

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



ENERGY FACILITIES SITING BOARD

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/westfield-battery-project>

NOTICE OF ADJUDICATION, REQUEST FOR COMMENTS, AND PUBLIC COMMENT HEARING

EFSB 25-04/D.P.U. 24-151

Westfield ESS LLC

Project Summary and Public Comment Hearing Overview

Westfield ESS LLC (the “Company”) filed with the Department of Public Utilities (“Department”): (i) a petition pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 72, seeking approval to construct, operate, and maintain two 115 kilovolt (“kV”) underground transmission lines; and (ii) a petition pursuant to G.L. c. 40A, § 3, seeking individual and comprehensive zoning exemptions from the City of Westfield Zoning Ordinance (“Zoning Ordinance”). The Company’s two petitions have been filed in connection with the Company’s proposed construction of a 200 megawatt (“MW”)/800 megawatt-hours (“MWh”) battery energy storage system (“BESS”) and associated infrastructure, in Westfield, Massachusetts (the “Project”). A Project description and maps of the Project site are provided below.

On February 21, 2025, the [Department issued an Order](#) which transferred the Company’s zoning exemption request to the Energy Facilities Siting Board (“Siting Board”) consistent with 2024 Grid Equity Act provisions which charged the Siting Board with the responsibility to review zoning exemption petitions effective February 18, 2025. St. 2024, c. 239, §§ 36, 37. <https://fileservice.eea.comacloud.net/FileService.Api/file/fileroom//19885197>

The Siting Board will review the Company’s zoning petition in conjunction with a review of the petition for the related 115 kV underground transmission lines in a single consolidated docket, [EFSB 25-04/D.P.U. 24-151](#).

The Siting Board is providing additional opportunity to comment on the Project, with (1) a virtual (remote) public comment hearing, and (2) additional opportunity for written comments.

<https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/dpu/fileroom/#/dockets/docket/12396>

The Siting Board will conduct a virtual (remote) public comment hearing on:

Tuesday, April 29, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

Attendees: join by clicking this link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84632716786>. For audio-only participation, attendees can dial in at (646) 558-8656 (not a toll-free number) and then enter the **Webinar ID: 846-3271-6786**.

To provide oral comments during the virtual public comment hearing, please send an email to Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov with your name, email address, and mailing address by **noon, April 29, 2025**. To provide comments by telephone, please leave a voicemail message referencing “EFSB 25-04/D.P.U. 24-151” at (617) 305-3544 with your name, telephone number, and mailing address by **noon Monday, April 28, 2025**. Pre-registered commenters will speak first, and other commenters afterward.

The Siting Board also invites written comments on the Project. Written comments will be most useful to the Siting Board if submitted by **Tuesday, May 13, 2025**.

Important Dates

Virtual (remote) Public Comment Hearing	Tuesday, April 29, 2025
Deadline to file written comments	Tuesday, May 13, 2025

Public Comment Hearing

At the virtual public comment hearing, the Company will present an overview of the Project. Public officials and members of the public will have an opportunity to ask questions and make comments about the Project. The virtual public comment hearing will be transcribed by a court reporter. A recording of the virtual public comment hearing will be posted to the Siting Board's YouTube channel after the hearing, at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCklPj6xxSKww-Kr26lEZVTA>.

The Siting Board will review the Project to determine: (1) whether the Project is necessary, serves the public convenience, and is consistent with the public interest under G.L. c. 164, § 72; and (2) whether the zoning exemptions should be granted, and if the proposed use of the Project Site is reasonably necessary for the convenience or welfare of the public, pursuant to G.L. c. 40A, § 3.

The record from D.P.U. 24-151, including comments from the public comment hearing and discovery will be considered and reviewed by the Siting Board in EFSB 25-04/D.P.U. 24-151. All parties and limited participants from the Department proceeding will automatically retain the same status in the Siting Board proceeding.

Filing Instructions

Written comments on the Project must be filed in two places:

First, comments must be filed with the Siting Board in electronic format, by email or email attachment, to dpu.efiling@mass.gov; AND to donna.sharkey@mass.gov no later than the close of business on **Tuesday, May 13, 2025**. The text of the e-mail must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (EFSB 25-04/D.P.U. 24-151); (2) the name of the person or entity submitting the filing; and (3) a brief description of the document. 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. Second, the comments must be sent electronically to counsel for the Company: Shane Early, Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP, 2099 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20006, searly@sheppardmullin.com.

Public Review of the Company's Petition

A detailed description of the Project is electronically available via the Siting Board's webpage for the Project. You can access the webpage by scanning the QR code above, or using the link below. In addition, electronic copies of the Petition and attachments have been provided to the City Clerk of the City of Westfield. The Company also maintains a webpage for the Project: <https://www.streamfieldenergy.com/>. The Company's webpage provides Project information in English, Spanish, Ukrainian and Russian.

Hard copies of the Company's petitions, including all attachments, are available for public inspection at the following locations:

- Energy Facilities Siting Board, One South Station, 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02110
- City Clerk, City of Westfield, City Hall, Room 210, 59 Court Street, Westfield, MA 01085
- Westfield Athenaeum, 6 Elm St, Westfield, MA 01085

For periodic updates, please visit the Siting Board's webpage for this proceeding: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/westfield-battery-project>.

Accommodation Requests

Reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities (e.g., Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format) are available upon request. To submit a request for an accommodation, please email Melixza Esenyie - Non-Discrimination Coordinator and Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs at, eeadiversity@mass.gov, 617-626-1282. In your communication, please include a description of the request with as much detail as possible, and provide a way we can contact you if we need more information. Please allow at least one week (7 days) advance notice. Last minute requests will be accepted, but we may be unable to fulfill them.

Interpretation services are available upon request. Include in your request the language required and a way to contact you if we need more information. Requests may be made by April 22, 2025. It may not be possible to accommodate last-minute requests. Contact the Presiding Officer for more information (contact information below).

Non-Discrimination Notice

The Siting Board does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age, sex, income, ethnicity, class, disability, religious creed or belief, gender identity, sexual orientation, genetic information, English language proficiency or ancestry in administration of its programs or activities. See the Siting Board's Non-Discrimination Notice at <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/efsb-non-discrimination-notice-and-grievance-procedure>.

If you have any questions about this notice or any of EFSB's non-discrimination programs, policies or procedures, you may contact:

Melixza Esenyie - Non-Discrimination Coordinator and Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion,
Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Human Resources, 9th Floor,
100 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114, eeadiversity@mass.gov, 617-626-1282.

If you believe that you have been discriminated against with respect to a Siting Board program or activity, you may contact the non-discrimination coordinator identified above to learn how and where to file a complaint of discrimination.

Contact

For further information about the proceeding, please contact the Presiding Officer at the address or telephone number below:

Donna Sharkey, Presiding Officer
Energy Facilities Siting Board
One South Station Boston, MA 02110
617-305-3625
donna.sharkey@mass.gov

Project Description

The Company proposes to construct a 200 MW/800 MWh BESS, including two underground transmission lines and two Project Substations, on approximately 34.9 acres of land on Medeiros Way in Westfield, Massachusetts, specifically on Parcels 70R-17 and 63R-37 (“the Project Site”). The two proposed transmission lines are approximately 1,800 feet and 600 feet long, respectively, and would connect the BESS with the Buck Pond Substation, also located on Medeiros Way. The BESS and associated infrastructure are collectively referred to herein as the “Project.”

The BESS would charge with power from the electric grid during periods when there is excess energy and deliver power back onto the electric grid during times when there is a higher need for electricity. The proceeding does not involve the rates that utilities charge their customers. The Project would use lithium-ion batteries housed in approximately 219 above-ground enclosures. Each BESS enclosure would be approximately 19.7 feet long, 7.9 feet wide, and 9.5 feet tall, and would arrive at the Project Site pre-assembled. Each BESS unit would be on pier foundations and would be set on concrete pads and surrounded by a concrete curb. The concrete pads would be surrounded by crushed stone and/or gravel. Each BESS unit would be managed by an integrated cooling and heating system for thermal safety, and contain sensors supporting embedded monitoring and controls, as well as electrical interface equipment, including industry standard breakers for alternating current protection. The Project would also include power conversion systems, medium-voltage transformers on concrete slabs and pier foundations, medium voltage cables, and other electric infrastructure (collectively, the “Collection System”).

The figures below show: (1) the location of the Project Site within the City of Westfield; and (2) the layout of the Project Site (including layout of BESS units, Project Substations, and the Northern Transmission Line and Southern Transmission Line), and the location of the existing Buck Pond Substation.

Figure 1: Project Location.

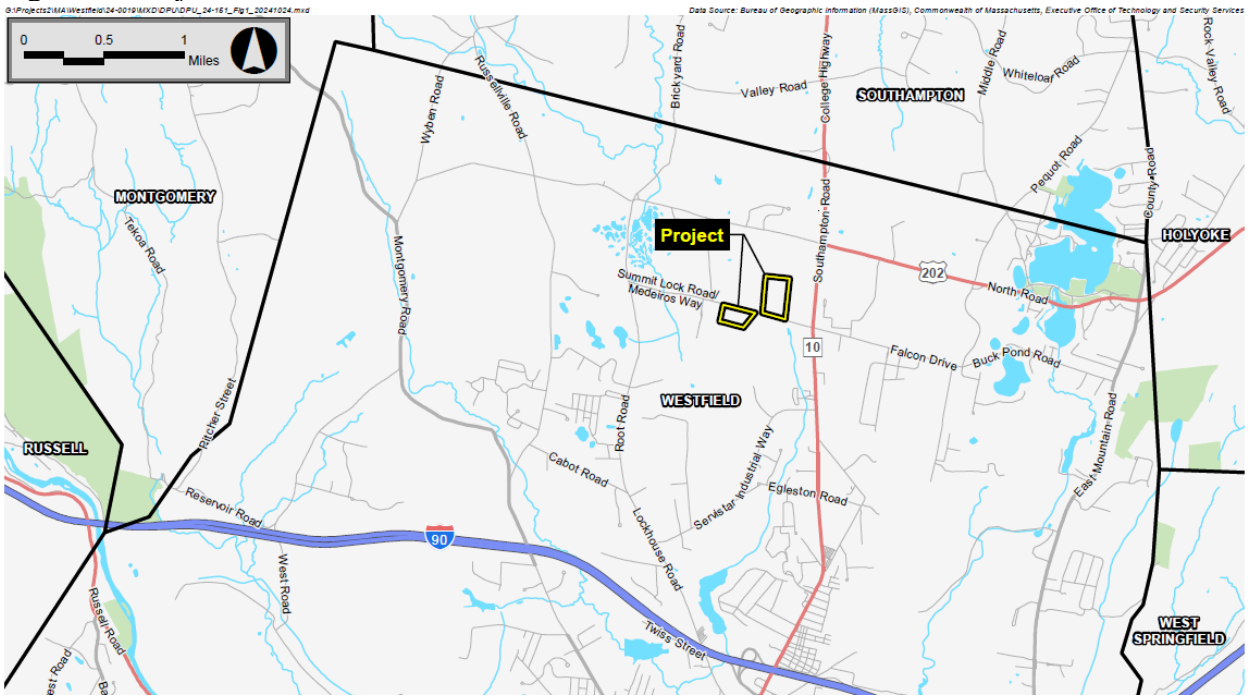
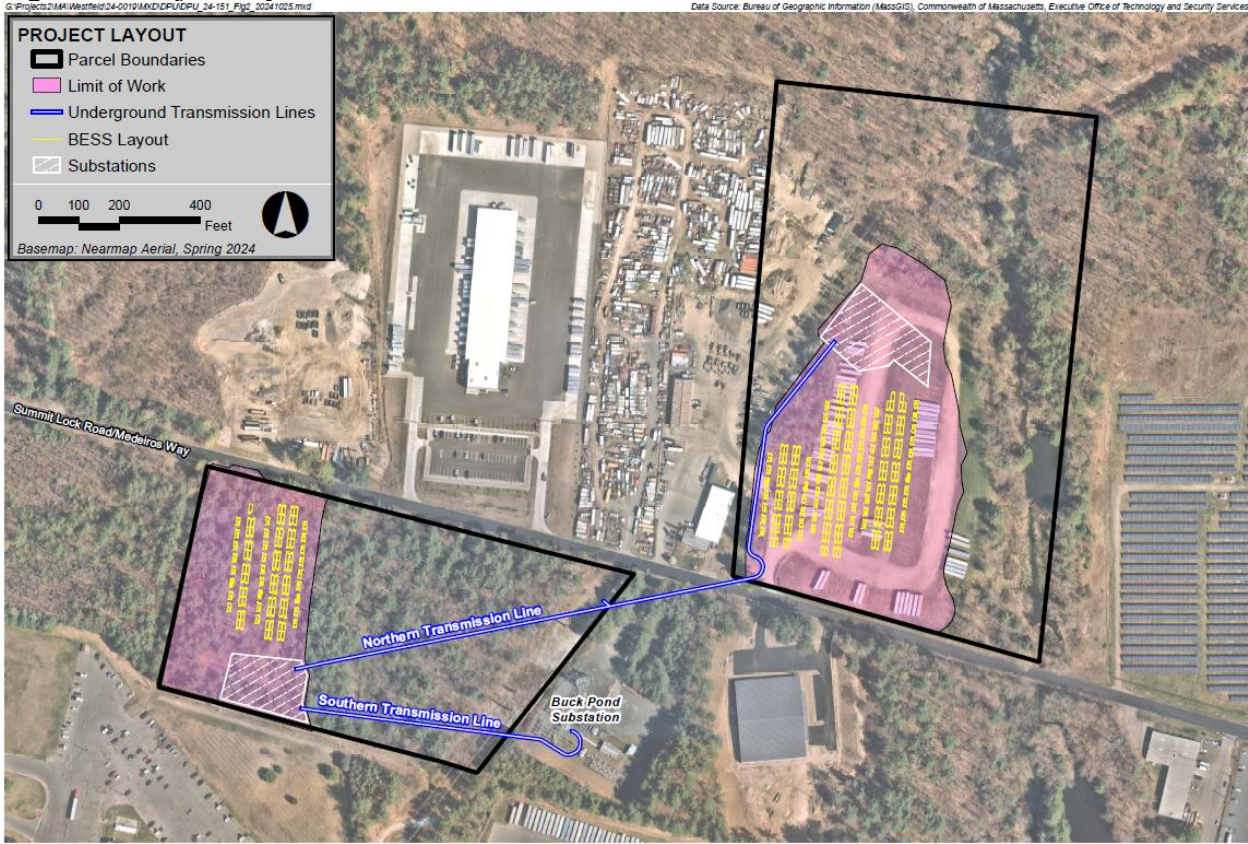


Figure 2: Project Layout.



The Project would occupy approximately 12.1 acres of the 34.9-acre Project Site. The Northern Parcel, which is 23.3 acres in size, would include roughly 140 MW/560 MWh of BESS units that – along with a Project Substation and all other project components/features – would occupy approximately 7.8 acres of the site. The parcels are in an Industrial A (“IA”) zoning district. The portion of the Project on the Northern Parcel would utilize is currently occupied by a freight trailer storage business. Of the 7.8 acres that the Project would occupy on the Northern Parcel, approximately 6.64 acres are previously developed, and the remaining 1.16 acres would require the removal of existing forested area. The Southern Parcel, which is 11.6 acres in size, would include approximately 60 MW/240 MWh of BESS units that – along with a second Project Substation and all other project components/features – would occupy approximately 4.3 acres of area. Development of the Project on the Southern Parcel would result in the clearing of approximately 4.3 acres of forested uplands.

The Project would include two new electric substations (“Project Substations”), one on the Northern Parcel and one on the Southern Parcel. Each Project Substation would take the power output from the BESS units and step it up to a transmission voltage of 115 kV, which would allow the power from the Project to interconnect with the existing Buck Pond Substation. The Project Substations would also take the power from the Buck Pond Substation and step it down to allow the BESS to store the power. Each Project Substation would include the substation equipment, graveled yard area, and surrounding security fencing. Project Substation equipment would include a main power transformer, switchgear, circuit breakers, disconnect switches, and low and high buses. The Substations’ static masts (which protect substation equipment from lightning) would be up to 65 feet high.

The Project would also include two newly constructed underground transmission lines that would connect the BESS to the Buck Pond Substation. The proposed underground transmission line from the Northern Parcel would be roughly 1,800 feet in length, and it would connect the Project Substation on the Northern Parcel with the Project Substation on the Southern Parcel (the “Northern Transmission Line”). The other proposed underground transmission line would be roughly 600 feet in length, and, via the Southern Parcel Project Substation, this transmission line would connect all of the BESS units in the Project to the Buck Pond Substation (the “Southern Transmission Line”).

Translation and Interpretation Services

English

ATTENTION: Additional translation and/or interpretation services are available upon request at no direct cost to the individual requesting the service. Include in your request the language required and a way to contact you if we need more information. It may not be possible to fulfill last-minute requests. Contact Yonathan Mengesha at Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov to make a request.

Portugues (Standard Portuguese)

ATENÇÃO: Serviços adicionais de tradução e/ou interpretação estão disponíveis mediante solicitação, sem custo direto para o indivíduo que solicita o serviço. Inclua em sua solicitação o idioma necessário e uma forma de contato caso precisemos de mais informações. Pode não ser possível atender a pedidos de última hora. Entre em contato com Yonathan Mengesha pelo e-mail Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov para fazer a solicitação.

Kreyòl Ayisyen (Haitian Creole)

ATANSYON: Sèvis tradiksyon ak/oswa entèpretasyon siplemantè disponib si w mande sa san yon pri dirèk pou moun k ap mande sèvis la. Nan demann ou an, mete lang ou egziye a ak yon mwayen pou kontakte w si nou bezwen plis enfòmasyon. Li gendwa pa posib pou ranpli yon demann nan dènye lè. Kontakte Yonathan Mengesha nan Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov pou w fè yon demann

Français (French)

ATTENTION : Des services de traduction et/ou d'interprétation supplémentaires sont disponibles sur demande, sans frais directs pour le demandeur. Indiquez dans votre demande la langue requise et un moyen de vous contacter si nous avons besoin de plus d'informations. Il se peut que nous ne puissions pas répondre aux demandes de dernière minute. Merci de contacter Yonathan Mengesha à Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov pour faire une demande.

Русский (Russian)

ВНИМАНИЕ: дополнительные услуги письменного и (или) устного перевода предоставляются по запросу без прямых затрат для лица, обратившегося за услугой. Укажите в запросе требуемый язык и способ связаться с вами, если нам понадобится дополнительная информация. Исполнение срочных запросов не гарантируется. Чтобы сделать запрос, свяжитесь с Yonathan Mengesha по электронной почте Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov.

한국 (Korean)

주의: 추가 번역 및/또는 통역 서비스는 요청 시 직접 비용 없이 제공됩니다. 요청 시, 필요한 언어와 추가 정보가 필요할 경우 연락을 드릴 방법을 포함하십시오. 마지막 순간에 요청하시면 처리가 불가능할 수 있습니다. 요청하시려면 Yonathan Mengesha(Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov)에게 연락하시기 바랍니다.

Español (Spanish)

ATENCIÓN: Hay servicios adicionales de traducción y/o interpretación disponibles a pedido sin costo directo para la persona que solicita el servicio. Incluya en su solicitud el idioma requerido y una forma de comunicarnos con usted si necesitamos más información. Es posible que no sea posible cumplir con solicitudes de último momento.

Comuníquese con Yonathan Mengesha a

Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov para realizar una solicitud.

中文 (Simplified Chinese)

注意: 可应请求提供额外的翻译和/或口译服务, 且不会直接向请求服务的个人收取费用。务必在请求中指明所需的语言, 还有我们可以联系您的方式。临时或迟交的请求, 可能无法满足。提出语言服务请求, 联系 Yonathan Mengesha 电子信箱:

Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov。

Tiếng Việt (Vietnamese)

LƯU Ý: Có cung cấp các dịch vụ biên dịch (viết) và/hoặc thông dịch (nói) bổ sung khi được yêu cầu, và dịch vụ này được cung cấp miễn phí cho các cá nhân yêu cầu dịch vụ. Trong yêu cầu của mình, quý vị hãy ghi rõ ngôn ngữ được yêu cầu và phương thức liên hệ quý vị nếu chúng tôi cần thêm thông tin. Những yêu cầu vào phút chót có thể không được đáp ứng. Hãy liên ông Yonathan Mengesha tại địa chỉ Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov để gửi yêu cầu.

(Arabic) العربية

ملاحظة: تتوفر خدمات إضافية للترجمة التحريرية و/أو الترجمة الشفوية عند الطلب دون تكلفة مباشرة للفرد الذي يطلب الخدمة. ادرج في طلبك اللغة المطلوبة وطريقة للاتصال بك إذا احتجنا إلى مزيد من المعلومات. قد لا يكون من الممكن تلبية طلبات اللحظة الأخيرة. تواصل مع Yonathan Mengesha على Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov لتقديم طلب.

ខ្មែរ (Khmer)

សូមកត់សម្គាល់: សេវាកម្មបកប្រែឯកសារ និង/ឬបកប្រែផ្ទាល់មាត់មានការស្នើសុំដោយមិនគិតថ្លៃផ្ទាល់ចំពោះបុគ្គលដែលស្នើសុំសេវាកម្មនេះ។ បញ្ចូលទៅក្នុងសំណើរបស់អ្នកសម្រាប់ភាសាដែលត្រូវការ និងវិធីទាក់ទងអ្នកប្រសិនបើយើងត្រូវការព័ត៌មានបន្ថែម។ ប្រហែលជាមិនអាចបំពេញតាមសំណើ ដែលជូនដំណឹងយឺតបានទេ។ សូមទាក់ទង Yonathan Mengesha តាម Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov ដើម្បីស្នើសុំ។