



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

NOTICE OF INQUIRY AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

D.P.U. 24-15

January 4, 2024

Notice of Inquiry by the Department of Public Utilities on its own Motion into Energy Burden with a Focus on Energy Affordability for Residential Ratepayers.

On January 4, 2024, the Department of Public Utilities issued an Order opening an inquiry to examine energy burden with a focus on energy affordability for residential ratepayers. The Department has determined that this proceeding will enable the Department to consider improvements to the programs currently offered to address energy affordability, to ensure maximum participation in each of these programs, and to determine whether additional programs may further benefit residential ratepayers of the Commonwealth's electric and gas distribution companies. The Department seeks input from stakeholders, including members of the public, advocates, and Department-regulated entities on these issues. The Department docketed this inquiry as D.P.U. 24-15.

The Department invites all interested persons to submit written comments on this matter -- including comments on the questions contained in the Order -- not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Friday, March 1, 2024**. The Department encourages interested persons to present consensus positions and submit comments jointly, when possible. The Department will determine the appropriate next steps for this proceeding after reviewing the initial comments.

All comments should be submitted to the Department in **.pdf format** by email attachment to dpu.efiling@mass.gov and laurie.e.weisman@mass.gov. The text of the email must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 24-15); (2) the name of the person or entity submitting the filing; and (3) indicate that the document is a written comment. The electronic filing should also include the name, title, and telephone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing.

All documents submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's website through our online File Room as soon as practicable (enter "24-15") at: <https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/DPU/Fileroom/dockets/bynumber>. Please note that in the interest of transparency, any comments will be posted to our website as received and without redacting personal information, such as addresses, telephone numbers, or email addresses. As such, consider the extent of information you wish to share when submitting comments. The Department strongly encourages public comments to be submitted by email. If, however, a

member of the public is unable to send written comments by email, a paper copy may be sent to Mark D. Marini, Secretary, Department of Public Utilities, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts, 02110.

The Order and all subsequent related documents submitted to the Department or issued by the Department will be available on the Department’s website as referenced above as soon as is practicable. To the extent a person or entity wishes to submit comments in accordance with this Notice, electronic submission, as detailed above, is sufficient. To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), contact the Department’s ADA coordinator at Gabriella.Knight@mass.gov.

For further information regarding this Notice, please contact Laurie Ellen Weisman, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at laurie.e.weisman@mass.gov.

<p>This document contains important information. Please have it translated immediately.</p>	<p>Questo documento contiene informazioni importanti. La preghiamo di tradurlo immediatamente.</p>	<p>ខេត្តសាធារណៈប្រជាជន ប្រើប្រាស់ឯកសារនេះ។ សូមប្រើប្រាស់ឯកសារនេះដោយប្រុងប្រយ័ត្ន។</p>
<p>В данном документе содержится важная информация. Вам необходимо срочно сделать перевод документа.</p>	<p>Este documento contém informações importantes. Por favor, traduza-lo imediatamente.</p>	<p>ឯកសារនេះមានសារៈសំខាន់ណាស់ ។</p>
<p>Este documento contiene información importante. Por favor, consiga una traducción inmediatamente.</p>	<p>此文件含有重要信息。請立即找人翻譯。</p>	<p>សូមប្រើប្រាស់ឯកសារនេះ ។</p>
<p>تحتوي هذه الوثيقة على معلومات هامة. يرجى ترجمتها فوراً.</p>	<p>본 문서에는 중요한 정보가 포함되어 있습니다. 본 문서를 즉시 번역하도록 하십시오.</p>	<p>Ce document contient des informations importantes. Veuillez le faire traduire au plus tôt.</p>
<p>Docikman sa gen enfòmasyon enpòtan. Tanpri fè yon moun tradwi l touswit.</p>	<p>Tài liệu này có chứa thông tin quan trọng. Vui lòng dịch tài liệu này ngay.</p>	