



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

MEMORANDUM

TO: Distribution List in:
D.P.U. 19-07, Investigation into Initiatives to Promote and Protect Consumer Interests in the Retail Electric Competitive Supply Market.

FROM: Gregory Wade, Hearing Officer

RE: Energy Switch MA Website Rules

DATE: October 27, 2020

CC: Mark D. Marini, Secretary

I. INTRODUCTION

On October 14, 2016, the Department of Public Utilities (“Department”) launched a website for competitive supply shopping (“Website”). On October 26, 2016, the Department established rules governing competitive supplier participation and electric supply product listing on the Website (“Website Rules”). Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities on its own Motion into Initiatives to Improve the Retail Electric Competitive Supply Market, D.P.U. 14-140-E at 3 (2016). On October 17, 2017, the Department issued revised Website Rules. On January 18, 2019 the Department opened its Investigation into Initiatives to Promote and Protect Consumer Interests in the Retail Electric Competitive Supply Market, D.P.U. 19-07 (2019). In D.P.U. 19-07, the Department requested comments from stakeholders on initiatives that would increase consumer awareness of the competitive supply market through the Website. D.P.U. 19-07, at 7. Commenters identified the Website display of municipal aggregation products as one such initiative. D.P.U. 19-07-A at 81. On November 1, 2019, Department staff held a technical conference to discuss this issue with stakeholders. On February 5, 2020, the Department issued a Hearing Officer memorandum which proposed, with limited exception, that the Website Rules would apply equally to municipal aggregators and municipal aggregation products. On May 22, 2020, the

Department issued D.P.U. 19-07-A which, among other things, set forth the revisions to the Website Rules that the Department deemed necessary to the display of municipal aggregation products. D.P.U. 19-07-A at 90.

II. IMPLEMENTATION

In D.P.U. 19-07-A at 91, the Department noted that once the Department and our Website vendor could implement the rule revisions, the Department would issue revised Website Rule and notify stakeholders when the Website revisions would take effect. The Department is attaching revised Website Rules, as Attachment 1, to this Hearing Officer memorandum, which reflect the changes described in D.P.U. 19-07-A.¹ **The revised Website Rules and Website changes will take effect on November 3, 2020.** Municipal aggregators seeking to display their municipal aggregation products on the Website must fill out the online form available at [Register to display products on Energy Switch MA](#).

¹ The Department made two additional minor changes to the Website Rules. First, the Department added “community solar program” as an additional energy-related service. Second, the Department removed reference to an application program interface, also known as API, to enter product information because this method is currently not available.