

KEEGAN WERLIN LLP

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

TELECOPIER:
(617) 951-1354

(617) 951-1400

July 2, 2018

Mark D. Marini, Secretary
Department of Public Utilities
One South Station, 5th Floor
Boston, MA 02110

Re: Long-Term Contracts for Offshore Wind, D.P.U. 17-103; Update On Contract Negotiation Status

Dear Secretary Marini:

On April 28, 2017, pursuant to Section 83C of the Green Communities Act, as added by Chapter 188 of the Acts of 2016, An Act to Promote Energy Diversity (hereinafter “Section 83C”) and 220 C.M.R. § 23.00 et seq., Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil, Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company, each d/b/a National Grid, and NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy (collectively, the “Distribution Companies”), submitted a request to the Department of Public Utilities (the “Department”) to approve the timetable and method for the solicitation and execution of the long-term offshore wind energy generation contracts pursuant to Section 83C. The timetable and method of solicitation were submitted in a Request for Proposals (“RFP”), which was approved by the Department with modifications on June 21, 2017.¹ Long-Term Contracts for Offshore Wind, D.P.U. 17-103 (2017).

On April 23, 2018, the Distribution Companies notified the Department that the Evaluation Team required an additional 30 days to select a winning proposal or proposals for a long-term offshore wind energy generation contract. On May 23, 2018, the Evaluation Team announced its completion of evaluating all Section 83C bids and the selection of Vineyard Wind as the winning bidder. The Vineyard Wind bid for 800 MW of offshore wind energy generation was the selected bid.

At this time, the Distribution Companies are in the final stages of negotiations with Vineyard Wind based on the prices, terms and conditions contained in its selected bid. Although some key contract terms have yet to be agreed upon, the Distribution Companies are committed to working with Vineyard Wind in good faith to resolve those remaining issues and complete contract negotiation as soon as practicable. The Distribution Companies anticipate completing contract

¹ The Department directed the Distribution Companies to condense the timetable to accelerate the project section date by 29 days, to April 23, 2018. Long-Term Contracts for Offshore Wind, D.P.U. 17-103, at 26 (2017). The Department also directed the Distribution Companies to shorten the time proposed to negotiate and execute contracts by 64 days. D.P.U. 17-103, at 26. Overall, these actions resulted in a timetable accelerating the proposed date to submit contracts to the Department for approval by 93 days. Id.

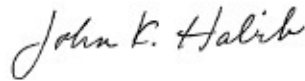
negotiations and submitting the final long-term contracts for review and approval by the Department by July 31, 2018, in accordance with the schedule in the RFP.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please contact any of the undersigned counsel if you have any questions regarding this notice.

Respectfully submitted,

**MASSACHUSETTS ELECTRIC COMPANY
and NANTUCKET ELECTRIC COMPANY
each d/b/a/ NATIONAL GRID**

By its attorneys,



John K. Habib, Esq.
Matthew S. Stern, Esq.
Keegan Werlin LLP
99 High Street Suite 2900
Boston, Massachusetts 02110
(617) 951-1400

**NSTAR ELECTRIC COMPANY d/b/a
EVERSOURCE ENERGY**

By its attorney,



Danielle Winter, Esq.
Keegan Werlin LLP
99 High Street Suite 2900
Boston, MA 02110
617-951-1400

**FITCHBURG GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT
COMPANY d/b/a UNITIL**

By its attorney,



William D. Hewitt
Roach Hewitt Ruprecht Sanchez & Bischoff, P.C.
66 Pearl Street, Suite 200
Portland, ME 04101
207-747-4870

cc: Elizabeth Lydon, Hearing Officer
Alan Topalian
D.P.U. 17-103 Service List