

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
House of Representatives
State House, Boston 02133-1054

TIMOTHY J. TOOMEY, JR.
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
29TH MIDDLESEX DISTRICT
SOMERVILLE - CAMBRIDGE
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Chairman
Committee on Public Safety
ROOM 39, STATE HOUSE

December 14, 2000

Margaret Drury, City Clerk
Cambridge City Hall
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Madam Clerk:

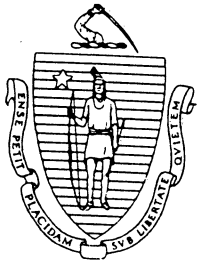
I have enclosed a copy of a notice issued by the Energy Facilities Siting Board. This notice pertains to a public informational hearing the Siting Board will be conducting in Cambridge on January 17, 2001 at 7:00 p.m. at the auditorium of the Volpe National Transportation Center, 55 Broadway. The purpose of this hearing is to discuss the proposal by Cambridge Electric Light Company to construct a 2.5-mile transmission line in Cambridge. Would you kindly place this notice on the agenda for the December 18, 2000, City Council meeting.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.".

Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
ENERGY FACILITIES SITING BOARD
ONE SOUTH STATION
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02110

TELEPHONE: (617) 305-3525
FACSIMILE: (617) 443-1116

ARGEO PAUL CELLUCCI
GOVERNOR

JANE SWIFT
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

MEMORANDUM

To: All Interested Persons

From: Sheila R. McIntyre, Hearing Officer

Date: December 13, 2000

Re: Cambridge Electric Light Company, EFSB 00-3, D.T.E. 00-103, and D.T.E. 00-104,
Public Hearing on Proposed Construction of a 115 kV Transmission Line

2000 DEC 14 A 10:35
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

On January 17, 2001 at 7:00 p.m. at the Volpe National Transportation Systems Center, 55 Broadway, Cambridge, Massachusetts, the Energy Facilities Siting Board ("Siting Board") will conduct a Public Hearing on the proposal of Cambridge Electric Light Company ("CELCo") to construct and operate an approximately 2.6 mile-long, underground 115 kilovolt ("kV") electric transmission line in the City of Cambridge. This Public Hearing is the first step in the Siting Board's review of the CELCo proposal.

In addition to providing notice of the Public Hearing, this Memorandum is intended to provide interested persons with some background on the Siting Board process.

The Siting Board is an administrative agency of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The Siting Board has nine members. The Chairman is the Chairman of the Department of Telecommunications and Energy ("Department"). The Siting Board's membership also includes two additional Commissioners of the Department, the Director of Economic Development, the Secretary of Environmental Affairs, the Commissioner of the Division of Energy Resources and three public members appointed by the Governor.

One of the principal functions of the Siting Board is to review proposals for the construction of energy facilities, such as the proposed construction by CELCo of a 115 kV transmission line. Before the Siting Board can reach a decision regarding the construction of an energy facility, it must determine whether the facility is necessary to provide electric service "with a minimum impact on the environment at the lowest possible cost." G.L. c. 164, § 69H.

The Siting Board's approval is required before construction permits may be issued by other state authorities.

The Siting Board will also review the proposed facilities to determine whether (1) the proposed construction of the transmission line is necessary and will serve the public convenience and be consistent with the public interest (G.L. c. 164, § 72) and (2) the proposed construction of the transmission line is reasonably necessary for the convenience or welfare of the public (G.L. c. 40A, § 3).

The Siting Board's regulations require it to hold a public hearing in the locality of a proposed energy facility in order to afford parties the opportunity to comment on the proposal. The enclosed Notice was forwarded to CELCo for publication in local newspapers, and for specified mailing and posting prior to the public hearing. The Notice contains information on the location and time of the hearing, and more detailed information on the location of the proposed facility.

Following the public hearing, the Siting Board will proceed with a comprehensive adjudication process before issuing a decision in this matter. Any person may file a petition to intervene as a party or to participate as an interested person in this proceeding. To be allowed, a petition to intervene in the proceeding must satisfy the standing requirements of G.L. c. 30A, § 10, i.e., it must show how the petitioner may be substantially and specifically affected by the proceeding.

The Siting Board is committed to a full public discussion of the CELCo petition and will be happy to receive written comments at the address below.

Sheila R. McIntyre, Hearing Officer
Energy Facilities Siting Board
One South Station
Boston, MA 02110
(617) 305-3525

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
ENERGY FACILITIES SITING BOARD
NOTICE OF ADJUDICATION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

EFSB 00-3
D.T.E. 00-103
D.T.E. 00-104

CAMBRIDGE ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY

Notice is hereby given that Cambridge Electric Light Company ("Cambridge Electric"), 800 Boylston Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02199, has filed with the Energy Facilities Siting Board ("Siting Board") a petition requesting approval to construct and operate a new 2.6 mile long, 115 kilovolt ("kV") underground transmission line in the city of Cambridge. Cambridge Electric has also filed with the Department of Telecommunications and Energy ("Department") (i) a Petition for a Determination that a Proposed Transmission Line is Necessary and Will Serve the Public Convenience and be Consistent with the Public Interest and (ii) a Petition under the Provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 40A, § 3 for Exemption of a Proposed Transmission Line from Zoning By-Laws of the City of Cambridge. Cambridge Electric has proposed alternative routes and route segments for the proposed transmission line. *This proposed route and the proposed alternative routes and route segments constitute a new case and replaces the proposed route, alternative routes and route segments that were previously noticed and that were the subject of a public hearing held on August 3, 2000.*

The Siting Board will review Cambridge Electric's filing to determine whether Cambridge Electric's proposed transmission line is necessary to provide electric service "with a minimum impact on the environment at the lowest possible cost" (G.L. c. 164, § 69H). The Siting Board will review the proposed facility to determine whether (1) the proposed construction of the transmission line is necessary and will serve the public convenience and be consistent with the public interest (G.L. c. 164, § 72) and (2) the proposed construction of the transmission line is reasonably necessary for the convenience or welfare of the public (G.L. c. 40A, § 3).

The Siting Board will conduct a public hearing to receive public comment on the proposed transmission line. The public hearing will be held on **Wednesday, January 17, 2001 at 7:00 p.m. at the Auditorium of the Volpe National Transportation Systems Center, 55 Broadway, Cambridge, MA.**

Preferred Route

The transmission line would originate at the site of the existing Kendall Square Electric Generation Plant ("Kendall Station") in a new switchyard to be built to support Southern Energy Kendall, LLC's Kendall Station Equipment Upgrade Project. From Kendall Station, the preferred route extends along Memorial Drive and through city streets in Cambridge to Cambridge Electric's existing Putnam Bulk Substation.

The route exits north from the Kendall Station site and turns east onto Athenaeum Street to First Street, and then follows First Street across the Broad Canal. A variation to this segment exits east from the Kendall Station site, turning south along First Street and across the Broad Canal. Once across the Broad Canal, the route proceeds across the ramps to and from the Longfellow Bridge and Main Street, and then passes beneath the Longfellow Bridge under a pedestrian walkway. The route continues along the north side of Memorial Drive to the Reid Overpass, where the route crosses the railroad tracks via an alignment in the Memorial Drive Bridge, and then either follows the rotary around to the ramp back to Memorial Drive westbound or traverses across the rotary center. In a minor variation to this segment, the route would follow the north side of Memorial Drive, cross the ramp from Memorial Drive westbound to Brookline Street, cross the Reid Overpass, and then cross the ramp from Brookline Street to Memorial Drive westbound.

Another route segment variation is possible in order to reach Memorial Drive west of the Reid Overpass. This variation would exit the Kendall Station site and follow a portion of the alternate route (described in detail below) to reach Broadway. At Broadway, the variation would cross to Ames Street, and continue on Ames Street across Main Street to Memorial Drive.

The route continues along Memorial Drive to the intersection with Pleasant Street, turning right onto Pleasant Street, then left through Cambridge Electric's MWRA sewer easement that leads to Cambridge Electric's Putnam Bulk Substation. A variation to this segment includes traveling further on Pleasant Street, then turning left across privately-owned vacant land via an easement to the Putnam Bulk Substation. A second variation to this segment follows Pleasant Street further to Putnam Avenue, where the route turns left and enters the Putnam Bulk Substation.

Alternate Route

An alternate route for the transmission line exits south from the Kendall Station site and turns west through existing easements across land owned by Lyme Properties, crosses Third Street and traverses private property owned by Commonwealth Gas Company to reach Fifth Street. A variation to this segment follows Second Street from the Kendall Station site, turns left on Linsky Way and follows Linsky Way to Fifth Street, turning left on Fifth Street.

From the rear of the Commonwealth Gas Company property along Fifth Street, the alternate route continues to the intersection with Potter Street, turns right and crosses a private parking lot on U.S. Department of Transportation property, where it intersects a pedestrian walkway owned by the Cambridge Redevelopment Authority. The route follows this walkway south to Broadway. The route travels along Broadway, turning left onto Portland Street, right onto Main Street, then left onto Osborn Street, and continuing on Osborn Street to State Street. A variation to the above route segment would turn right off Portland Street onto Washington Street, continue on Washington Street to a left turn onto Windsor Street and continue to the intersection of Windsor Street and State Street.

The route proceeds west along State Street and diagonally crosses Massachusetts Avenue

to reach Sidney Street. The route continues along Sidney Street to the intersection with Erie Street, where it turns west and continues to Magazine Street. The route turns south on Magazine Street for a short distance to Fairmont Street, following Fairmont Street one block to the intersection with Pleasant Street. The route then continues on Pleasant Street to Putnam Avenue, and enters the Putnam Bulk Substation a short distance from the intersection of Pleasant Street and Putnam Avenue.

Copies of Cambridge Electric's Petition are available for public inspection at the Siting Board's office at the address below; at Cambridge Electric's office; at the Cambridge City Clerk's office at 795 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge; and at the Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge.

Any person interested in intervening as a party or participating as an interested person in this proceeding must file a written petition with the Hearing Officer on or before the intervention deadline of January 31, 2001. Petitions should be filed in accordance with 980 Code of Massachusetts Regulations 1.05. A copy of such written petition must also be sent to Mary E. Grover, Senior Counsel, NSTAR Services Company, 800 Boylston Street, P170, Boston, Massachusetts 02199.

Any person desiring further information regarding this Notice may contact the Hearing Officer at the address below.

Sheila R. McIntyre, Hearing Officer
Energy Facilities Siting Board
One South Station
Boston, MA 02110
(617) 305-3525

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**Communications & Reports From
City Officers #1**

A communication was received from Councillor Timothy J. Toomey, Jr. transmitting a communication from Sheila R. McIntyre, Hearing Officer, regarding notice of a public hearing on January 17, 2000 at 7:00 a.m. at the Volpe National Transportation Systems Center on the proposal of Cambridge Electric Light Company to construct and operate an approximately 2.6 mile-long, underground 115 kilovolt electric transmission line in the City.

In City Council December 18, 2000

Referred to

the City Manager