution rates for gas service pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94 and 220 C.M.R. § 5.00 et seq.	5/28/2015
11-75	Department Investigation on Distributed Generation Interconnection.	5/29/2015
15-38	Petition of The Cape Light Compact for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Compact's Mid-Term Modifications to its Three-Year Energy Efficiency Plan for effect in the 2015 plan year.	5/29/2015
15-GC-09	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of a Firm Transportation Service Agreement between National Grid and Boston College.	5/29/2015
15-12	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into gas operator compliance with the directives set forth in Investigation Into Compliance with the Gate Box Maintenance and Improvement Requirements of G.L. c. 164, § 116B, D.T.E./D.P.U. 06 48 A (2008).	6/1/2015
15-42	Joint Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil, Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid, and NSTAR Electric Company and Western Massachusetts Electric Company, each d/b/a Eversource Energy, for approval of a proposed timetable and method for the solicitation and execution of long-term contracts for newly-developed, small emerging or diverse renewable energy distributed generation facilities, pursuant to St. 2012, c. 209, § 36.	6/4/2015
15-GC-10	Petition of The Berkshire Gas Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of an Amendment to a Long-Term Firm Transportation Agreement between The Berkshire Gas Company and the President and Trustees of Williams College.	6/9/2015
RA 15-11	Cogeneration Systems of America Inc	6/9/2015
14-82	Petition of Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2013 Targeted Information Recovery Factor Compliance Filing for effect November 1, 2014.	6/11/2015
15-36	Petition of Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company, each d/b/a National Grid, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 69I, for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Long-Range Resource and Requirements Plan for the period of November 1, 2014 through October 31, 2019.	6/15/2015
14-147	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil (Electric Division) for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Annual Electric Reconciliation Mechanism.	6/16/2015
15-POR-01	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Purchase of Receivables Program, effective May 1, 2015.	6/16/2015
15-POR-02	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Purchase of Receivables Program, effective May 1, 2015.	6/16/2015
15-POR-03	Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Purchase of Receivables Program, effective May 1, 2015.	6/16/2015
15-34	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of a twenty-year Firm Transportation Agreement with Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, involving an expansion of Tennessee's interstate pipeline running from Wright, New York to Dracut, Massachusetts, known at the Northeast Energy Direct Project.	6/19/2015
15-39	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of a twenty-year Firm Transportation Agreement with Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, involving an expansion of Tennessee's interstate pipeline running from Wright, New York to Dracut, Massachusetts, known at the Northeast Energy Direct Project.	6/19/2015
15-48	Petition of The Berkshire Gas Company for Approval of a Precedent Agreement with Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, LLC, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94A.	6/19/2015

Docket#	Caption	Order Date
15-80	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94, for an increase in base distribution rates for electric service and a proposal for implementing a Capital Cost Adjustment mechanism, and approval of changes in its schedules of rates for electric service, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94 and 220 C.M.R. §§ 5.00 et seq., to become effective July 1, 2015.	6/19/2015
15-81	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil for an increase in base distribution rates for gas service, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94, and approval to changes in its schedules of rates for gas service to become effective July 1, 2015.	6/19/2015
EB 15-16	Delaware Valley Energy Solutions	6/19/2015
EB 15-19	Prudential Energy Services Corporation	6/19/2015
EB 15-21	Energy Spectrum	6/19/2015
15-10	Request of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company each d/b/a National Grid's to revise language in its currently effective Revenue Decoupling Mechanism Provision, M.D.P.U. No. 1231.	6/23/2015
15-BSF-D2	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid for approval of its Basic Service filing for the period August 1, 2015 through October 31, 2015.	6/23/2015
15-57	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of reconciliation of the Company's Basic Service Bad Debt Adder.	6/24/2015
15-GAF-O1	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2015 Off-Peak Cost of Gas Adjustment Clause filing, for the period May 2015 through October 2015.	6/30/2015
15-GAF-O2	Petition of The Berkshire Gas Company for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2015 Off-Peak Cost of Gas Adjustment Clause filing, to be effective May 1, 2015 through October 31, 2015.	6/30/2015
14-118	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities Regarding the Feasibility, Impacts and Benefits of Allowing Electric Distribution Company Customers to Net Meter Electricity Generated by Small Hydroelectric Facilities Pursuant to Chapter 251, Section 8 of the Acts of 2014, An Act Relative to Credit for Thermal Energy Generated with Renewable Fuels.	6/30/2015
14-124	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Net Metering Recovery Surcharge.	6/30/2015
14-125	Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Net Metering Recovery Surcharge, for effect on January 1, 2015.	6/30/2015
14-142	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Net Metering Tariff, M.D.P.U. No. 273, and Net Metering Recovery Surcharge rates to be effective January 1, 2015.	6/30/2015
15-52	Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company, d/b/a Eversource Energy to revise its Commercial and Industrial Energy Efficiency Reconciling Factor for effect July 1, 2015.	6/30/2015
15-09	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company, d/b/a Unitil, for approval of its Revenue Decoupling Adjustment Factors for the 2015 Off-Peak Period, May 1, 2015 through October 31, 2015.	7/6/2015
14-SQ-01	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts 2013 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	7/7/2015

Docket#	Caption	Order Date
14-SQ-02	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into The Berkshire Gas Company's 2013 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	7/7/2015
14-SQ-03	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into Blackstone Gas Company's 2013 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	7/7/2015
14-SQ-04	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil's Gas Division 2013 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	7/7/2015
14-SQ-05	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid's 2013 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	7/7/2015
14-SQ-06	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into Colonial Gas Company d/b/a National Grid's 2013 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	7/7/2015
14-SQ-07	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into Essex Gas Company d/b/a National Grid's 2013 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	7/7/2015
14-SQ-08	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into Liberty Utilities (New England Gas Company) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities' 2013 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	7/7/2015
14-SQ-09	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into NSTAR Gas Company's 2013 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	7/7/2015
09-115	Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company for approval effective January 1, 2010 of its rate change filing for 2010 pursuant to the Electric Industry Restructuring Act, St. 1997, c. 164.	7/9/2015
15-GC-14	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Third Amendment to a Firm Transportation Service Agreement between National Grid and the Massachusetts Development Finance Agency d/b/a MassDevelopment.	7/9/2015
15-66	Petition of NSTAR Gas Company d/b/a Eversource Energy for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of a mid-term modification of the Company's 2013-2015 Three Year Plan.	7/13/2015
13-187/188	Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company pursuant to G.L. c. 40A, § 3, for Exemptions from the Zoning Bylaws of the Towns of Northfield and Erving and Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company and Petition of New England Power Company d/b/a National Grid for Approval pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 72, to construct and operate a 115 kV overhead transmission line in Northfield and Erving.	7/15/2015
15-80	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company (Electric Division) d/b/a Unitil, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94, and 220 C.M.R. § 5.00 et seq. for approval of a general increase in electric base distribution rates and implementation of a capital cost adjustment mechanism to become effective July 1, 2015.	7/16/2015
15-81	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil for an increase in base distribution rates for gas service, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94, and approval to changes in its schedules of rates for gas service to become effective July 1, 2015.	7/16/2015
15-55	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its 2015 Targeted Infrastructure Reinvestment Factor Compliance	7/20/2015

Docket#	Caption	Order Date
	Filing, for effect November 1, 2015.	
15-75	Petition of Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities for approval of the rates and charges set forth in Tariffs M.D.P.U. Nos. 1000C, 1001B, 1002I, 1003C through 1024C, and 1025A, and approval of an increase in base distribution rates for gas service pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94 and 220 C.M.R. § 5.00 et seq.	7/20/2015
15-83	Petition of NSTAR Gas Company d/b/a Eversource Energy for Approval of Precedent Agreements with Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC and Millennium Pipeline, LLC, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94A.	7/20/2015
15-20	Petition of Wakefield Municipal Light Department to the Department of Public Utilities for approval to use a rate of depreciation of five percent for the calendar year 2015.	7/21/2015
15-27	Petition of Paxton Municipal Light Department to the Department of Public Utilities for approval to use a rate of depreciation of five percent for the calendar year 2014.	7/21/2015
15-33	Petition of Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant to the Department of Public Utilities for approval to use a rate of depreciation of five percent for the calendar years 2014 and 2015.	7/21/2015
15-47	Petition of Chicopee Electric Light Department to the Department of Public Utilities for approval to use a rate of depreciation of five percent for the calendar year 2014.	7/21/2015
15-53	Petition of Belmont Municipal Light Department d/b/a Belmont Light for approval by the Department of Public Utilities to use a rate of depreciation of five percent for the calendar year 2015.	7/21/2015
15-34	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for Approval of a Firm Transportation Agreement with Tennessee Pipeline Company, LLC, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94A.	7/24/2015
15-39	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for Approval of a Firm Transportation Agreement with Tennessee Pipeline Company, LLC, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94A.	7/24/2015
15-46	Petition of Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Targeted Infrastructure Recovery Factor filing for calendar year 2014, pursuant to D.P.U. 10-55 (2010).	7/24/2015
15-48	Petition of The Berkshire Gas Company for Approval of a Precedent Agreement with Tennessee Pipeline Company, LLC, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94A.	7/24/2015
15-GC-11	Petition of Colonial Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of a Firm Transportation Service Agreement, as amended, between National Grid and Baker Commodities, Inc.	7/24/2015
15-GC-12	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of a Firm Transportation Service Agreement between National Grid and Boston University.	7/24/2015
15-GC-13	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of a Firm Transportation Agreement between National Grid and Lorusso Corp.	7/24/2015
15-73	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company, d/b/a Unitil for Approval of: (1) a Mid-Term Modification to its Three-Year Energy Efficiency Plan for 2013 through 2015; and (2) Revised 2015 Residential Energy Efficiency Reconciling Factor, for effect August 1, 2015.	7/27/2015
14-91	Petition of Liberty Utilities Corporation (New England Natural Gas Company) d/b/a Liberty Utilities to the Department of Public Utilities pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 69I, for Review and Approval of its Long-Range Forecast and Supply Plan for the five-year forecast period 2013/2014 through 2018/2019.	7/28/2015
15-GAF-O1	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2015 Off-Peak Cost of Gas Adjustment Clause filing, for the period May 2015 through October 2015.	7/30/2015

Docket#	Caption	Order Date
15-GAF-O5	Petition of Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Companies' 2015 Off-Peak Cost of Gas Adjustment Clause filing, to be effective May 1, 2015 through October 31, 2015.	7/30/2015
14-127	Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's annual Revenue Decoupling Mechanism.	7/30/2015
14-98	Petition of The Berkshire Gas Company to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of its Long-Range Forecast and Supply Plan for the split years 2014/15 to 2018/19, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 69I.	7/30/2015
15-03	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of National Grid's Annual Retail Rate Filing, effective March 1, 2015.	7/30/2015
15-GAF-O6	Petition of Liberty Utilities for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2015 Off-Peak Cost of Gas Adjustment Clause filing.	7/31/2015
15-24	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for approval of its Revenue Decoupling Adjustment Factor for the 2015 Off-Peak Period, May 1, 2015, through October 31, 2015.	8/5/2015
15-BSF-B3	Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company for approval of an amended basic service tariff and for the Results of the Solicitation for the Provision of Basic Service Supply.	8/7/2015
15-BSF-C3	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company for approval of its basic service pricing and procurement pursuant to G.L. c. 164, §1B(d).	8/7/2015
CS 15-03	Harborside Energy	8/11/2015
EB 15-25	Proton Energy Group	8/11/2015
RA 15-13	Proton Energy	8/11/2015
14-140	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities on its own Motion into Initiatives to Improve the Retail Electric Competitive Supply Market.	8/14/2015
15-76	Petition of Agawam Springs Water Company, Inc., for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Tariffs M.D.P.U. 5 (Rates and Charges), and M.D.P.U. 6 (Rules and Regulations), for effect on September 1, 2015.	8/17/2015
15-08	Petition of Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company) Corporation d/b/a Liberty Utilities for approval of its Revenue Decoupling Adjustment Factors for the 2015 Off-Peak Period, for effect May 1, 2015 through October 31, 2015.	8/17/2015
15-GC-15	Petition of The Berkshire Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of a Firm Transportation Agreement between Berkshire and Crane & Co., Inc., dated as of July 22, 2015.	8/18/2015
EB 15-08	Save on Energy	8/19/2015
EB 15-20	Power Direct	8/19/2015
EB 15-22	Solidified Energy Solutions	8/19/2015
EB 15-24	Connect Energy Resources	8/19/2015
EB 15-26	Standard Power of America	8/19/2015
14-123	Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Annual Compliance Filing for its Solar Program.	8/21/2015
15-75	Petition of Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities for approval of the rates and charges set forth in Tariffs M.D.P.U. Nos. 1000C, 1001B, 1002I, 1003C through 1024C, and 1025A, and approval of an increase in base distribution rates for gas service pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94 and 220 C.M.R. § 5.00 et seq.	8/24/2015
EB 15-28	Broadleaf Energy Company	8/25/2015
EB 15-31	Gulf Stream Energy Consultants	8/25/2015

Docket#	Caption	Order Date
15-GAF-O1	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2015 Off-Peak Cost of Gas Adjustment Clause filing, for the period May 2015 through October 2015.	8/26/2015
15-GC-16	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval of a Firm Transportation Service Agreement between National Grid and South Shore Hospital, Inc.	8/26/2015
15-GC-17	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval of a Firm Transportation Agreement between National Grid and MATEP LLC.	8/26/2015
15-GC-18	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval of a Firm Transportation Service Agreement between National Grid and Norwood Hospital.	8/26/2015
15-GC-19	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval of a Firm Transportation Service Agreement between National Grid and Aggregate Industries - Northeast Region, Inc. (Peabody).	8/26/2015
15-GC-20	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval of a Firm Transportation Agreement between National Grid and Aggregate Industries - Northeast Region, Inc. (Watertown).	8/26/2015
14-120	Petition of Plymouth Water Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of a base-revenue adjustment, pursuant to M.G.L. 164, § 94 and M.G.L. c. 165, § 2.	8/31/2015
15-34	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for Approval of a Firm Transportation Agreement with Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, LLC, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94A.	8/31/2015
15-38	Petition of The Cape Light Compact for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Compact's Mid-Term Modifications to its Three-Year Energy Efficiency Plan for effect in the 2015 plan year.	8/31/2015
15-39	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for Approval of a Firm Transportation Agreement with Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, LLC, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94A.	8/31/2015
15-48	Petition of The Berkshire Gas Company for Approval of a Precedent Agreement with Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, LLC, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94A.	8/31/2015
14-132	Petition of Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Companies' Gas System Enhancement Program for 2015, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 145, and for rates effective May 1, 2015.	9/1/2015
14-149	Petition of BCC Solar Energy Advantage, Inc. for an Exception for the Greater Boston Food Bank Phase Two Solar Project from Net Metering regulations at 220 C.M.R. § 18.00 et seq.	9/1/2015
15-28	Annual Interconnection Timeline Enforcement Mechanism Report of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil.	9/1/2015
15-29	Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid's 2014 Interconnection Timeline Enforcement Mechanism Report.	9/1/2015
15-30	2014 Annual Interconnection Time Enforcement Metric Report of NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy.	9/1/2015
15-31	2014 Interconnection Timeline Enforcement Mechanism Report for Western Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy.	9/1/2015
15-120	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid for Approval of its Grid Modernization Plan.	9/2/2015
15-121	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil for Approval of its Grid Modernization Plan.	9/2/2015
15-122/123	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company and Western Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy for Approval of their Grid Modernization Plans.	9/2/2015
14-10	Petition of the Town of Barre for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015

Docket#	Caption	Order Date
14-12	Petition of the Town of Brookfield for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-13	Petition of the Town of Charlemont for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-14	Petition of the Town of East Brookfield for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-15	Petition of the Town of Goshen for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-16	Petition of the Town of Granby for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-17	Petition of the Town of Great Barrington for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-18	Petition of the Town of Heath for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-19	Petition of the Town of Mendon for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-20	Petition of the Town of New Braintree for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-21	Petition of the Town of North Brookfield for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-22	Petition of the City of Northampton for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-23	Petition of the Town of Rowe for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-24	Petition of the Town of Upton for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-25	Petition of the Town of Warwick for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-26	Petition of the Town of Wendell for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-27	Petition of the Town of West Brookfield for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-28	Petition of the Town of Williamsburg for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-29	Petition of the Town of Hampden for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-30	Petition of the Town of Chesterfield for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-31	Petition of the Town of Conway for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-32	Petition of the Town of Cummington for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-33	Petition of the Town of Deerfield for approval of its municipal aggregation plan.	9/11/2015
14-35	Petition of the Town of Gill for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-36	Petition of the Town of Hadley for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-37	Petition of the Town of Hatfield for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-38	Petition of the Town of Huntington for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-39	Petition of the Town of Leverett for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c.	9/11/2015

Docket#	Caption	Order Date
	164, § 134.	
14-40	Petition of the Town of Middlefield for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-41	Petition of the Town of Montague for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-42	Petition of the Town of Northfield for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-43	Petition of the Town of Pelham for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-44	Petition of the Town of Plainfield for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-46	Petition of the Town of Westhampton for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-47	Petition of the Town of Whately for approval of its municipal aggregation plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/11/2015
14-76	Petition of Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Targeted Infrastructure Recovery Factor filing for calendar year 2013, pursuant to D.P.U. 10-55 (2010).	9/11/2015
15-19	Petition of the Town of Winchendon for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/14/2015
15-58	Petition of the City of Salem for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/14/2015
15-59	Petition of the Town of Swampscott for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/14/2015
15-78	Petition of Mansfield Municipal Electric Department to the Department of Public Utilities for approval to use a rate of depreciation of five percent for the calendar year 2015.	9/15/2015
14-140	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities on its own Motion into Initiatives to Improve the Retail Electric Competitive Supply Market.	9/17/2015
15-16	Petition of the Town of Burlington for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/17/2015
15-17	Petition of the Town of Holliston for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/17/2015
15-18	Petition of the Town of Monterey for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/17/2015
15-61	Petition of the City of Haverhill for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/17/2015
15-63	Petition of the Town of Auburn for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/17/2015
15-GC-21	Petition of The Berkshire Gas Company for Approval of the First Amendment to the Transportation agreement between The Berkshire Gas Company and The University of Massachusetts - Amherst, originally approved by the Department in D.T.E. 04-GC-31.	9/17/2015
15-117	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil (Gas Division) for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Semi-Annual Peak Period Revenue Decoupling Adjustment Factor Reconciliation and Rate Filing.	9/18/2015
09-115	Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company for approval effective January 1, 2010 of its rate change filing for 2010 pursuant to the Electric Industry Restructuring Act, St. 1997, c. 164.	9/22/2015



Docket#	Caption	Order Date
15-BSF-D3	Basic Service filing of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid for the periods November 1, 2015 through April 30, 2016 for the residential and commercial customer groups, and November 1, 2015 through January 31, 2016 for the industrial customer group.	9/23/2015
15-76	Petition of Agawam Springs Water Company, Inc., for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Tariffs M.D.P.U. 5 (Rates and Charges), and M.D.P.U. 6 (Rules and Regulations), for effect on September 1, 2015.	9/24/2015
14-120	Petition of Plymouth Water Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of a base-revenue adjustment, pursuant to M.G.L. 164, § 94 and M.G.L. c. 165, § 2.	9/24/2015
15-GLR-01	Report to the Legislature on the Prevalence of Natural Gas Leaks.	9/24/2015
15-126	Petition for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of an Asset Management Agreement between Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil and Repsol Energy North America Corporation, pursuant to D.P.U. 08-73 (2009), to be effective November 1, 2015 to October 31, 2016.	9/25/2015
15-06	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid to the Department of Public Utilities for approval of its annual reconciliation filing for recovery of costs through its Solar Cost Adjustment Provision Tariff, M.D.P.U. No. 1245.	9/25/2015
15-10	Request of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company each d/b/a National Grid's to revise language in its currently effective Revenue Decoupling Mechanism Provision, M.D.P.U. No. 1231.	9/28/2015
14-108	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Pension and PBOP Expense Factor.	9/28/2015
14-110	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company/NSTAR Gas Company for approval of their annual pension and post-retirement benefits other than pensions adjustment factors for 2015.	9/28/2015
14-112	Petition of Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company each d/b/a National Grid for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2014 2015 Pension Adjustment Factor filing.	9/28/2015
14-114	Petition of Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2014 Pension Expense Adjustment Factor filing.	9/28/2015
14-145	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company and NSTAR Gas Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Companies' Annual Pension/PBOP Adjustment Factors filing, effective January 1, 2015.	9/28/2015
14-146	Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of proposed rate changes to the Company's annual Pension and Post-Retirement Benefits Other than Pension Adjustment Reconciliation Mechanism.	9/28/2015
EB 15-29	Sarsen Energy Group d/b/a Electricity.com	9/28/2015
EB 15-30	Insight Sourcing Group	9/28/2015
15-GAF-O1	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2015 Off-Peak Cost of Gas Adjustment Clause filing, for the period May 2015 through October 2015.	9/29/2015
15-05	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Annual Pension and Post-Retirement Benefits Other than Pensions Adjustment factors, in accordance with M.D.P.U. 1229.	9/29/2015
15-07	Petition of Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company each d/b/a National Grid for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2015 Off-Peak Revenue Decoupling Adjustment Factors, to be effective May 1, 2015 through October 31, 2015.	9/29/2015

Docket#	Caption	Order Date
15-105	Petition of the City of New Bedford for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/29/2015
15-106	Petition of the City of Fall River for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/29/2015
15-129	Petition of Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company, each d/b/a National Grid, for Approval of Contracts for Liquefied Natural Gas and Liquefaction Services, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94A.	9/29/2015
15-130	Petition of Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company, each d/b/a National Grid for approval of two firm transportation agreements with Millennium Pipeline Company, L.L.C.	9/29/2015
15-87	Petition of the Town of Chelmsford for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/29/2015
15-92	Petition of the City of Melrose for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/29/2015
15-93	Petition of the City of Attleboro for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	9/29/2015
15-GC-22	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval of a Firm Transportation Service Agreement between National Grid and Salem State University, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94 and 220 C.M.R. 5.03.	9/29/2015
15-GC-23	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval of a Firm Transportation Service Agreement between National Grid and CHB Properties Inc., pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94 and 220 C.M.R. 5.03.	9/29/2015
15-GC-24	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval of a Firm Transportation Service Agreement between National Grid and Hanscom Air Force Base, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94, and 220 C.M.R. 5.03.	9/29/2015
15-GC-25	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval of a Firm Transportation Service Agreement between National Grid and Northeastern University, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94 and 220 C.M.R. 5.03.	9/29/2015
15-76	Petition of Agawam Springs Water Company, Inc., for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Tariffs M.D.P.U. 5 (Rates and Charges), and M.D.P.U. 6 (Rules and Regulations), for effect on September 1, 2015.	9/30/2015
15-43	Petition of Massachusetts Local Distribution Gas Companies to the Department of Public Utilities pursuant to G.L. c. 164, §§ 69I and 76 for authorization to plan for a portion of the Winter 2015/2016 gas supply requirements of capacity exempt transportation customers.	10/1/2015
15-89	Petition of Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval of mid-term modifications for its 2013-2015 three-year energy efficiency budget.	10/1/2015
15-ERP-01	2015 Emergency Response Plan of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts.	10/2/2015
15-ERP-02	2015 Emergency Response Plan of The Berkshire Gas Company.	10/2/2015
15-ERP-03	2015 Emergency Response Plan of Blackstone Gas Company.	10/2/2015
15-ERP-04	2015 Emergency Response Plan of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil (Gas Division).	10/2/2015
15-ERP-05	2015 Emergency Response Plan of Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company d/b/a National Grid.	10/2/2015
15-ERP-06	2015 Emergency Response Plan of Liberty Utilities.	10/2/2015
15-ERP-07	2015 Emergency Response Plan of NSTAR Gas Company.	10/2/2015
15-100	Petition of the Town of Northbridge for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	10/2/2015
15-101	Petition of the Town of Norton for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	10/2/2015

Docket#	Caption	Order Date
15-102	Petition of the Town of Plainville for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	10/2/2015
15-103	Petition of the Town of Rehoboth for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	10/2/2015
15-104	Petition of the Town of Seekonk for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	10/2/2015
15-108	Petition of the Town of Dartmouth for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	10/2/2015
15-125	Petition of the Town of Westborough for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	10/2/2015
15-37	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities on its own Motion into the means by which new natural gas delivery capacity may be added to the New England Market, including actions to be taken by the electric distribution companies.	10/2/2015
15-94	Petition of the Town of Acushnet for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	10/2/2015
15-95	Petition of the Town of Somerset for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	10/2/2015
15-96	Petition of the Town of Swansea for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	10/2/2015
15-97	Petition of the Town of Dighton for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	10/2/2015
15-98	Petition of the Town of Fairhaven for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	10/2/2015
15-99	Petition of the Town of Freetown for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	10/2/2015
15-50	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for approval of the rates and charges set forth in Tariffs M.D.P.U. Nos. 177 through 211, and approval of an increase in base distribution rates for gas service pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94 and 220 C.M.R. § 5.00 et seq.	10/7/2015
15-79	Joint petition of Blackstone Gas Company, and Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company, each d/b/a National Grid, for approval of a service arrangement to provide energy efficiency services to Blackstone Gas customers.	10/7/2015
14-130	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2015 Gas System Enhancement Program Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 145, and for rates effective May 1, 2015.	10/8/2015
15-107	Petition of the Town of Carver for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	10/8/2015
15-109	Petition of the Town of Dedham for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	10/8/2015
15-110	Petition of the Town of Douglas for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	10/8/2015
15-111	Petition of the Town of Dracut for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	10/8/2015
15-112	Petition of the Town of Marion for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	10/8/2015
15-113	Petition of the Town of Mattapoisett for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	10/8/2015

Docket#	Caption	Order Date
15-114	Petition of the Town of Westport for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	10/8/2015
15-115	Petition of the Town of Westford for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	10/8/2015
15-BSF-A4	Request of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil for approval of Tariff Sheet No. 284 to implement Unitil's revised Basic Service prices, to be effective on December 1, 2015.	10/9/2015
CS 15-07	American PowerNet	10/16/2015
EB 15-27	Global Energy Direct	10/16/2015
EB 15-32	Evolution Energy Partners LLC	10/16/2015
EB 15-33	Advisors Energy Group	10/16/2015
RA 15-14	Global Energy Direct, LLC	10/19/2015
RA 15-15	Insight Sourcing Group, LLC	10/19/2015
RA 15-16	Evolution Energy Partners LLC	10/19/2015
15-POR-04	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Purchase of Receivables Program, effective May 1, 2015.	10/20/2015
15-119	Petition of Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company) Corporation d/b/a Liberty Utilities for approval of its Revenue Decoupling Adjustment Factor for the 2015 Peak Period, November 1, 2015 through April 30, 2016.	10/20/2015
11-15	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil, for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of Its Energy Efficiency Reconciliation Factors for effect June 1, 2011.	10/21/2015
11-21	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid for review and approval of its Energy Efficiency Reconciliation Factor filing (2011 EERF).	10/21/2015
11-38	Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of Its Energy Efficiency Reconciliation Factors for Effect July 1, 2011.	10/21/2015
11-40	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's proposed Energy Efficiency Reconciliation Factors (2011 EERFs).	10/21/2015
12-15	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil (Electric Division), for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of Its Energy Efficiency Reconciliation Factors for effect June 1, 2012.	10/21/2015
12-20	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid for review and approval of its Energy Efficiency Reconciliation Factor filing.	10/21/2015
12-34	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of Company's proposed Energy Efficiency Reconciliation Factors for effect July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013 (2012 EERF).	10/21/2015
12-35	Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of a change to its Energy Efficiency Program Cost Adjustment Factors, effective July 1, 2012.	10/21/2015
13-SQ-10	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil's Electric Division 2011 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	10/21/2015
13-SQ-11	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a National Grid's 2012 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	10/21/2015

Docket#	Caption	Order Date
13-SQ-12	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid's 2012 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	10/21/2015
13-SQ-13	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into NSTAR Electric Company's 2012 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	10/21/2015
13-SQ-14	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into Western Massachusetts Electric Company's 2012 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	10/21/2015
11-118	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil (Electric Division) for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Pension Adjustment Factor for effect on or after November 1, 2011.	10/22/2015
11-86	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil (Gas Division) for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Pension Adjustment Factor for effect on or after November 1, 2011.	10/22/2015
12-117	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's (Electric Division) Annual Pension/PBOP Adjustment Factor Reconciliation and Rate Filing.	10/22/2015
12-71	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Annual Pension/PBOP Adjustment Factor Reconciliation and Rate Filing.	10/22/2015
13-150	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's (Gas Division) Annual Pension/PBOP Adjustment Factor Reconciliation and Rate Filing.	10/22/2015
14-121	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2014 Distribution Rate Adjustment/Reconciliation Filing.	10/22/2015
15-131	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil (Electric Division) for review of its Annual Rate Adjustment and Reconciliation Filing for its Basic Service Costs Adder, pursuant to M.D.P.U. No. 282.	10/22/2015
15-74	Petition of Direct Energy Solar for an Exception for Harvest Valley Condominium Development Solar Project from the Net Metering regulations, 220 C.M.R. 18.09(7).	10/23/2015
15-84	Joint Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil, Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid, and NSTAR Electric Company and Western Massachusetts Electric Company (each d/b/a Eversource Energy)	10/26/2015
15-118	Petition of Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Peak Revenue Decoupling Adjustment Factors, effective for the period November 1, 2015 through April 30, 2016.	10/28/2015
15-50	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for approval of the rates and charges set forth in Tariffs M.D.P.U. Nos. 177 through 211, and approval of an increase in base distribution rates for gas service pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94 and 220 C.M.R. § 5.00 et seq.	10/28/2015
15-83	Petition of NSTAR Gas Company d/b/a Eversource Energy for Approval of Precedent Agreements with Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC, and Millennium Pipeline, LLC, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94A.	10/28/2015
15-GC-26	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval of the First Amendment to a Firm Transportation Service Agreement between National Grid and the Town of Braintree Electric Light Department, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94, and 220 C.M.R. 5.03, previously approved by the Department in D.P.U. 10-GC-19.	10/28/2015

Docket#	Caption	Order Date
15-GC-27	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval of a Firm Transportation Service Agreement between National Grid and Bird Incorporated d/b/a CertainTeed, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94 and 220 CMR 5.03.	10/28/2015
15-GC-28	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval of a Firm Transportation Service Agreement between National Grid and General Electric Company, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94 and 220 CMR 5.03.	10/28/2015
EB 15-35	Mirabito Energy Management	10/28/2015
14-138	Petition of Blackstone Gas Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Long-Range Forecast and Supply Plan.	10/30/2015
14-150	Petition of NSTAR Gas Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of an increase in rates, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94, and 220 C.M.R. §§ 5.00 et seq.	10/30/2015
15-135	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for approval of the Company's 2015-2016 Peak Period Revenue Decoupling Adjustment Factor, effective November 1, 2015.	10/30/2015
15-142	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia of Massachusetts for approval of a Firm Transportation Agreement with Millennium Pipeline Company, L.L.C., pursuant to G. L. c. 164, § 94A.	10/30/2015
15-GAF-P1	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for Approval of its Cost of Gas Adjustment – Peak Period Local Distribution Adjustment Factors for the Period November 2015 through April 2016.	10/30/2015
15-GAF-P2	Petition of The Berkshire Gas Company for Approval of its Remediation Adjustment Clause Compliance Filing for the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015, and Local Distribution Adjustment Clause tariff, currently Rate Schedule M.D.P.U. No. 484.	10/30/2015
15-GAF-P3	Blackstone Gas Company 2015 Annual Cost of Gas Adjustment Factor Reconciliation and the Peak Gas Adjustment Factor for November 2015 through April 30, 2016 period.	10/30/2015
15-GAF-P4	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil for review and approval of its Local Distribution Adjustment Clause Filing, for effect on November 1, 2015.	10/30/2015
15-GAF-P5	Petition of Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for review and approval of their 2015-2016 Consolidated Peak Local Distribution Adjustment Factors, for effect November 1, 2015.	10/30/2015
15-GAF-P6	Petition of New England Gas Company d/b/a Liberty Utilities for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2015 Peak Cost of Gas Adjustment Clause filing, and its proposed 2015-2016 Local Distribution Adjustment Factor.	10/30/2015
15-GAF-P8	Petition of NSTAR Gas Company for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2014 Peak Cost of Gas Adjustment Clause filing, and its Annual Remediation Adjustment Clause filing.	10/30/2015
15-136	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for Approval of the Company's Pension and PBOP Expense Factor.	10/31/2015
15-137	Petition of Liberty Utilities (New England Natural Gas Company) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2015 Pension Expense Adjustment Factor filing.	10/31/2015
15-138	Petition of Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company each d/b/a National Grid for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2015-2016 Pension Adjustment Factor filing.	10/31/2015
15-55	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its 2015 Targeted Infrastructure Reinvestment Factor Compliance Filing, for effect November 1, 2015.	10/31/2015
15-132	Joint Petition of Jonathan Le Roux and Krishnan V. Rajan for an Exception from the Net Metering Regulation, 220 C.M.R. § 18.00 et seq.	11/2/2015
RA 15-17	Mirabito Energy Products	11/2/2015

Docket#	Caption	Order Date
RA 15-18	The Energy Management Group	11/3/2015
15-155	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities on its own motion as to the propriety of the rates and charges proposed by Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company in their petition for approval of an increase in base distribution rates for electric service pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94 and 220 C.M.R. § 5.00 et seq., filed with the Department on November 6, 2015, to be effective December 1, 2015.	11/12/2015
15-157	Petition of Harbor Electric Energy Company for approval of initial rates, charges, rules and regulations set forth in Tariffs M.D.P.U. Nos. 600 and 601, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94 and 220 C.M.R. § 5.00 et seq.	11/12/2015
15-GC-29	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval of a 365-Day Firm Transportation Service Agreement between National Grid and the Massachusetts Port Authority, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94 and 220 C.M.R. 5.03.	11/19/2015
15-02	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of an Exemption to the Zoning Bylaws of the Town of Hopkinton, Massachusetts, in connection with the Company's proposal to expand Hopkinton Substation No. 126 located at 226 South Street in the Town of Hopkinton, pursuant to G.L. c. 40A, § 3.	11/20/2015
15-74	Petition of Direct Energy Solar for an Exception for Harvest Valley Condominium Development Solar Project from the Net Metering regulations, 220 C.M.R. 18.09(7).	11/20/2015
15-57	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of reconciliation of the Company's Basic Service Bad Debt Adder.	11/20/2015
15-143	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 69I, for approval its Long-Range Integrated Forecast and System Gas Supply Resource Plan for the period November 1, 2015 through October 31, 2020.	11/23/2015
15-ASMT-03	Storm Trust Fund Assessment of the Department of Public Utilities pursuant to G.L. c. 25, § 12P, and G.L. c. 25, § 18, for fiscal year 2016.	11/24/2015
14-148	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company to the Department of Public Utilities pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 69I, for Review and Approval of its Long-Range Forecast and Supply Plan for the five-year forecast period November 1, 2014, through October 31, 2019.	11/24/2015
14-83	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's 2013 Targeted Infrastructure Reinvestment Factor Compliance Filing, for effect November 1, 2014.	11/24/2015
15-158	Petition of Blackstone Gas Company for approval of the following revised tariffs: M.D.P.U. No. 81P (Residential Low Income Non-Heating Rate R-2) and M.D.P.U. No. 83P (Residential Low Income Heating Rate R-4), for effect December 1, 2015.	11/25/2015
15-GAF-P4	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil for review and approval of its Local Distribution Adjustment Clause Filing, for effect on November 1, 2015.	11/25/2015
15-GAF-P5	Petition of Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for review and approval of their 2015-2016 Consolidated Peak Local Distribution Adjustment Factors, for effect November 1, 2015.	11/25/2015
15-SQ-01	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts 2014 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	11/25/2015
15-SQ-02	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into The Berkshire Gas Company's 2014 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	11/25/2015
15-SQ-03	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into Blackstone Gas Company's 2014 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	11/25/2015

Docket#	Caption	Order Date
15-SQ-04	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unital's Gas Division 2014 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	11/25/2015
15-SQ-05	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid's 2014 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	11/25/2015
15-SQ-06	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into Colonial Gas Company d/b/a National Grid's 2014 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	11/25/2015
15-SQ-07	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into Essex Gas Company d/b/a National Grid's 2014 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	11/25/2015
15-SQ-08	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into Liberty Utilities (New England Gas Company) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities' 2014 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	11/25/2015
15-SQ-09	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into NSTAR Gas Company's 2014 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	11/25/2015
14-AMP-01	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of its 2014 Arrearage Management Program.	11/30/2015
14-AMP-02	Petition of The Berkshire Gas Company to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of its 2014 Residential Arrearage Management Program.	11/30/2015
14-AMP-03	Petition of Blackstone Gas Company to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of its 2014 Arrearage Management Plan.	11/30/2015
14-AMP-04	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unital to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of its 2014 Arrearage Management Program.	11/30/2015
14-AMP-05	Petition of Boston Gas Company, Colonial Gas Company, Essex Gas Company, Massachusetts Electric Company, and Nantucket Electric Company, each d/b/a National Grid to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of its 2014 Arrearage Management Program	11/30/2015
14-AMP-06	Petition of Liberty Utilities (New England Gas Company) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of its 2014 Arrearage Management Program.	11/30/2015
14-AMP-07	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company and NSTAR Gas Company to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of its 2014 Arrearage Forgiveness Program.	11/30/2015
14-AMP-08	Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of its 2014 Arrearage Management Program.	11/30/2015
14-RAAF-01	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Residential Assistance Adjustment Factor Filing.	11/30/2015
14-RAAF-02	Petition of The Berkshire Gas Company to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of the Company's Residential Assistance Adjustment Factor filing for the 2014-2015 Peak Period.	11/30/2015
14-RAAF-03	Petition of Blackstone Gas Company to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of the Company's Residential Assistance Adjustment Factor for the period November 2014 through October 2015.	11/30/2015



Docket#	Caption	Order Date
14-RAAF-04	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of the Company's Residential Assistance Adjustment Factor for the 2014-2015 Peak Period.	11/30/2015
14-RAAF-05	Petition of Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company d/b/a National Grid to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of the Company's Residential Assistance Adjustment Factor for the 2014-2015 Peak Period.	11/30/2015
14-RAAF-06	Petition of Liberty Utilities (New England Gas Company) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of the Company's Residential Assistance Adjustment Factor for the 2014-2015 Peak Period.	11/30/2015
14-RAAF-07	Petition of NSTAR Gas Company to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of the Company's Residential Assistance Adjustment Factor for the 2014-2015 Peak Period.	11/30/2015
14-RAAF-09	Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid to the Department of Public Utilities for review and approval of its Annual Residential Assistance Adjustment Factor Reconciliation and rate filing, effective March 1, 2015.	11/30/2015
14-RAAF-10	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's annual Residential Assistance Adjustment Factor filing.	11/30/2015
14-RAAF-11	Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's annual Residential Assistance Adjustment Factor filing.	11/30/2015
15-GC-30	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval of a 365-Day Firm Transportation Service Agreement between National Grid and Braintree Electric Light Department, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94 and 220 C.M.R. 5.03.	11/30/2015
15-117	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil (Gas Division) for review and approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Company's Semi-Annual Peak Period Revenue Decoupling Adjustment Factor Reconciliation and Rate Filing.	12/3/2015
15-170	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of a 15-Year Firm Transportation Agreement with Portland Natural Gas Transmission System.	12/3/2015
15-GSEP-01	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company Light Company d/b/a Unitil for Approval of its 2016 Gas System Enhancement Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 145, and for rates effective May 1, 2016.	12/3/2015
15-GSEP-02	Petition of The Berkshire Gas Company for Approval of its 2016 Gas System Enhancement Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 145, for rates effective May 1, 2016.	12/3/2015
15-GSEP-03	Petition of Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of the Companies' Gas System Enhancement Program for 2016, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 145, and for rates effective May 1, 2016.	12/3/2015
15-GSEP-04	Petition of Liberty Utilities for Approval of 2016 Gas System Enhancement Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 145, and for rates effective May 1, 2016.	12/3/2015
15-GSEP-05	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for Approval of 2016 Gas System Enhancement Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 145, and for rates effective May 1, 2016.	12/3/2015
15-GSEP-06	Petition of NSTAR Gas Company d/b/a Eversource Energy for Approval of its 2016 Gas System Enhancement Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 145, and for rates effective May 1, 2016.	12/3/2015
13-133	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company for approval and authorization to issue long-term debt not to exceed \$800,000,000, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 164, § 14.	12/4/2015
15-127	Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy to the Department of Public Utilities for Approval of Issuance of Long Term Debt securities in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$100,000,000, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 14.	12/4/2015

Docket#	Caption	Order Date
15-55	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its 2015 Targeted Infrastructure Reinvestment Factor Compliance Filing, for effect November 1, 2015.	12/7/2015
15-128	Petition of Marblehead Municipal Light Department to the Department of Public Utilities for approval to use a rate of depreciation of five percent for the calendar year 2015.	12/8/2015
CS 15-05	Shipley Choice d/b/a/ Shipley Energy	12/8/2015
EB 15-34	Condor National Inc	12/8/2015
EB 15-36	Marathon Energy Management	12/8/2015
EB 15-38	Axiom Retail Energy	12/8/2015
EB 15-42	Green Crown Energy LLC	12/8/2015
15-26	Joint Petition of UIL Holdings Corporation, together with Iberdrola USA, Inc., Iberdrola, S.A. and Green Merger Sub, Inc., pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 96, with respect to a proposed transaction whereby UIL will merge with and into Merger Sub.	12/15/2015
15-ASMT-02	Electric Trust Assessment of the Department of Public Utilities pursuant to G.L. c. 25, § 18, for fiscal year 2016.	12/16/2015
15-156	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil for approval of its Annual Revenue Decoupling Adjustment Filing.	12/17/2015
15-GAF-P3	Blackstone Gas Company 2015 Annual Cost of Gas Adjustment Factor Reconciliation and the Peak Gas Adjustment Factor for November 2015 through April 30, 2016 period.	12/17/2015
15-GC-31	Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval of a firm transportation service agreement between National Grid and Sprague Operating Resources, LLC, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94 and 220 C.M.R. 5.03.	12/17/2015
15-SQ-09	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into NSTAR Gas Company's 2014 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	12/17/2015
12-120	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities on its own motion regarding the service quality guidelines established in Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 99-84 (2001) and amended in Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116 (2007).	12/18/2015
15-155	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities on its own motion as to the propriety of the rates and charges proposed by Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company in their petition for approval of an increase in base distribution rates for electric service pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94 and 220 C.M.R. § 5.00 et seq., filed with the Department on November 6, 2015, to be effective December 1, 2015.	12/18/2015
14-150	Petition of NSTAR Gas Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of an increase in rates, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94, and 220 C.M.R. §§ 5.00 et seq.	12/22/2015
15-172	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Company d/b/a Unitil for approval of its Net Metering Recovery Surcharge, for effect January 1, 2016.	12/22/2015
15-179	Petition of Housatonic Water Works Company for approval of general changes in rates, pursuant to G.L. c. 165, § 2.	12/22/2015
15-133	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil for approval of the Company's Annual Pension/PBOP Adjustment Factor Reconciliation and Rate Filing, for effect November 1, 2015 through October 31, 2016.	12/23/2015
15-147	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company, NSTAR Gas Company and Western Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy for approval of their annual Pension/PBOP Adjustment Factors for effect January 1, 2016.	12/23/2015
15-175	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for approval of a storage contract with Enbridge Gas Distribution, Inc.	12/23/2015

Docket#	Caption	Order Date
13-SQ-11	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a National Grid's 2012 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	12/28/2015
13-SQ-12	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities into Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid's 2012 Service Quality Report filed pursuant to Service Quality Standards for Electric Distribution Companies and Local Gas Distribution Companies, D.T.E. 04-116-B (2006) and D.T.E. 04-116-C (2007).	12/28/2015
15-139	Petition of Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts for authorization and approval to issue long-term debt in the principal amount of up to \$95,000,000 pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 14; and for an exemption from the competitive solicitation and advertising requirements of G.L. c. 164, § 15.	12/28/2015
15-RAAF-10	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company and Western Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy for review and approval of the Company's Residential Assistance Adjustment Factor for effect on January 1, 2016.	12/28/2015
15-69	Petition of the Town of Adams for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	12/29/2015
15-86	Petition of the Town of Ashland for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	12/29/2015
15-90	Petition of the Town of Tewksbury for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	12/29/2015
15-145	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company requesting approval of its Smart Grid Rate Adjustment and Reconciliation Filing, for effect January 1, 2016.	12/29/2015
15-148	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company and Western Massachusetts Electric Company, each d/b/a Eversource Energy for approval of their Net Metering Recovery Surcharge.	12/29/2015
15-149	Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy for approval of its Storm Recovery Adjustment Factor.	12/29/2015
15-150	Request of Energy Efficiency Advisory Council for Approval of its 2015 Budget.	12/29/2015
15-173	Petition of Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil for approval if its Annual Electric Reconciliation Mechanism.	12/29/2015
15-177	Petition of the Towns of Aquinnah, Barnstable, Bourne, Brewster, Chatham, Chilmark, Dennis, Eastham, Edgartown, Falmouth, Harwich, Mashpee, Oak Bluffs, Orleans, Provincetown, Sandwich, Tisbury, Truro, Wellfleet, West Tisbury, Yarmouth, and the Counties of Barnstable and Dukes, acting together as the Cape Light Compact, to the Department of Public Utilities, for approval of revised Energy Efficiency Surcharges for effect January 1, 2016.	12/29/2015
14-72	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities on its own Motion to Revise Guidelines for Electric Companies' Emergency Response Plans.	12/30/2015
15-60	Petition of the City of Methuen for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	12/30/2015
15-62	Petition of the City of Newburyport for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	12/30/2015
15-91	Petition of the Town of Cheshire for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134.	12/30/2015
15-151	Request of Western Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy for approval of its Annual Solar Compliance Filing for the Company's solar program, including the proposed solar program cost adjustment rates for implementation on January 1, 2016.	12/30/2015
15-176	Petition of Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid for approval of a proposed cable facilities surcharge, to be effective January 1, 2016, related to the two submarine cables serving the Island of Nantucket.	12/30/2015

Docket#	Caption	Order Date
15-183	Investigation of the Department of Public Utilities, on its own motion, instituting a rulemaking pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, § 2; 220 C.M.R. § 2.00 et seq.; and Executive Order 562 to amend or rescind 220 C.M.R. §§ 1.00, 2.00, 5.00, 6.00, 9.00, 11.00, 14.00, 30.00, 77.00, and 79.00.	12/30/2015
15-184	Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities on its own Motion to Establish Electronic Filing Guidelines.	12/30/2015
15-185	Investigation of the Department of Public Utilities, on its own motion, instituting a rulemaking pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, § 2, 220 C.M.R. § 2.00 et seq., and Executive Order 562 to amend or rescind 220 C.M.R. §§ 150.00, 250.00, and 271.00.	12/30/2015
15-152	Petition of NSTAR Electric Company and Western Massachusetts Electric Company, each d/b/a Eversource Energy, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 1A(a) and 220 C.M.R. § 11.03(4)(e) for approval of (1) their 2015 electric reconciliation filing and (2) NSTAR Electric Company's 2015 distribution rate adjustments under the capital projects scheduling list program, effective January 1, 2016.	12/31/2015
	<b>Number of Orders Issued :</b>	<b>561</b>