

NOTICE OF FILING AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY

D.T.E. 99-19

Joint Petition of Boston Edison Company, Cambridge Electric Light Company, Commonwealth Electric Company and Commonwealth Gas Company for approval by the Department of Telecommunications and Energy pursuant to G.L. c. 164, §§ 76 and 94 of a Rate Plan.

Boston Edison Company ("Boston Edison"), Cambridge Electric Light Company ("Cambridge Electric"), Commonwealth Electric Company ("Commonwealth Electric") and Commonwealth Gas Company ("Commonwealth Gas") (together, the "Joint Petitioners") seek approval of the Department of Telecommunications and Energy ("Department") of a Rate Plan pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 94. The Rate Plan is filed in conjunction with the merger of the Joint Petitioners' parent companies, BEC Energy and Commonwealth Energy System ("COM/Energy").

The proposed Rate Plan provides for a distribution rate freeze for Boston Edison and Commonwealth Gas for a four-year period. For Commonwealth Electric and Cambridge Electric the proposed Rate Plan increases distribution rates to account for the increases in demand-side management charges and implementation of renewable energy charges that were mandated by the Electric Restructuring Act, Chapter 164 of the Acts of 1997 ("Act"). In order to maintain overall rate neutrality and compliance with the rate reductions required by the Act, Commonwealth Electric and Cambridge Electric propose to reduce the current transition charge by the amount of the proposed distribution rate increases. With the increase in distribution rates, Commonwealth Electric and Cambridge Electric also propose a distribution rate freeze for a four-year period.

The proposed Rate Plan also provides for (1) the recovery of merger-related costs, including an acquisition premium that would be allocated to each of the Joint Petitioners, and (2) a service quality plan for each of the Joint Petitioners.

For Boston Edison, and Commonwealth Electric and Cambridge Electric, the proposed Rate Plan does not freeze the transition, transmission, standard offer and default service charges. For Commonwealth Gas, the proposed Rate Plan does not include the cost of gas adjustment and local distribution adjustment clauses.

A copy of the Joint Petitioners' application is on file at the Department, and may be examined during regular business hours. The filing is also available at <http://www.comenergy.com>.

THE DEPARTMENT WILL CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARINGS TO RECEIVE
COMMENTS ON THE FILING ON:

Monday, March 8, 1999 at 7:00 PM
The Ball Room, Cambridge Citywide Senior Center
806 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA

Tuesday, March 9, 1999 at 7:00 PM
Upper Commons, Cape Cod Community College
2240 Iyanough Road
West Barnstable, MA

Wednesday, March 10, 1999 at 7:00 PM
Nevins Hall, Memorial Building
150 Concord Street
Framingham, MA

Any persons wishing to submit comments in writing on the Joint Petitioners' filing should submit comments with Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary of the Department.

The Department will conduct a **Procedural Conference** on March 8, 1999, at 10:00 a.m. at its offices, 100 Cambridge Street, Room 1210, Boston, Massachusetts.

Any person who desires to participate in the adjudicatory proceeding concerning the Joint Petitioners' application must file a written petition for leave to intervene or participate in the proceeding with Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary of the Department, 100 Cambridge Street, Room 1210, Boston, Massachusetts 02202, not later than the close of business on March 1, 1999. A copy of the petition must also be served on the Joint Petitioners' Counsel, Robert J. Keegan, at Keegan, Werlin & Pabian, LLP, 21 Custom House Street, Boston, MA 02110. A petition to intervene must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 220 C.M.R. § 1.03. Receipt by the Department—not mailing—constitutes filing and determines whether a petition is timely filed. To be allowed, a petition must satisfy the standing requirements of G.L. c. 30A, § 10.

Any person desiring further information regarding this notice, should contact:

Ronald F. LeComte, Hearing Officer
Department of Public Utilities
100 Cambridge Street Room 1210
Boston, Massachusetts 02202
(617) 305-3500

ATTACHMENT

BOSTON EDISON COMPANY

Acton
Bedford
Brookline
Carlisle
Dover
Hopkinton
Maynard
Millis
Needham
Sharon
Stoneham
Waltham
Weston
Woburn

Arlington
Bellingham
Burlington
Chelsea
Framingham
Lexington
Medfield
Milton
Newton
Sherborn
Sudbury
Watertown
Westwood

Ashland
Boston
Canton
Dedham
Holliston
Lincoln
Medway
Natick
Norfolk
Somerville
Walpole
Wayland
Winchester

CAMBRIDGE ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY

Cambridge

Belmont

COMMONWEALTH ELECTRIC COMPANY

Acushnet
Barnstable
Bourne
Brewster
Carver
Chatham
Chilmark
Dartmouth
Dennis
Duxbury
Eastham

Edgartown
Fairhaven
Falmouth
Freetown
Gayhead
Harwich
Kingston
Lakeville
Marion
Marshfield

Mashpee
Mattapoisett
Middleboro
New Bedford
Oak Bluffs
Orleans
Pembroke
Plymouth
Plympton
Provincetown

Rochester
Sandwich
Scituate
Tisbury
Truro
Wareham
Wellfleet
Westport
W. Tisbury
Yarmouth

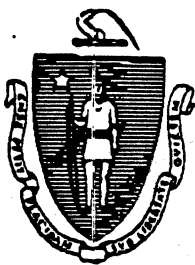
COMMONWEALTH GAS COMPANY

Acushnet
Ashland
Auburn
Berlin
Bolton
Boylston
Cambridge
Carver
Dartmouth
Dedham
Dover
Fairhaven
Framingham
Freetown
Grafton
Holden
Holliston
Hopedale
Hopkinton

Hudson
Hyde Park (Boston)
Kingston
Leicester
Marion
Marlborough
Mattapoisett
Maynard
Mendon
Milford
Millbury
Milton
Millville
Natick
Needham
New Bedford
Northborough
Northbridge
Plymouth

Rochester
Sherborn
Shrewbury
Somerville
Southborough
Sterling
Stow
Sutton
Upton
Uxbridge
Wayland
West Boylston
Westborough
Westwood
Worcester

1999 FEB 17 A 9:52
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY

February 12, 1999

D.T.E. 99-19

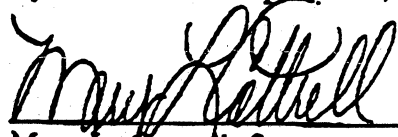
NOTICE OF FILING AND PUBLIC HEARING

Boston Edison Company, Cambridge Electric Light Company, Commonwealth Electric Company, and Commonwealth Gas Company ("Companies") are ordered to publish the attached Notice of Filing and Public Hearing in the Boston Globe, the Boston Herald, the Chronicle (Cambridge), the Enterprise (Brockton), the Middlesex News (Framingham), the Cape Cod Times (Hyannis), the New Bedford Standard-Times, and the Worcester Telegram once at least fourteen (14) days before Monday, March 8, 1999.

The Companies are further ordered to service a copy of this notice by mail to: The Chairmen of the Boards of Selectmen, the Mayors, and City Clerks in every City and Town in their service territories (see attachment), and to the parties to the Companies restructuring proceedings, D.P.U/D.T.E. 96-23 and D.T.E 97-111.

The Companies are required to make return of service and publication at the time of the public hearing.

By Order of the Department,


Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

1999 FEB 17 A 9 52

Consent Communication #36 ~~142~~

A communication was received from the
Dept. of Telecommunications and Energy,
transmitting a notice of filing and
three public hearings on March 8,
March 9 and March 10, 1999.

In City Council February 22, 1999

Referred to the City Manager