



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

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February 19, 2016

BY U.S. MAIL

William F. Welch
Clerk of the Senate
State House
Room 335
Boston, MA 02133

Steven T. James
Clerk of the House of Representatives
Room 145
Boston, MA 02113

Re: Special Utility Commission (Chapter 259 of the Acts of 2014, § 61)

Dear Senate Clerk Welch and House Clerk James:

I am writing to you regarding the special commission (“Commission”) to investigate and study ways to improve coordination among utility providers and municipalities to reduce unnecessary or duplicative roadway construction related to underground utilities, mandated by Chapter 259 of the Acts of 2014, § 61.

Section 61 specifies that this Commission shall be comprised of the following eleven members:

APPOINTEE	APPOINTED BY
DPU Chair or designee	----
Representative of a metropolitan planning organization	Senate President
Representative of the Utility Contractors’ Association of New England	Senate President
Member of an Energy Utility	Speaker of the House of Representatives

APPOINTEE	APPOINTED BY
Representative of the American Council of Engineering Companies of Massachusetts	Speaker of the House of Representatives
Representative of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation	Governor
Representative of the Department of Environmental Protection	Governor
Representative of the Boston Water & Sewer Commission	Governor
Representative of the Massachusetts Water Works Association	Governor
Representative of the Massachusetts Municipal Association	Governor
Employee of a Gas Utility with expertise in the planning of gas and electrical construction projects	Governor

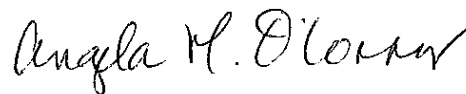
Section 61 further requires the Commission to report to the General Court the results of its investigation and its recommendations, if any, together with drafts of any legislation necessary to carry its recommendations into effect.

The Department of Public Utilities takes this mission seriously and strives to deliver a thorough investigation and provide the Commission's recommendations to the General Court. The Commission commits to submitting its report to you by no later than December 2016.

Most of the Commission appointees have been identified and approved at this time. The Department of Public Utilities plans to hold a kick-off meeting for the Commission in March.

If you have any questions, or need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Respectfully,



Angela M. O'Connor
Chairman, Department of Public
Utilities

cc: Stanley C. Rosenberg, The Honorable President of the Massachusetts Senate
Robert A. DeLeo, The Honorable Speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives

Alexandra Cahill, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (by e-mail).
Stolle Singleton, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (by e-mail).
Natasha Perez, Chief of Staff to President of the Senate (by e-mail).
James Eisenberg, Chief of Staff to the Speaker of the House (by e-mail).
Joseph Delaney, Department of Environmental Protection (by e-mail).
John P. Sullivan, Boston Water & Sewer Commission (by e-mail).
Diane Stokes, Massachusetts Water Works Association (by e-mail).
Eric Johnson, Massachusetts Municipal Association (by e-mail).
Amy Smith, National Grid Group (by e-mail).
Michael Lenihan, Utility Contractors Association of New England (by e-mail).