

## VOLUME B, PAGES 1-60

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES  
EFSB 21-02/DPU 22-59

PUBLIC COMMENT HEARING, held via Zoom  
video conference by the Energy Facilities Siting  
Board, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts, on  
Tuesday, July 12, 2022, commencing at 7:00 p.m.,  
concerning

## CRANBERRY POINT ENERGY STORAGE, LLC

SITTING: Andre Gibeau, Presiding Officer

EFSB: Andrew Greene, director  
Joan Foster Evans, general counsel  
John Young, technical director  
Erik-Logan Hughes, analyst

-----Reporter: David A. Arsenault, RPR-----

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<p>Page 2</p> <p>1 APPEARANCES:</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 Pierce Atwood LLP</p> <p>4 Andrew O. Kaplan, Esq.</p> <p>5 100 Summer Street, Suite 2250</p> <p>6 Boston, Massachusetts 02110</p> <p>7 617.488.8100</p> <p>8 akaplan@pierceatwood.com</p> <p>9 Cranberry Point Energy Storage, LLC</p> <p>10</p> <p>11</p> <p>12</p> <p>13</p> <p>14</p> <p>15</p> <p>16</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p>	<p>Page 4</p> <p>1 this project last November. The Board is conducting</p> <p>2 a second public comment hearing regarding the</p> <p>3 project because of the zoning petition.</p> <p>4 My name is Andre Gibeau. I am the</p> <p>5 Presiding Officer in this proceeding, and I am</p> <p>6 conducting the remote public comment hearing</p> <p>7 tonight.</p> <p>8 As you can see on your Zoom video</p> <p>9 screen, there are a number of others with me from</p> <p>10 the Siting Board who will be involved in the review</p> <p>11 of this project, including Andrew Greene, director</p> <p>12 of the Siting Division; Joan Foster Evans, general</p> <p>13 counsel of the Siting Division; John Young,</p> <p>14 technical director of the Siting Division; and</p> <p>15 Erik-Logan Hughes, an analyst with the Siting</p> <p>16 Division.</p> <p>17 Counsel and company representatives from</p> <p>18 Cranberry Point are participating remotely on this</p> <p>19 Zoom public comment hearing. Using Zoom the public</p> <p>20 will have a full opportunity to see and hear</p> <p>21 everything said during this hearing and to offer</p> <p>22 comment and ask questions.</p> <p>23 To those of you accessing the meeting by</p> <p>24 phone dial-in, you too can hear everything and have</p>
<p>Page 3</p> <p>1 PROCEEDINGS -- 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>2 MR. GIBEAU: Good evening. I would like</p> <p>3 to welcome everyone to this remote public comment</p> <p>4 hearing EFSB 21-02/DPU 22-59. This case involves</p> <p>5 the petition of Cranberry Point Energy Storage, LLC,</p> <p>6 otherwise known as Cranberry Point or the company,</p> <p>7 to construct a 150-megawatt, 300-megawatt-per-hour</p> <p>8 battery energy storage system and ancillary</p> <p>9 electrical equipment to be located on a six-acre</p> <p>10 parcel of land at 31R Main Street, Carver,</p> <p>11 Massachusetts. We will refer to this proposed</p> <p>12 battery energy storage system as the project.</p> <p>13 On May 11, 2022 the company filed a</p> <p>14 petition with the Department of Public Utilities</p> <p>15 pursuant to General Law Chapter 40A, Subsection 3,</p> <p>16 for a comprehensive exemption of the zoning bylaws</p> <p>17 for the Town of Carver. The Siting Board will</p> <p>18 review the zoning petition to determine whether the</p> <p>19 zoning exemption is required for the project and if</p> <p>20 the proposed use of the land or structure is</p> <p>21 reasonably necessary for the convenience or welfare</p> <p>22 of the public. The Siting Board will review the two</p> <p>23 petitions in one proceeding. The Siting Board</p> <p>24 previously conducted a public comment hearing for</p>	<p>Page 5</p> <p>1 an opportunity to comment or ask questions. The</p> <p>2 instructions on how to participate were provided in</p> <p>3 the public comment hearing notice that was published</p> <p>4 in the newspapers and the notices sent to abutters.</p> <p>5 The public comment hearing notice was also posted to</p> <p>6 the Cranberry Point website. In addition, you can</p> <p>7 find the notice on the website of the Siting Board</p> <p>8 under EFSB Siting Calendar and today's date.</p> <p>9 Furthermore, the entire petition is available on the</p> <p>10 Siting Board's website.</p> <p>11 I will now briefly describe the nature</p> <p>12 of the filings made by Cranberry Point as related to</p> <p>13 its proposed project. Next, I will allow the</p> <p>14 company to make a presentation regarding the</p> <p>15 project. After that presentation I will open the</p> <p>16 floor to comments and questions from members of the</p> <p>17 public who wish to offer oral comments tonight.</p> <p>18 Please note that we will also review any written</p> <p>19 comments submitted by the public by email through</p> <p>20 Tuesday, July 26, 2022.</p> <p>21 Cranberry Point proposes to construct a</p> <p>22 150-megawatt or 300-megawatt-per-hour battery energy</p> <p>23 storage system to be located in the Town of Carver.</p> <p>24 The project is a stand-alone energy storage system</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 6</p> <p>1 and it is not designed to be co-located with  2 renewable energy generation onsite. The project  3 will consist of lithium-ion batteries located inside  4 aboveground, self-contained enclosures. Cranberry  5 Point would initially install approximately 116  6 enclosures.</p> <p>7 The Siting Board will review the project  8 under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 164,  9 Subsection 69J 1/4. Pursuant to this statute, the  10 Siting Board will review the company's filing to  11 determine whether the proposed project would  12 contribute to a reliable energy supply with a  13 minimum impact on the environment at the lowest  14 possible cost. The Siting Board will also review  15 the zoning petition pursuant to General Law Chapter  16 40A, Subsection 3, to determine whether the zoning  17 exemption is required for the project and whether  18 the proposed use of the land or structure is  19 reasonably necessary for the convenience or welfare  20 of the public.</p> <p>21 The deadline for participation as an  22 intervenor or as a limited participant is Tuesday,  23 July 26, 2022, which is also the deadline to provide  24 written comments as outlined in the notice of the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 8</p> <p>1 Andrew Kaplan. I'm representing Cranberry Point  2 Energy Storage, LLC in this matter. I'm with the  3 law firm of Pierce Atwood, 100 Summer Street,  4 Boston, Mass. 02110.</p> <p>5 MR. GIBEAU: Thank you. After the  6 company's presentation we will open the floor for  7 comments and questions from the public. Would the  8 company like to begin its presentation regarding the  9 proposed project?</p> <p>10 MR. KAPLAN: We would. I would like to  11 introduce you to Allyson Sand who is the project  12 lead.</p> <p>13 MR. GIBEAU: Thank you.</p> <p>14 MS. SAND: Hi, everyone. My name is  15 Allyson Sand. I am the director of project  16 development at Plus Power working on the Cranberry  17 Point Energy Storage here in Carver, Massachusetts.  18 We really appreciate all of you participating in  19 tonight's hearing meeting and we look forward to  20 hearing from you.</p> <p>21 I would like to give you the background  22 on the purpose and function of battery energy  23 storage systems, the plan and benefits for this  24 important project for the region, why we submitted a</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 7</p> <p>1 public comment hearing. We would encourage anyone  2 who does seek to participate to review the material  3 published on the Siting Board website which outlines  4 the different ways in which you can participate in  5 our proceedings. For example, you may participate  6 as a full intervenor with rights to ask discovery  7 questions of the company, present witnesses, ask  8 questions of witnesses testifying at the hearings,  9 file briefs and motions, and to appeal the decision  10 of the Siting Board.</p> <p>11 In the alternative, you may participate  12 as a limited participant who can receive filings  13 made in this proceeding, and who may file briefs to  14 the Siting Board. The information on participation  15 is also in the public comment hearing notice for  16 this proceeding. If you would like a copy of the  17 notice and intervention rules, please send your  18 contact information to my email at Andre.Gibeau@  19 mass.gov, that's A n d r e period G i b e a u  20 @mass.gov. And I can send the information to you by  21 email.</p> <p>22 Now for the company presentation. May I  23 have appearances of counsel, please.</p> <p>24 MR. KAPLAN: Good evening. My name is</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 9</p> <p>1 comprehensive zoning exemption petition, and address  2 some misinformation about the safety of our project  3 and how our company approaches safety. We have also  4 seen some inaccurate information on social media  5 about the project and about storage in general, and  6 want to provide you with all of the facts.</p> <p>7 To orient everyone, on this slide here  8 you will see a proposed aerial rendering of our  9 project site outlined in blue. And throughout this  10 slide deck I'll show you a few other proposed  11 renderings of the project to help you visualize the  12 location and the project components.</p> <p>13 First at a high level, I want to give  14 you an overview of what a battery energy storage  15 system does and the role it plays in our nation's  16 ever-evolving electrical system. Essentially  17 battery storage systems use battery technology to  18 manage variations in power generation on the  19 existing electrical grid. During periods of  20 oversupply when there's excess electricity  21 available, a battery project can store that  22 temporarily; and then during periods of peak demand  23 can discharge or provide that electricity back onto  24 the system when and where it is needed most.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 10</p> <p>1 Our electrical grid and the power</p> <p>2 sources connected to it are rapidly evolving and</p> <p>3 batteries storage projects like this one will enable</p> <p>4 more renewable intermittent generation to come on</p> <p>5 line, especially as older conventional generation</p> <p>6 retires. Stand-alone energy storage projects like</p> <p>7 Cranberry Point will be connected directly to</p> <p>8 existing high-voltage transmission infrastructure.</p> <p>9 So instead of using energy from a co-located</p> <p>10 resource, like a renewable resource like solar, this</p> <p>11 project will store and discharge energy directly</p> <p>12 from the electrical grid.</p> <p>13 The development area proposed for this</p> <p>14 facility, which you can see to your right in the</p> <p>15 proposed rendering of the fenced area, is</p> <p>16 approximately six acres in size. In the foreground</p> <p>17 of this rendering you will see the white enclosures,</p> <p>18 which will house the battery cells. In the</p> <p>19 background you can see the switchyard equipment</p> <p>20 required for Eversource to connect to the project to</p> <p>21 their existing 115 kV SEMASS transmission line that</p> <p>22 exists to the west of our project in the existing</p> <p>23 transmission corridor.</p> <p>24 This site is visually buffered by</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 12</p> <p>1 Detailed studies in compliance with</p> <p>2 Massachusetts law have proven that no cultural sites</p> <p>3 have been identified within the project area.</p> <p>4 Additionally, battery cells and enclosures are</p> <p>5 designed to prevent leaking. Given these rigorous</p> <p>6 product standards, testing and installation codes</p> <p>7 for stationary battery storage, groundwater is not</p> <p>8 at risk.</p> <p>9 One important factor in siting battery</p> <p>10 energy storage systems is the proximity to existing</p> <p>11 electrical infrastructure. This project, as I</p> <p>12 previously mentioned, is adjacent to the existing</p> <p>13 Carver substation directly north.</p> <p>14 Within the battery facility itself there</p> <p>15 will be approximately 116 enclosures which will</p> <p>16 house the battery cells and racking systems that are</p> <p>17 fully enclosed and cannot be entered by humans.</p> <p>18 These enclosures will be installed on concrete pads</p> <p>19 set above the grade.</p> <p>20 Regarding access to the site, there is a</p> <p>21 perimeter road around the entire project area and</p> <p>22 the existing road from Main Street in Carver will be</p> <p>23 used for access. All predicted noise levels from</p> <p>24 the project are within the Massachusetts Department</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 11</p> <p>1 existing trees to the west, to the south and east</p> <p>2 with the existing Carver substation directly to the</p> <p>3 north. To clarify, the land on which the project</p> <p>4 will be installed has not been used previously as a</p> <p>5 cranberry bog and the existing bogs will not be</p> <p>6 impacted by this development.</p> <p>7 From an environmental perspective, the</p> <p>8 project has been designed to minimize environmental</p> <p>9 impacts and avoid all direct wetland impacts. The</p> <p>10 Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act, or MEPA</p> <p>11 office, is reviewing Cranberry Point to ensure that</p> <p>12 any environmental consequences are studied and that</p> <p>13 we take all feasible measures to avoid, minimize and</p> <p>14 mitigate damage to the environment.</p> <p>15 The project is not located within any</p> <p>16 mapped pine barrens ecosystems. We generate near</p> <p>17 zero air emissions. And contrary to what has been</p> <p>18 cited on social media, there are no direct impacts</p> <p>19 to wetlands.</p> <p>20 The project will not interfere with</p> <p>21 heritage agricultural uses and the site is not</p> <p>22 located within priority or estimated habitat and is</p> <p>23 not subject to Massachusetts Endangered Species Act</p> <p>24 review.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 13</p> <p>1 of Environmental Protection standards. And traffic</p> <p>2 impacts due to initial construction of the project</p> <p>3 and occasional onsite maintenance as required along</p> <p>4 with inspections will all be minimal. This project</p> <p>5 will be unmanned but will be remotely monitored 24/7</p> <p>6 from an operations and safety perspective.</p> <p>7 The southeast Massachusetts zone of the</p> <p>8 regional transmission grid is expected to encounter</p> <p>9 transmission limitations in the near term due to the</p> <p>10 integration of significant wind power off the</p> <p>11 Massachusetts coast. Battery systems like ours can</p> <p>12 help relieve some of this expected electrical</p> <p>13 congestion.</p> <p>14 Additionally, increasing renewable</p> <p>15 energy onshore and offshore in southeastern</p> <p>16 Massachusetts requires tools like battery storage to</p> <p>17 mitigate intermittent generation and help stabilize</p> <p>18 the grid. As mentioned, the project is adjacent to</p> <p>19 this existing electrical infrastructure and is set</p> <p>20 back from streets and homes and visually buffered as</p> <p>21 well. This site is also proximal to onshore landing</p> <p>22 points of these new offshore wind resources.</p> <p>23 Cranberry Point will also provide</p> <p>24 numerous benefits to the state and local community.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 14</p> <p>1 Because Cranberry Point will support existing  2 renewable energy and enable future renewable energy  3 to come online, the project will help ensure the  4 stability of the regional transmission system.  5 Unlike other conventional generation sources, this  6 project can respond instantaneously which will both  7 improve reliability and relieve transmission  8 congestion.  9 This project will also contribute  10 significantly to the Commonwealth's energy storage  11 initiative of one gigawatthour of battery storage by  12 2025. Local construction jobs will be created for  13 the 9- to 12-month construction period, and in  14 addition tens of millions of dollars of tax revenue  15 will be provided directly to the Town of Carver over  16 the project's life. In fact, Cranberry Point will  17 be one of the top taxpayers in the Town of Carver  18 without burdening any town services.  19 This hearing is happening tonight to  20 discuss this project and the associated 40A petition  21 for a comprehensive zoning exemption which was  22 submitted to the DPU. Since 2018 we have worked  23 closely with the Town of Carver staff and elected  24 officials on our project and the site design. This</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 16</p> <p>1 choice, design, location and installation of these  2 systems thoughtfully and diligently and utilize  3 experts as well to inform our decision-making and  4 our design process.  5 There are standards and codes in place  6 specifically for stationary battery energy storage  7 systems, codes like NFPA 855, the international fire  8 code, multiple UL standards, and national electric  9 codes all apply to storage projects like Cranberry  10 Point. The products and systems that we use will be  11 fully tested, and the project will be in full  12 compliance with NFPA 855 and UL 9540A codes which  13 govern the safe installation of battery energy  14 storage systems and the testing for thermal run-away  15 respectively.  16 The project at Cranberry Point has a  17 full-time staff of long-time Massachusetts residents  18 with over 50 years of combined experience in energy  19 storage and electric utility projects. Cranberry  20 Point also works hand in hand with the technical  21 consulting group Energy Safety Response Group, or  22 ESRG, which is comprised of former senior  23 firefighters and industry experts who were deeply  24 involved in the creation of the New York City,</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 15</p> <p>1 includes town administrators, planning boards, the  2 Carver Conservation Commission and the Carver Fire  3 Department. We have had a very positive  4 relationship with the town, and we look forward to  5 continuing our positive relationships with the town  6 staff and officials now and throughout the life of  7 the project.  8 In 2018 and 2019 we completed the  9 outlined permitting process in Carver and received a  10 site plan review and special permit in 2019. We  11 will continue complying with all of the conditions  12 that were set forth in that approval.  13 Even though the town has made it clear  14 that the battery storage moratorium which was  15 approved in April of this year does not apply to  16 this development, we are requesting a 40A  17 comprehensive zoning exemption to protect the  18 project and the previously approved and granted  19 permits from any future potential bylaw changes.  20 Most importantly, we have heard concerns  21 about risks that these projects can pose, and we  22 want you to know that we approach battery storage  23 project development with a deep safety ethos.  24 Safety is our priority and we approach product</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 17</p> <p>1 Boston, and national safety codes for battery  2 storage. These individuals were also involved in  3 the original development and the continued  4 enhancement of the NFPA 855 standard. For those  5 reasons we hired the former firefighters at ESRG to  6 review our project and our safety plans in detail to  7 ensure that not only the facility will be safe but  8 that in the unlikely event of a fire it is safely  9 managed per the latest codes and standards.  10 As we have progressed through the  11 development of the project, we have kept in close  12 coordination with the Carver Fire Department to  13 review the site design and draft the emergency  14 response plan which will be finalized alongside the  15 Carver Fire Department prior to construction start.  16 Training for first responders will be  17 planned as well, and personnel will be onsite during  18 construction prior to commercial operations at the  19 project.  20 Lastly, we have read on social media and  21 heard a lot of misinformation about the project  22 details. We want to clarify the facts. The project  23 is not in or near a state-mapped pine barrens. The  24 project's construction will not involve soil mining</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 18</p> <p>1 and any unneeded soil will remain on the property.  2 It is designed around nearby wetlands and cranberry  3 bogs but does not impact either. The project is  4 only stand-alone storage. It is not solar, and is  5 not a Massachusetts SMART recipient.  6 And regarding fire safety and  7 protection, if a fire occurs Tesla -- the proposed  8 manufacturer of the system -- does not recommend  9 fire suppression nor use of water suppression based  10 on UL 9540A testing by a nationally recognized  11 testing lab. Based on this recommendation and the  12 testing results, no water should be applied and the  13 unit that does catch on fire, if that were to occur,  14 will be contained and should be allowed to fully  15 self-extinguish. If the fire department in Carver  16 decides to apply water to adjacent equipment as  17 defensive approach, that water would not contain  18 materials from the burning unit and would be  19 infiltrated and treated by the project's stormwater  20 design in the same fashion as rain.  21 Lastly, NFPA 855 requires explosion  22 control and offgasing mechanisms to be incorporated  23 in battery energy storage systems design. And this  24 was direct learning from previous events such as the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 20</p> <p>1 audio issues and potential delays. Therefore, it is  2 imperative to speak slowly and clearly and allow a  3 speaker to finish speaking before you begin speaking  4 and to pay attention to the video of the person  5 speaking and to my video. I will raise my hand as a  6 signal on my video if I need to interrupt the person  7 currently speaking to ask them to stop. We may also  8 take frequent breaks. We appreciate everyone's  9 cooperation and participation in this hearing.  10 I apologize to you in advance for any  11 technical difficulties that we may encounter during  12 the course of this remote public comment hearing.  13 If you have problems, please raise your hand using  14 the Zoom toolbar, or dial Star 9 on your phone if  15 you are participating by phone. You may call or text  16 857-200-0065 for assistance.  17 In the notice we requested that anyone  18 with interest in speaking notify the Siting Board in  19 advance if possible. This is a great help due to  20 the mechanics of the remote platform.  21 We begin with those federal, state and  22 the local officials who wish to be heard and then we  23 will proceed to the members of the public who have  24 signed up to speak in the order in which they signed</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 19</p> <p>1 battery storage fire in Surprise, Arizona where  2 these features were not included in the equipment.  3 We truly appreciate you all joining us  4 tonight for this public comment hearing to learn  5 more about our project in Carver, and we look  6 forward to hearing comments from the Carver  7 community. Thank you so much.  8 MR. GIBEAU: Does that conclude the  9 company's presentation tonight?  10 MR. KAPLAN: It does.  11 MR. GIBEAU: We will move on to public  12 comment. Before we begin, I'm going to outline some  13 guidelines to use when speaking at this hearing.  14 There is a stenographer who is also participating  15 remotely who will transcribe everything said during  16 this hearing. The public comment hearing is also  17 streaming to the Department of Public Utilities'  18 YouTube channel, although the transcript produced by  19 the stenographer is the official record of this  20 hearing.  21 As we are all relying on the internet or  22 telephones to participate, we could experience some  23 technical difficulties such as sound from speakers  24 including potential background noise, video and</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 21</p> <p>1 up.  2 Finally, we will allow anyone who wishes  3 to speak and did not have the chance to let us know  4 in advance. We ask that you please give your name  5 and address and spell your name for the stenographer  6 and speak slowly and clearly. Again, please stop  7 speaking if you see me raise my hand in my video; or  8 if a company response to a comment or question asked  9 is appropriate, I will ask the company's  10 representatives if they would like to respond.  11 We begin with public officials. Are  12 there any public officials who wish to be heard? If  13 so, please raise your hand using the Zoom feature  14 and one of our staff will take the steps necessary  15 to allow your comments to be heard by everyone and  16 included in the transcript of this hearing. Please  17 identify yourself by giving your name and the office  18 that you hold for the record.  19 MR. GREENE: Mr. Gibeau, I do not  20 believe we had any preregistered public officials  21 that I am aware of. If anyone is present who's a  22 public official and would like to speak, please use  23 the raise-hand icon on the bottom of your screen.  24 We are not seeing anyone. The next group of</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 22</p> <p>1 speakers are the public commenters.</p> <p>2 MR. GIBEAU: We will now open the floor</p> <p>3 to members of the general public. We will start</p> <p>4 with those people who have signed up in advance with</p> <p>5 the Siting Board before this hearing in the order in</p> <p>6 which they made the request. Next we will take</p> <p>7 anyone else who wishes to speak. We will ask those</p> <p>8 who have already spoken once to wait until everyone</p> <p>9 has the opportunity to speak once before seeking to</p> <p>10 add to their original questions or comments. If you</p> <p>11 would like to speak, please raise your hand button</p> <p>12 on Zoom or dial Star 9 on your phone if you are</p> <p>13 dialing in.</p> <p>14 MR. GREENE: The first preregistered</p> <p>15 speaker is Charles Myers who I believe is in the</p> <p>16 panel.</p> <p>17 MR. GIBEAU: Mr. Myers?</p> <p>18 MR. MYERS: Good evening. I want to</p> <p>19 thank you very much for letting me have the</p> <p>20 opportunity to speak with you. I am someone that</p> <p>21 has over 20 years of experience in Massachusetts,</p> <p>22 the Northeast and the Mideast states -- mid-Atlantic</p> <p>23 states with respect to alternative energy siting</p> <p>24 facilities and working (inaudible). I make an</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 24</p> <p>1 leave, if you could provide your address, please,</p> <p>2 for the record.</p> <p>3 MR. MYERS: 9 Curtis Lane, Medway,</p> <p>4 Massachusetts.</p> <p>5 May I add one other comment? I was</p> <p>6 going to comment on seasonality of events because</p> <p>7 that was something referenced in an earlier safety</p> <p>8 response. If one goes to the EPRI database, the</p> <p>9 Electric Power Research Institute, I have provided</p> <p>10 previously a summary of the EPRI event for battery</p> <p>11 energy storage, and in fact there is no seasonality</p> <p>12 to those events and the potential for water</p> <p>13 retention and issues around that. So thank you.</p> <p>14 MR. GIBEAU: Thank you.</p> <p>15 MR. GREENE: Our next preregistered</p> <p>16 commenter is Daniel Ferrini. I will move him to the</p> <p>17 panel.</p> <p>18 MR. GIBEAU: Mr. Ferrini, you are on</p> <p>19 mute. If you could unmute.</p> <p>20 MR. FERRINI: Just wondering if you can</p> <p>21 hear me now?</p> <p>22 MR. GIBEAU: We can hear you now. Thank</p> <p>23 you.</p> <p>24 MR. FERRINI: Thank you. My name is Dan</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 23</p> <p>1 observation that it is correct that self-</p> <p>2 consummation of a thermal event at a BESS is the</p> <p>3 appropriate way to fight it, however, defensive</p> <p>4 water spray is used to protect other areas and other</p> <p>5 instances around it. Paul Rogers, who is our</p> <p>6 consultant supporting the site, participated in a</p> <p>7 recent Pacific Northwest National Labs program; and</p> <p>8 in that program stated that the reason the New York</p> <p>9 City fire standard looks for copious amounts of</p> <p>10 water from the supply of the site is specifically</p> <p>11 because of defensive water spray.</p> <p>12 I do not see enough water retention</p> <p>13 areas on both sides of the Carver site to protect</p> <p>14 the wetlands and the cranberry bogs in the same</p> <p>15 manner that you would dike an oil tank at a peaker</p> <p>16 power plant to proactively protect against a future</p> <p>17 incident on that. So that is an issue.</p> <p>18 As I look at the past history of this</p> <p>19 site I do not see a UL 9540A certificate on file,</p> <p>20 nor do I see a report on file which would show the</p> <p>21 chemistry associated with events. That's something</p> <p>22 that should be done on there. So just a couple of</p> <p>23 things. Thank you very much.</p> <p>24 MR. GIBEAU: Mr. Myers, before you</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 25</p> <p>1 Ferrini, F e r r i n i. I live at 85 Fosdick Road,</p> <p>2 Carver, Mass. I've been a resident of Carver over</p> <p>3 40 years and I am a member of the Carver Concerned</p> <p>4 Citizens.</p> <p>5 First off, I would like to thank the</p> <p>6 Energy Facilities Siting Board to take the time to</p> <p>7 allow the citizens of Carver and myself to voice our</p> <p>8 concerns and opinions on the proposed 150-megawatt</p> <p>9 battery storage facility known as Cranberry Point.</p> <p>10 I would like to say on record that I oppose the</p> <p>11 proposed facility and the pending request that has</p> <p>12 been brought forward by the Cranberry Point to waive</p> <p>13 the Town of Carver's bylaws pertaining to this</p> <p>14 project. I believe in renewable energy, but I also</p> <p>15 want to protect our town's natural resources such as</p> <p>16 our water, our natural environment, and mostly all</p> <p>17 the people of Carver.</p> <p>18 I have performed some research and would</p> <p>19 like to present some of my findings.</p> <p>20 Who are we dealing with? Cranberry</p> <p>21 Point Energy Storage is owned by a company called</p> <p>22 Plus Power. Plus Power is a privately funded</p> <p>23 company doing research, and if you go to this</p> <p>24 privately funded company's website, it does not list</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 26</p> <p>1 any corporate heads such as a CFO or CEO. It  2 appears to be a shell company. If something does  3 not happen or goes wrong, we have no recourse as  4 citizens of Carver of who heads, who is the head of  5 this company because it is unknown. They could just  6 close shop and disappear on us.  7 MR. GIBEAU: Mr. Ferrini, if you could  8 speak closer to the microphone or louder. Thank  9 you.  10 MR. FERRINI: Also, why would any  11 company that has nothing to hide and is supposedly  12 safe and states that they are environmentally  13 friendly send our selectmen a letter requesting our  14 town moratorium on battery storage facilities not be  15 allowed to be voted on by the citizens of Carver?  16 They have gone so far as requesting the board allow  17 for them to override, go to our board and ask them  18 to override our bylaws. This is the first instance  19 of being of such a request in the state that I have  20 been able to research. And I've never seen this  21 being asked for before.  22 My reasons for this Board to deny  23 Cranberry Point are as follows:  24 The battery farm sits in the middle of</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 28</p> <p>1 months allowing the town to review and update our  2 bylaws to protect the citizens of Carver from this  3 type of danger. How can the state approve such a  4 dangerous project to come into our small and rural  5 towns, with our homes, our elementary school just  6 feet away from the proposed site? Therefore, I am  7 asking you to deny all permits for this project.  8 If this does go forward, who will be  9 responsible for our wells, homes and lives of our  10 neighborhood and surrounding towns? Again, I'm  11 asking these permits to be denied so our town can  12 approve our bylaws and then, only then should  13 Cranberry Point be able to reapply for the  14 permitting process. Thank you.  15 MR. GIBEAU: Thank you.  16 MR. GREENE: The next speaker is  17 Benjamin Cronin. I'll bring him to the panel.  18 MR. GIBEAU: To remind the speakers, as  19 Mr. Ferrini did, make sure you give your full name,  20 spelling your last name, and address for the  21 stenographer to capture that for the record.  22 Mr. Cronin, is he in?  23 MR. GREENE: I think he is en route.  24 Yes.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 27</p> <p>1 the most densely populated residential area of  2 Carver. 99 percent of the abutters of the project  3 were never notified and only found out by word of  4 mouth and are pushing to stop this now.  5 Secondly, the Cranberry Point site is  6 over the Plymouth/Carver sole-source aquifer. This  7 is the sole source of drinking water for seven  8 surrounding towns. It is extremely vulnerable to  9 contamination. The site is surrounded by wetlands,  10 cranberry bogs, and water reservoirs.  11 And if a lithium fire -- lithium fires  12 are extremely difficult or almost impossible to  13 extinguish. As we have heard tonight by Cranberry  14 Point, the method is to let it burn itself out.  15 Most sources conclude, as I have said, to burn it  16 out. Our fire department is under the impression  17 that they will douse it with water, or the surround  18 the containers with water to try to cool them down  19 so that it does not spread, which in itself is going  20 to cause atmospheric issues and also contamination  21 to our aquifers.  22 During our town meeting in April 2022,  23 97 percent of the voters agreed to issue a  24 moratorium on any new battery facilities for eleven</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 29</p> <p>1 MR. GIBEAU: Mr. Cronin, you are on  2 mute.  3 MR. CRONIN: Hi. Sorry my internet just  4 went down for a second. I understand that I'm up  5 now. Is that what I missed?  6 MR. GIBEAU: That's correct.  7 MR. CRONIN: Good evening. Thank you to  8 the honorable members of the Board for hearing me on  9 this blustery evening. My name is Dr. Benjamin  10 Cronin. I reside at 17 Pill Hill Lane in Duxbury.  11 I'm an environmental historian of southeastern  12 Massachusetts. Again, I grew up next to a cranberry  13 bog in West Duxbury on the Pembroke line and again  14 currently living in Duxbury.  15 My Ph.D. is from the University of  16 Michigan at Ann Arbor. I wrote my doctoral  17 dissertation on the towns of early Plymouth County,  18 particularly the efforts the town meetings made to  19 preserve their common resources and ultimately their  20 political sovereignty and their rights to  21 self-government. I'm speaking up this evening  22 because I believe all these issues remain in play,  23 and are at stake today.  24 In this case the proposed industrial</p>



<p style="text-align: right;">Page 30</p> <p>1 battery storage for Carver. (Inaudible) a  2 Houston-based energy corporation, the subsidiary,  3 Cranberry Point here, are asking to put in Carver,  4 to be exempt from Carver zoning bylaws. I think  5 both as a member of a town meeting myself here in  6 the Duxbury town meeting and someone who believes in  7 town meeting government, the notion that a frankly  8 predatory Texas energy corporation enters a town,  9 Carver, whose bylaws go back in unbroken lineage to  10 1620 -- because Carver, they may not know down in  11 Houston, was part of Plympton until 1790, which was  12 part of Plymouth, excuse me, until 1707. So you are  13 really fighting a lot of history here, and you are  14 fighting some of the last literal direct democracies  15 in the world.  16 We know that the overwhelming democratic  17 will of the town meeting in Carver as expressed in  18 April was to ask for a moratorium. And we know that  19 remains the will. We I think, I'm certainly of the  20 view that every-day citizens don't get to exempt  21 ourselves from the law, nor should a Texas energy  22 interest. Again, I would expand on the previous  23 speaker and say that we should look at the project  24 itself and its dangers. The Plymouth/Carver</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 32</p> <p>1 our law around commons. It is an ancient right. It  2 is a right that is recognized by the Wampanoag on  3 their unseated territory here. I strongly urge this  4 committee and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to  5 respect the will of the people of the Town of  6 Carver, Massachusetts and town meeting of Carver,  7 and to reject these frankly spurious arguments from  8 Texas energy interests and their local agents.  9 Thank you very much.  10 MR. GIBEAU: Thank you.  11 MR. GREENE: The next speaker is Meg  12 Sheehan. I will bring her to the panel.  13 MR. GIBEAU: Ms. Sheehan?  14 MS. SHEEHAN: Can you hear me?  15 MR. GIBEAU: Yes.  16 MS. SHEEHAN: Can you see me? I  17 appreciate the opportunity to address the Energy  18 Facilities Siting Board. I won't repeat what other  19 people have already said. I think the will of the  20 people is expressed by the moratorium. I believe  21 that this project was passed through the town  22 without a full understanding of what was actually  23 involved. As was mentioned, there was kind of a  24 under the table, if you will, zoning change in the</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 31</p> <p>1 sole-source aquifer lies beneath Carver as well as  2 Plymouth, Wareham, Kingston, Bourne and Plympton as  3 well as portions of Middleborough and Sandwich. It  4 supplies drinking water for those first six towns,  5 that's 130,000-plus people.  6 The claims that we hear from the  7 proponents that this would not somehow have anything  8 to do with a cranberry bog while at the same time  9 claiming that these cranberry bogs which are  10 directly proximate. Those of us who grew up near  11 cranberry bogs can tell what they look like in the  12 photograph.  13 These claims don't really wash. They  14 frankly are not credible and are incredible in a bad  15 way. Again, the aquifer is all of our beautiful  16 ponds in our region. A cranberry bog is where the  17 aquifer has actually become exposed to the surface  18 and filled in with peat. So to say that the aquifer  19 is not impacted is simply incorrect.  20 Again, the fact that it is not in a  21 Massachusetts defined pine barrens is immaterial.  22 The entirety of Carver is a Level 3 EPA eco-region  23 that are pine barrens.  24 Our common law goes back to Magna Carta</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 33</p> <p>1 bylaw that put battery storage into the zoning table  2 that nobody really understood when they voted for  3 this at town meeting in 2018, 2019. Then it went  4 through the planning board and conservation  5 commission without being fully informed of what the  6 impacts were. These people are already living next  7 to a high-tension power line that was added to their  8 backyard after they moved in.  9 Carver is a 50 percent environmental-  10 justice community. We feel like we are the  11 sacrifice zone for the Massachusetts renewable  12 energy program. This project has no guarantee that  13 it will even take renewable energy. I have read  14 that it is going to include storing energy generated  15 by fossil fuels. The number of battery storage  16 projects that are already existing in Carver is  17 somewhere around five at least.  18 As you know, this state is requiring  19 battery energy storage systems at ground-mounted  20 solar projects in order to qualify into the SMART  21 program. So Carver and Wareham already have 40  22 large, ground-mounted solar projects covering  23 probably a thousand acres. We feel like we have  24 done our share for the state's renewable energy</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 34</p> <p>1 program. And most if not all of those projects have 2 battery energy storage, lithium-ion battery storage 3 onsite already.</p> <p>4 So the cumulative impact on communities 5 and ability of the fire department to put out say 6 anywhere from ten -- I don't think anyone has even 7 counted how many lithium ion batteries are already 8 in our community and on top of the aquifer. That is 9 a question that you need to address.</p> <p>10 As you know, this is on top of a sole- 11 source aquifer. We understand that water would 12 possibly be used to extinguish any thermal run-away 13 problem with the situation. I don't know what you 14 know about the sole-source aquifer but it covers 199 15 square miles. It is a very porous aquifer where 16 sand is basically in the aquifer and the 17 transmissivity is very high and very permeable. 18 This site has been surrounded by sand mining that 19 has removed some of the soils that we believe would 20 be protecting the groundwater itself.</p> <p>21 I notice that the contract calls for the 22 Westons (phonetic) to be able to take sand off the 23 site before it is excavated. I don't know how much 24 sand and gravel would be removed here. We have a</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 36</p> <p>1 based on our research. Has the EFSB ever completely 2 exempted any facility from all zoning? We could 3 understand maybe a height restriction or something, 4 but to be exempt from all zoning that includes a 5 zoning bylaw for the aquifer protection zone? 6 Carver very wisely has an aquifer protection bylaw 7 that covers the entire town as do many towns in 8 southeastern Mass.</p> <p>9 So we just think this is the wrong place 10 for this project. You have the Pilgrim Nuclear 11 Power Plant being decommissioned right down the 12 street. Why not put this there? They already have 13 all the emergency response systems in place. Their 14 sirens are located throughout our towns. I think 15 that to put this right in downtown Carver, so close 16 to schools, as we have explained, to low-income 17 housing, in a residential area that's one of the 18 densest populations in southeastern Mass. 400 feet 19 away from these starter homes, for lack of a better 20 word.</p> <p>21 This project would never be sited in a 22 Newton or a Concord or Lexington or Duxbury where 23 most of the power is going to be used. And those 24 are the communities that are going to benefit from</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 35</p> <p>1 crisis in southeastern Mass. with sand and gravel 2 removal. We have over 85 sites that are being 3 strip-mined. This is sand and gravel that is being 4 hauled out of our communities and that is what 5 protects our water supply.</p> <p>6 I don't want to get on a tangent about 7 this, but when you think about the aquifer in the 8 comprehensive environmental impact assessment of 9 this, you need to realize that over the last 40 or 10 50 years our aquifer has already been compromised by 11 strip mining for in large part many of the big solar 12 projects that we are talking about, sand and gravel 13 operations. And so to add one more big, industrial 14 facility on top of our aquifer where the groundwater 15 table is a mere few feet underneath the top of the 16 surface of the earth. So we are not talking about 17 something that your are throwing into bedrock.</p> <p>18 As the previous speaker mentioned, a 19 cranberry bog is an expression of the groundwater. 20 That is the groundwater right there. So you are 21 basically putting this in the groundwater. One 22 thing I would really try to understand is why 23 Cranberry Point needs a comprehensive exemption from 24 all Carver zoning. I think this is unprecedented</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 37</p> <p>1 this project. And why should the Town of Carver, 2 already burdened with 19 large, ground-mounted solar 3 projects be also burdened with this pseudo renewable 4 energy project that doesn't even qualify as 5 renewable energy because it is storing fossil fuel 6 energy? There's no reason or grounds that they 7 should be exempted from the local zoning bylaws.</p> <p>8 Thank you.</p> <p>9 MR. GIBEAU: Thank you.</p> <p>10 MR. GREENE: The next speaker is Thomas 11 McNamara. Your microphone is muted.</p> <p>12 MR. McNAMARA: Good evening.</p> <p>13 MR. GIBEAU: Good evening. Are you able 14 to speak closer to the microphone? You came in 15 choppy. I don't know if it is a technical glitch.</p> <p>16 MR. McNAMARA: Thank you. It must be 17 the wi-fi. Is this any better?</p> <p>18 MR. GIBEAU: Yes, much better.</p> <p>19 MR. McNAMARA: Thank you so much. My 20 name is Thomas McNamara, M c N a m a r a, 246 21 Tremont Street, Carver, Massachusetts. And I just 22 wanted to speak out quickly about some of the 23 mechanics of the situation. I'm very grateful that 24 Dr. Cronin spoke up earlier. Again, I'll try not to</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 38</p> <p>1 repeat. I want to thank the EFSB's interest in the  2 subject. I'm hearing the part of Board being called  3 the safety board. Just for the record I would like  4 to implore the EFSB to do some due diligence which  5 would include knowing what would happen in an  6 adverse event. I will be brief because I don't have  7 the expertise to back it up. But it can be easily  8 found in a number of sources that once these things  9 are installed and powered up, something as simple as  10 a nail from a nailgun, or a stray bullet, whether it  11 be accidental or malicious, when it pierces these  12 cells will create what is called a current path  13 which will connect all the electrodes and all the  14 power and connectors that commonly transmit them and  15 would have separated them. When they are linked,  16 there can be a full energy release.</p> <p>17 And the phosphate is the piece of the  18 puzzle there, the effluent that will be flammable.  19 It can flame up at a temperature as low as 126  20 degrees. There's a horrible set of combustion that  21 can follow from there. Again, I strongly urge we do  22 some homework on this. There's a jet fire similar  23 to a road flare which has only about an ounce or so  24 of this phosphate in it, and then a couple of</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 40</p> <p>1 that everything is investigated to the nth degree  2 before this is okayed. I think it is the due  3 diligence we are owed by the safety board. I want  4 to thank you for hearing me out.</p> <p>5 MR. GIBEAU: Thank you.</p> <p>6 MR. McNAMARA: I would welcome comments,  7 by the way.</p> <p>8 MR. GREENE: Our next speaker is William  9 Duggan.</p> <p>10 MR. DUGGAN: I don't think I can add  11 much to the whole technical --</p> <p>12 MR. GIBEAU: If we may, please start  13 with your name, spelling it, and your address,  14 please.</p> <p>15 MR. DUGGAN: Sorry. Bill Duggan, D u g  16 g a n, 285 Meadow Street in Carver.</p> <p>17 What comes to my mind is why with all  18 the potential negative stuff would this site be  19 chosen in a heavily residential area? And then the  20 second one is, why would -- and I'm against getting  21 rid of the exemptions or not following the bylaws in  22 town. But I also think about Eversource now as the  23 system exists. I mean, they don't store the energy.  24 And any time we've had an outage in town here, they</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 39</p> <p>1 horrible events in there that can't be stopped.  2 Once you get to 150 degrees centigrade there's no  3 way to stop the propagation of the fire with the  4 cellular structure of these things.</p> <p>5 They are approximately as large as a  6 tractor-trailer. And any connected cell is going to  7 go off in the other connected cell, and you are  8 going to be releasing things like potassium  9 perchlorate, strontium nitrate that will cause  10 blindness similar to the sulfur bombs, excuse me,  11 the phosphate bombs that are being used right now by  12 the Russians. And I think we all have to have a  13 very clear understanding of what will possibly stop  14 this chain recreation. I know there's not even a  15 proposed plan to attempt to extinguish. But  16 downwind from this you could have an awful lot of  17 serious poisonings and blindness and other effects  18 when these gases will be released from the lithium-  19 ion phosphate should it go up.</p> <p>20 The only way I can see any safety for  21 these things would be if they were to have a serious  22 thick, iron double wall like the tanker of a ship  23 that is preparing for a collision. Again, I don't  24 want to overstate my expertise, but I want make sure</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 41</p> <p>1 have been right there to take care of it, downed  2 wire, a car accident, that type of thing.</p> <p>3 Also, to mitigate an outage at my house,  4 I have the option of getting a generator. I know  5 they probably have home storage units, maybe the  6 same type of battery storage that a person could put  7 in there that they could keep charged and not have  8 to put something this large in a residential area  9 with all the potential dangers, even though they are  10 saying these may be mitigated, but it is that one  11 time when the stuff hits the fan that a lot of  12 people are going to be affected and not say anything  13 about their property values.</p> <p>14 So there must be some other place. If I  15 were doing this and one of the other people, we  16 would look for a place where there are no people  17 around, no residents, no damage to the environment.  18 So I definitely don't want them to be given an  19 exemption for doing this.</p> <p>20 The other thing that comes to mind is  21 the arrogance that they think they can come into a  22 town, any town, and say we don't want to be subject  23 to any of your bylaws or any of your rules or  24 regulations. We just want to do what we want to do.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 42</p> <p>1 And what does that mean if they don't have any  2 specific limits put on them for the future? If they  3 talk about a hundred, could they put 200 of these  4 in? It just doesn't make a bit of sense.  5 I love the rural quality of the Town of  6 Carver. With all the solar stuff going in and  7 windmills, not in this area, but some of them, it is  8 mindboggling to think they would choose this area.  9 It was spoken of earlier, the Pilgrim Power Plant  10 which is already set up for that for the potential  11 hazards of something going wrong.  12 So there's probably a dozen of other  13 things I thought of over the last few weeks in  14 regards to this, but I appreciate you giving me time  15 to speak. Thanks.  16 MR. GIBEAU: Thank you.  17 MR. GREENE: I believe the last  18 preregistered speaker that we have is Mark Rothfuss,  19 and then I guess we will go to any additional  20 commenters who want to raise their hands and be  21 recognized. I'll move Mr. Rothfuss to the panel.  22 MR. GIBEAU: Mr. Rothfuss?  23 MR. ROTHFUSS: Sorry about that. Can  24 you hear me okay?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 44</p> <p>1 people; hundreds of years of history of local town  2 govern-ship. It is incredible to me that this is  3 even being considered.  4 So I'm going to urge the Board, the  5 panel here to say no. These laws were put in for a  6 reason, and you've heard so many reasons to say no.  7 That's all I have to say.  8 MR. GIBEAU: Thank you.  9 MR. GREENE: Mr. Gibeau, Mr. Rothfuss  10 was the last preregistered speaker. If anyone else  11 would like to comment, please raise your hand. If  12 you are one of our dial-in participants, please dial  13 Star 9.  14 The first one up is Kim Shea.  15 MR. GIBEAU: You are on mute, Ms. Shea.  16 MS. SHEA: Thank you. My name is Kim  17 Shea, last name S h e a. I'm at 148 Plymouth Street  18 in Carver, Massachusetts. I apologize for not  19 preregistering. I did not have the chance to do  20 that.  21 One thing that I find very concerning  22 is -- so this project was approved by a planning  23 board about a year and a half, two years ago. As  24 I'm reading the project description now, one of the</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 43</p> <p>1 MR. GIBEAU: Yes, we can hear you and  2 see you.  3 MR. ROTHFUSS: Terrific. Thank you for  4 your time. I appreciate it. I'm not going to add a  5 whole lot to what others have said. I am going to  6 refer to Meg and Mr. Cronin. They both spelled out  7 the myriad of reasons why. First of all, the will  8 of the people really doesn't want something like  9 this for all the reasons they spoke.  10 First of all, I'm at 20 Montello Street.  11 I'm on the north Carver line at Plympton. This  12 isn't lost on me because my backyard is set to  13 become a 300-acre distribution center with all of  14 its current problems. So I'm very attuned to this  15 kind of thing. It is not lost on me this is not a  16 Carver issue. This sole-source aquifer covers many,  17 many towns, hundreds of thousands of people. It is  18 just not the place.  19 But I want to revert to the fact that  20 why have planning boards and conservation  21 commissions at all, as Mr. Cronin said? It is  22 setting up a slippery slope if they can come to the  23 state and put in for bypassing existing bylaws.  24 That's the will of the voters, the will of the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 45</p> <p>1 things that it really points out to me is that it  2 says verbatim: "Cranberry Point would initially  3 install approximately 116 enclosures with space open  4 at the end of each enclosure to accommodate  5 additional battery units in the future, as the  6 initial set of batteries lose capacity over time."  7 So out of that entire project  8 description, this is the one sentence that raises a  9 lot of questions for me. For background, I'm an  10 environment health and safety professional for over  11 26 years in the State of Massachusetts. So I'm very  12 familiar with these types of projects, private  13 company projects.  14 When I read this, I question a few  15 things. First and foremost, when the special  16 permits were originally passed by the planning  17 board, if they understood that it was initial in  18 that they had future plans to expand this. Which  19 raises bigger concerns for me that now even that  20 Cranberry Point for two and a half years has had  21 special permit approvals has not actually pulled any  22 permits from this town is now asking for exemptions  23 from our zoning bylaws.  24 And it also raises questions for me, if</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 46</p> <p>1 they are already anticipating the batteries losing 2 power over time and needing to expand, why would 3 they not replace but feel the need to ensure that 4 they can expand? I did hear earlier during the 5 presentation that they want the exemption to protect 6 themselves from any future bylaws. This was based 7 on the moratorium that was passed almost unanimously 8 by the voters of this town. With that said, I 9 really hope this Board takes this into 10 consideration.</p> <p>11 The Town of Carver really has gone above 12 and beyond in really trying to be a SMART community 13 and do the solar projects. But you reach a point 14 where you become a town that people come to and 15 there are predatory developers. And we are seeing 16 that now and we are worried. Everybody in this 17 town, almost 98 percent of this town are on private 18 wells. I'm on a private well. I'm concerned about 19 my water for other reasons and this is only adding 20 to it.</p> <p>21 A special permit for bylaws I don't have 22 a problem with. Where my problem lies is that we 23 have this private company, entity, coming into the 24 state saying that they are exempt under Section 3 as</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 48</p> <p>1 want this here. It has been put out there now. 2 People weren't totally aware of it before but now we 3 are, and we are saying we do not want this in our 4 town and we are going to do whatever we can to stop 5 this. It just needs to be out there that we don't 6 want this. That's all I have to say. Thank you.</p> <p>7 MR. GIBEAU: Thank you. 8 MR. GREENE: The next speaker is Robert 9 C. 10 MR. CARPENTER: Good evening. My name 11 is Robert Carpenter, C a r p e n t e r, 267 Summer 12 Street in Duxbury. I appreciate the opportunity to 13 comment to the panel. Thank you for putting this 14 together. I have several questions of a technical 15 nature. I have an engineering background but I am 16 not a certified engineer, but I would hope the 17 Energy Facilities Siting Board could seek specific 18 answers to these questions and provide them to the 19 public that might help us understand the risks 20 involved and also the nature of the industry and the 21 role that Carver is playing in the industry. I will 22 throw them at you, and I don't expect answers this 23 evening. 24 The concerns that have been raised seem</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 47</p> <p>1 a public utility company, which they clearly are 2 not, and that they can be exempt from our bylaws. 3 And Section 7 of that same Massachusetts General Law 4 says that no official can override or bypass bylaws 5 or approve new land uses that break existing bylaws. 6 So those are my concerns. I appreciate your time 7 for listening to me tonight. Thank you.</p> <p>8 MR. GIBEAU: Thank you. 9 MR. GREENE: We have another person who 10 is looking to get on as a commenter. Patty Cooney. 11 MR. GIBEAU: Ms. Cooney, you are muted. 12 MS. COONEY: My name is Patty Cooney, C 13 o o n e y. I live at 5 Canterbury Path in Carver. 14 I don't have anything much to say other than the 15 fact that I don't agree with having this battery 16 storage in our town. Just like the other folks have 17 said, it is not the place to do it. There are so 18 many other places, like they said, the power plant. 19 I've lived here my whole life. I couldn't imagine 20 having a fire or our groundwater messed up. I think 21 there are better places for it.</p> <p>22 I'm all for clean, renewable energy but 23 in a place that makes sense. Like the other folks 24 have said, the town unanimously said that they don't</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 49</p> <p>1 to have to do with the power density of the 2 installation and the proximity to residents. So how 3 does this installation compare either in 4 Massachusetts or nationally in terms of its energy 5 density per acre as proposed and at its maximum 6 buildout to other installations, and how do those 7 statistics compare to proximity to residential areas 8 and density of residential areas? These are very 9 straightforward figures that can be calculated and 10 should be known before a decision is made on an 11 installation such as this.</p> <p>12 Further, having to do with the actual 13 nature of the installation, do we know what the 14 anticipated rate of rise within these containers 15 would be under maximal load conditions or under 16 maximal charge conditions and how will those 17 characteristics change over the lifecycle of the 18 installation? And in terms of that type of 19 question, what is the anticipated or planned nominal 20 operating temperature range of this installation? 21 I believe we are going to be facing much 22 higher ambient temperatures in the summertime in 23 this area. And if its plan is to operate up to 110 24 degrees Fahrenheit and the temperatures reach up to</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 50</p> <p>1 125 degrees Fahrenheit in this area, what will that  2 do to this installation? These are very practical  3 considerations, these are very real considerations  4 and these numbers should be available to this board  5 and they should be considered before a decision is  6 made. I'll stop there. Thank you very much.  7 MR. GIBEAU: Thank you, Mr. Carpenter.  8 I'd like to give the company an  9 opportunity to respond if they would like to any of  10 the questions that Mr. Carpenter just raised. If  11 not, let me know and we can move on. But if you  12 have answers to any of the questions and feel that  13 you might be able to shed some light on some of his  14 questions, please feel free to do so.  15 MR. KAPLAN: We appreciate everybody's  16 comments and we are taking notes and would like to  17 respond at some point at a later time but not now.  18 MR. GIBEAU: That's fine. Thank you.  19 MR. GREENE: The next commenter is  20 Carter. I don't have a first name. Just Carter.  21 MR. GIBEAU: They seem to have dropped  22 off. Are they still there?  23 MR. GREENE: No. We'll welcome back  24 Carter if they reappear.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 52</p> <p>1 this want this in their backyard? Would they want  2 to walk out on their deck and see and look at this,  3 go take a walk around the neighborhood and see a  4 hundred of these things in their yard. Even if  5 everything could be guaranteed, even if we were all  6 going to be given a million dollars, if we lost our  7 homes, or the people in the area lost their homes, I  8 still wouldn't want to look at it. That was just  9 one of many thoughts that came up. That's one I  10 wanted to bring up. Thanks.  11 MR. GIBEAU: Thank you. Is there anyone  12 else who would like to speak? Anyone, Andy?  13 MR. GREENE: Yes. Howard Randall, I  14 think he's back now.  15 MR. GIBEAU: Mr. Randall, you are on  16 mute.  17 MR. RANDALL: Here we go. Thank you for  18 the opportunity to speak. My name is Donald Howard  19 Randall, Jr. I live at 2 Prospect Road, Plympton,  20 Massachusetts.  21 I've had 30 years of public life in the  22 Town of Plympton and in Plymouth County serving on  23 numerous boards and eventually as a selectman and  24 chairman for many, many years. My father served 30</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 51</p> <p>1 If there are any additional commenters  2 who would like to speak, please raise your hand  3 using the Zoom icon. Here we go. Mr. Ferrini is  4 raising his hand. I'll move him back to the panel.  5 MR. GIBEAU: Mr. Ferrini?  6 MR. FERRINI: To go along with the last  7 presenter, if they can tell us what their predicted  8 failure rate is. I work in manufacturing. I am the  9 head of a quality department. And every --  10 especially medical, I work in medical. We have to  11 determine what our predicted failure rates are.  12 This should be part of what this team should be able  13 to present to us, to the Board, so we know what type  14 failures are predicted going forward. Thank you  15 very much. Again, my name is Dan Ferrini. I live  16 at 84 Fosdick Road, Carver. Thank you.  17 MR. GIBEAU: Thank you.  18 MR. GREENE: Mr. Duggan, once again.  19 MR. DUGGAN: Can you hear me now?  20 MR. GIBEAU: Yes.  21 MR. DUGGAN: It would be nice to do this  22 in person in one room. That would be kind of cool.  23 Anyhow, my point was, listening to  24 everybody is, would the people who are proposing</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 53</p> <p>1 years in public life in the neighboring Town of  2 Halifax. My uncle spent 50 years on the Board of  3 Health in Randolph. And a member of my family way  4 back when was a Governor of the Colonies.  5 It is unconscionable to me that the  6 state would come in and ask to override the will of  7 the people. I attended outside, I didn't attend the  8 meeting, but I did stand outside when the town  9 meeting was held. I've never seen such a response  10 in our small communities in my 30 years of public  11 life and my 80 years on this Earth. To me, what a  12 waste of time I will take from this and my father  13 and my uncle and all others who have served on  14 boards, served on planning boards, wage and  15 personnel, board of selectmen, you name it, to see  16 us overridden by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.  17 I'm not a big proponent of solar. I  18 often refer to it as solar foolishness. While in  19 their statements the proponents argued that there  20 are no pine barrens or won't be any pine barrens  21 destroyed, you don't have to drive very far from  22 downtown Carver to see the horrible conditions that  23 are taking place throughout not only Carver but  24 Plymouth and Wareham where large-scale solar is</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 54</p> <p>1 going in.</p> <p>2 And it's kind of fortuitous, I think,</p> <p>3 that just yesterday or the day before, one of the</p> <p>4 outfits that levels these places and brings our</p> <p>5 valuable pine barren wood back to their processing</p> <p>6 plant in Middleborough went up in flames. The auto-</p> <p>7 ignition, spontaneous ignition of their piles of our</p> <p>8 precious pine barrens took multiple towns to put</p> <p>9 out. It came to mind that this might be the case in</p> <p>10 Carver.</p> <p>11 I know why you are here, proponents in</p> <p>12 Carver. We have seen you in Plympton. We are an</p> <p>13 easy mark, and our leadership has let us down. This</p> <p>14 never should have gotten this far, and I would hope</p> <p>15 that the state does not co-opt our rights and carry</p> <p>16 it further. Thank you.</p> <p>17 MR. GIBEAU: Thank you.</p> <p>18 MR. GREENE: Another commenter, Mike</p> <p>19 Jezierski.</p> <p>20 MR. JEZIERSKI: Can you hear me now?</p> <p>21 MR. GIBEAU: Yes.</p> <p>22 MR. JEZIERSKI: Yes. I appreciate the</p> <p>23 panel having this venue for the folks to speak their</p> <p>24 piece with regard to this. I would like to point</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 56</p> <p>1 MR. DUGGAN: The other thing with all</p> <p>2 these solar arrays and sand mining, one right up the</p> <p>3 street from me, it is antithetical as to what the</p> <p>4 Town of Carver and a lot of other small towns are.</p> <p>5 The rural quality of the town needs to be protected</p> <p>6 as well as the natural resources of the town, the</p> <p>7 sand. To drive in, coming in from Wareham you go by</p> <p>8 a bog that has 3500 telephone poles driven into it</p> <p>9 to put solar panels on it. People come into Carver</p> <p>10 to look at cranberries being harvested, not</p> <p>11 telephone poles. Even though this might be off the</p> <p>12 beaten path a little bit, it seems like something</p> <p>13 that would be put into an industrial area.</p> <p>14 Again, I want to emphasize that this is</p> <p>15 a residential area. If you guys were able to be</p> <p>16 beamed down here, you would see that these are all</p> <p>17 homes around here. That's all. Trying to keep my</p> <p>18 thoughts contained. Thanks again for letting me</p> <p>19 talk.</p> <p>20 MR. GIBEAU: Thank you again.</p> <p>21 MR. GREENE: Mr. Gibeau, I believe that</p> <p>22 is the last commenter.</p> <p>23 MR. GIBEAU: Thank you.</p> <p>24 Before we conclude this evening, I would</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 55</p> <p>1 out one comment.</p> <p>2 MR. GIBEAU: Before you begin, I've been</p> <p>3 telling people all night, make sure you state your</p> <p>4 name and spell your last name. It is important.</p> <p>5 MR. JEZIERSKI: You got it. Michael</p> <p>6 Jezierski, J e z i e r s k i, 25 Williams Drive,</p> <p>7 Carver, Massachusetts.</p> <p>8 One of the things I would like to point</p> <p>9 out, one of the comments that one of the Cranberry</p> <p>10 Point folks made was that the system would</p> <p>11 self-extinguish. That's a bit of a misnomer there.</p> <p>12 They just burn out when all the material has</p> <p>13 finished burning. That's kind of how that works.</p> <p>14 There are some safer battery solutions</p> <p>15 out there; molten metal solutions that the only risk</p> <p>16 they pose is they stop working if they cool down.</p> <p>17 They aren't at risk of catching fire. There are</p> <p>18 solutions for this that if implemented don't pose</p> <p>19 nearly the safety issues from a fire perspective</p> <p>20 that these batteries do, that the lithium-ions do in</p> <p>21 particular. That was all I had to say. Thank you.</p> <p>22 MR. GIBEAU: Thank you.</p> <p>23 MR. GREENE: No other hands raised as of</p> <p>24 now. Excuse me. Mr. Duggan.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 57</p> <p>1 like to remind everyone of the opportunity to</p> <p>2 participate in the evidentiary hearing if you</p> <p>3 desire. We would encourage anyone who does seek to</p> <p>4 participate to review the information on different</p> <p>5 types of participation that is listed in the public</p> <p>6 comment hearing notice for this proceeding and on</p> <p>7 the Siting Board's website. If you would like a</p> <p>8 copy of the notice and intervention rules, please</p> <p>9 send your contact information to my email which will</p> <p>10 be shown at the end of this presentation in a</p> <p>11 moment. And I can send you the information by</p> <p>12 email. There it is there.</p> <p>13 Any written comments that you might wish</p> <p>14 to file or any petitions to participate further in</p> <p>15 the evidentiary hearings should be sent to me at my</p> <p>16 email address. For those of you on the phone, it is</p> <p>17 my name Andre.Gibeau@mass.gov. That's A n d r e dot</p> <p>18 G i b e a u @ m a s s, m a s s, dot gov. Comments are</p> <p>19 due by Tuesday, July 26, 2022. Petitions to</p> <p>20 participate as an intervenor or interested person</p> <p>21 are also due by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 26, 2022.</p> <p>22 In addition, any petitions or comments</p> <p>23 must be sent by email or email attachment to counsel</p> <p>24 for Cranberry Point Energy Storage, Andrew O.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 58</p> <p>1 Kaplan, Esquire of the firm of Pierce Atwood. His  2 email address is A k a p l a n@PierceAtwood.com.  3 That's P i e r c e A t w o o d d o t c o m.  4 If you have access to email and want  5 clarification on anything that I've said during this  6 hearing, please email me. If not, please call or  7 write before Tuesday, July 26 of 2022, which is the  8 deadline for receipt of public comment in this  9 docket. I would like to thank everyone for your  10 participation in the hearing tonight.  11 That concludes the public comment  12 hearing for EFSB 21-02/DPU 22/59. Thank you  13 everybody and have a good evening.  14 (8:24 p.m.)  15  16  17  18  19  20  21  22  23  24</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 60</p> <p>1 I N D E X  2  3 C O M M E N T E R S  4  5 Charles Myers 22  6 Dan Ferrini 24  7 Meg Sheehan 32  8 Thomas McNamara 37  9 Bill Duggan 40  10 Mark Rothfuss 42  11 Kim Shea 44  12 Patty Cooney 47  13 Robert Carpenter 48  14 Donald Howard Randall, Jr. 52  15 Michael Jezierski 55  16  17  18  19  20  21  22  23  24</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 59</p> <p>1 C E R T I F I C A T E  2  3  4 I, David A. Arsenault, Registered  5 Professional Reporter, and Certified Reporter in the  6 Commonwealth of Massachusetts, #100693, do hereby  7 certify that the foregoing record is a true and  8 accurate transcript of my stenographic notes taken  9 on July 12, 2022 in the above-captioned matter.  10  11  12  13  14  15  16  17 _____  18 David A. Arsenault, RPR  19  20  21  22  23  24</p>	



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