



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

MEMORANDUM

TO: Service Lists in NSTAR Electric Company, D.P.U. 23-84 and Massachusetts Electric Company/Nantucket Electric Company, D.P.U. 23-85

VIA: Electronic Mail Only

FROM: Scott Seigal, Hearing Officer
Kevin Crane, Hearing Officer

RE: Stakeholder Process

DATE: November 14, 2023

CC: Mark D. Marini, Department Secretary

On August 11, 2023, NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy (“NSTAR Electric”) and Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company, each d/b/a National Grid (“National Grid”) (together, “Companies”) each filed with the Department of Public Utilities (“Department”) optional electric vehicle (“EV”) time-of-use (“TOU”) rates proposals pursuant to Chapter 179 of the Acts of 2022, An Act Driving Clean Energy and Offshore Wind. The Department docketed these petitions as D.P.U. 23-84 and D.P.U. 23-85, respectively.

Based on the level of involvement in recent EV program proceedings adjudicated by the Department (e.g., Electric Vehicles, D.P.U. 21-90/D.P.U. 21-91/D.P.U. 21-92), the Department anticipates significant interest in the instant proceedings. Therefore, to maximize efficiency, the Department requests that NSTAR Electric and National Grid convene a stakeholder process to provide the Companies and interested persons an opportunity to discuss the EV TOU rates proposals outside the adjudicative process and to potentially reduce the number of contested issues that must be adjudicated.

As part of the stakeholder process, the Companies shall convene the first stakeholder meeting¹ within 60 days of the December 13, 2023 public hearing scheduled in the Notices of Filing, Stakeholder Meeting, and Requests for Comments issued on November 14, 2023. The Companies should send the stakeholder meeting details by electronic means to: (1) the service lists in D.P.U. 23-84; D.P.U. 23-85; NSTAR Electric Company, D.P.U. 21-90; Massachusetts Electric Company/Nantucket Electric Company, D.P.U. 21-91; Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company, D.P.U. 21-92; and (2) any interested person that has requested the stakeholder meeting details from the Company. In addition, the Companies should post the stakeholder meeting details on their websites at least two weeks prior to the first meeting through the final stakeholder meeting.

The Companies and stakeholders should explore the following topics as part of the stakeholder process:

1. How the structure of the proposed EV TOU rates minimizes the impact of EV chargers on the Companies' distribution systems, and what, if any, feasible adjustments to the proposed rate structures could further reduce that impact;
2. The advantages and disadvantages of the proposed EV TOU rate design based on two time periods (i.e., peak and off-peak) compared with one that is based on three time periods (i.e., peak, mid-peak, and off-peak);
3. The relationship between and the impact of future implementation of time-varying rates and the EV TOU rate designs proposed in this proceeding; and
4. Any additional issues raised in public comments in these proceedings.

The Companies may determine the precise number of stakeholder meetings at their discretion. The Companies shall file a report with the Department within 30 days of the final stakeholder meeting, but no later than **Friday, June 28, 2024**, that describes: (1) who participated in the stakeholder meeting(s); (2) any proposed modifications to their initial proposals based on the discussions at the stakeholder process; and (3) the anticipated timeline for submitting a revised proposal with the Department, if applicable.

For any questions regarding this memorandum, please contact Scott Seigal, Hearing Officer, at Scott.Seigal@mass.gov, or Kevin Crane, Hearing Officer, at Kevin.Crane@mass.gov. Information regarding the stakeholder meetings submitted to the Department will be available on the Department's website as soon as practicable.

¹ The stakeholder meeting(s) may be conducted in person or virtually.