

D.P.U. 25-20 Eversource, National Grid, Unitil

Tier 1 Proceeding Plain Language Summary and Outreach Plan

Plain Language Summary

With the growth of distributed generation renewable energy resources (“DG”) such as solar and energy storage systems, the Massachusetts Legislature enacted General Law chapter 164, subsection 92B to, among other things, require the electric distribution companies to consider a new long-term planning process specifically to facilitate the interconnection of solar and energy storage systems to the electric power grid. The new long-term planning process for DG, developed by the electric distribution companies through engagement with stakeholders, would facilitate proactive distribution investments to develop the infrastructure necessary to accommodate solar and energy storage facilities that are projected to be proposed by developers in the future.

In compliance with the state law and Department of Public Utility’s Order in D.P.U. 24-10/11/12, on May 9, 2025, Eversource Energy, National Grid, and Unitil filed with the Department of Public Utilities a Long-Term System Planning Proposal (“LTSP”) for the interconnection of solar and energy storage systems. The Department docketed this matter D.P.U. 25-20.

The LTSP is a means to facilitate the efficient and cost-effective interconnection of solar and energy storage systems on each Company’s electric power system, in a safe and reliable manner. The DG-enabling plans developed under LTSP will also account for the potential impact of long-term electrification demand in each area, in support of the Commonwealth’s clean energy and climate policies and goals through 2050. The LTSP includes a proposal to share the costs of proactive distribution system investments that enable solar and energy storage facility interconnection between developers and distribution customers based on the benefits provided to each.

To develop the LTSP, the Companies conducted fifteen stakeholder meetings with members of the solar and energy storage systems development community, state agencies, environmental advocates, universities, and members of the general public. The LTSP is a product of collaboration with these stakeholders.

The Companies’ filing has no impact on current customer rates and the Companies do not anticipate any rate changes resulting from this filing.

The above plain language summary is provided for **informational purposes only** and is not intended to replace any official notice issued by the Department in this matter. Consistent with the Tier 1 Outreach Plan, a copy of the official Notice of Proceeding will be posted to each Company’s website.

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Tier 1 Outreach Plan

The Department has classified the LTSPP filing as a Tier 1 Proceeding. Consistent with that designation, the Company will plan to conduct the following outreach:

- To publish the Notice of Filing issued in this proceeding prominently on the Company's website;¹
- Translate the plain language summary into Spanish, Portuguese, Chinese (both Mandarin and Cantonese), Haitian Creole, and Vietnamese;
- Provide interpretation services at the public hearing;
- Distribute the plain language summary to the LTSPP distribution list and request those stakeholders distribute the plain language summary to interested parties;
- Distribute the plain language summary and conduct outreach to municipal officials;
- To publish the Notice of Filing in a newspaper as may be required by the Department;
- To serve a copy of the Notice of Filing on any required service lists as dictated by the Department; and
- Any other publication or outreach that the Department may require.

Consistent with outreach previously conducted, the Companies will provide a copy of the Notice of Proceeding to any other individuals who have requested to receive information on the Companies' filings. The Companies will list this proceeding on its website as directed by the Department.

¹ Eversource Website: <https://www.eversource.com/content/residential/account-billing/manage-bill/about-your-bill/rates-tariffs/public-hearings-filings> ; National Grid Website: <https://www.nationalgridus.com/Our-Company/DPU-Filing> ; Unitil Website: <https://unitil.com/our-company/filing-notices>