

KEEGAN WERLIN LLP

ATTORNEYS AT LAW
99 HIGH STREET, SUITE 2900
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02110-3113

(617) 951-1400

CATHERINE J. KEUTHEN
E-mail: ckeuthen@keeganwerlin.com

July 17, 2020

Stephen August, Presiding Officer
Energy Facilities Siting Board
One South Station, 2nd Floor
Boston, MA 02110

**Re: NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy, EFSB 14-2/ D.P.U. 14-73/14-74
Condition N Compliance Report**

Dear Mr. August:

The attached sixth annual Condition N Compliance Report is in compliance with the requirements set forth in the Energy Facilities Siting Board's Final Decision in EFSB 14-2/ D.P.U. 14-73/14-74, dated September 20, 2017, related to the petition of NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy to construct, operate and maintain the Walpole to Holbrook Reliability Project.

In accordance with the April 15, 2020 Memorandum from Andrew Greene, this filing is being made electronically and paper copies will be provided as and when directed.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,



Catherine Keuthen

Enclosures

cc: Service List

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
ENERGY FACILITIES SITING BOARD**

_____))
NSTAR Electric Company))
d/b/a Eversource Energy)) EFSB 14-02/D.P.U. 14-73/74
_____))

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that, pursuant to 980 C.M.R. 1.03(4), I have on or before this day served a true copy of the enclosed documents, by email, upon all parties of record in this proceeding.

Dated at Boston, Massachusetts this 17th day of July, 2020.



Catherine J. Keuthen
Keegan Werlin LLP
99 High Street, Suite 2900
Boston, MA 02110
(617) 951-1400

Walpole to Holbrook Reliability Project

Condition N Compliance Filing

July 17, 2020

NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy

EFSB 14-02/D.P.U. 14-73/D.P.U. 14-74

In Condition N of the Final Decision issued on September 20, 2017 for the Walpole to Holbrook Reliability Project (“the Project”) the Energy Facilities Siting Board (“EFSB”) directed NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy (“Eversource” or “the Company”) to submit to the EFSB an updated and certified cost estimate for the Project prior to the commencement of construction. Additionally, the EFSB directed Eversource to file semi-annual compliance reports with the EFSB starting within 60 days of the commencement of construction, that include projected and actual construction costs and explanations for any discrepancies between projected and actual costs and completion dates, and an explanation of the Company’s internal capital authorization approval process.

On January 8, 2018, the Company submitted its 60-day post-construction commencement updated and certified cost estimate as of December 31, 2017, along with its description of the Company’s internal capital authorization approval process. The Company made subsequent compliance filings in May 2018, January 2019, July 2019, January 2020 and an updated cost projection filing in December 2019.

In this sixth semi-annual Condition N Compliance Report to the EFSB, the Company provides projected and actual construction costs, as well as project completion dates as required pursuant to Condition N. As shown in Table 1, the projected costs as of July 17, 2020 are the same as the projected costs as of the December 2019 update and the January 2020 semi-annual Condition N Compliance Report. The projected costs as of July 17, 2020 includes actual costs as of May 31, 2020 plus remaining forecasted items.

Table 1

Project Actual Costs and Projected Total Costs in Millions by Project Component¹

<u>Project Component</u>	<u>January 14, 2020 Projected Total Costs (\$000's)</u>	<u>July 17, 2020 Projected Total Costs (\$000's)</u>	<u>Actual Costs as of May 31, 2020 (\$000's)</u>
New 115-kV Line	\$29.9	\$29.9	\$28.8
Sharon Switching Station Improvements	\$20.3	\$20.3	\$17.4
Total	\$50.2	\$50.2	\$46.2

The projected completion date for each Project Component is shown below in Table 2 and has been extended four months to October 2020. The following drivers, which were not anticipated or known at the time the fifth semi-annual Condition N Compliance Report to the EFSB was filed, are the principle causes for the extended schedule:

- Rescheduling of an outage for the cutover of one of the existing 115-kV transmission lines because of uncertainty surrounding workforce availability during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Gate redesign that has delayed the installation of the screen wall and final landscaping.

¹ For purposes of budget, contractor and schedule management, the Company has divided the Project into two Project Components. Each Project Component includes all of the work scope for that component (e.g., engineering, permitting, site work, structures, conductors, real estate, etc.). The Line Component includes station modifications at the remote terminals in Holbrook and West Walpole.

Table 2

Project Actual and Projected Completion Dates by Project Component²

<u>Project Component</u>	Projected Completion Date as of January 14, 2020	Projected Completion Date as of July 17, 2020	Actual Completion Date
New 115-kV Line	June 2020	October 2020	-
Sharon Switching Station Improvements	June 2020	October 2020	-

² The actual completion date will reflect the date when construction on a Project Component is substantially complete, although final commissioning activities and close-out of the relevant construction may not have occurred.