

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

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**MATTHEW H. NELSON**  
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**CECILE M. FRASER**  
COMMISSIONER

April 16, 2021

Dear Honorable Members of the Senate,

The Department of Public Utilities (DPU) is pleased to announce that it has opened formal inquiry focused on increasing public awareness of and participation in DPU proceedings. Through this investigation, the DPU will explore opportunities to increase stakeholder engagement and ensure that—regardless of English proficiency—all people have been provided with the same opportunity to participate in our proceedings.

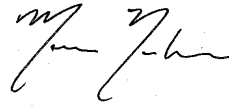
Over the course of the last year, the DPU, in collaboration with the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA), has been developing an agency specific environmental justice strategy, consistent with EEA's Environmental Justice Policy and the comprehensive climate legislation recently signed into law. The DPU has opened this inquiry as part of these efforts to explore new strategies to boost community outreach and increase participation and engagement in our proceedings.

We are seeking broad public engagement and hope that you will share this information with any organization or persons that may be interested in participating. Notice of this proceeding has been translated into Spanish and Portuguese, posted on the DPU's [website](#), and will be published in multiple newspapers, posted on the websites of utilities that DPU regulates, sent to stakeholders, and sent to all municipalities in the Commonwealth.

Should you have any questions about this proceeding or any other Department matter, please contact Sheila Keane, Acting Deputy of Communications and External Affairs, at [sheila.keane@mass.gov](mailto:sheila.keane@mass.gov).

The DPU looks forward to our continued partnership as we work to ensure that all members of the public are given an equal and meaningful opportunity to participate in DPU proceedings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew Nelson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M" and a long, sweeping tail.

Matthew Nelson  
Chair

cc: Robert Hayden, Commissioner  
Cecile M. Fraser, Commissioner