

**MASSACHUSETTS  
RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE PURCHASE AGREEMENT**

This **MASSACHUSETTS RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE PURCHASE AGREEMENT** (“Agreement”) is dated as of \_\_\_\_\_ and is by and between FITCHBURG GAS & ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY (“FG&E” or “Buyer”) and \_\_\_\_\_ (“Seller”). This Agreement provides for the sale by Seller of NEPOOL GIS Certificates, as defined herein, to Buyer. The Buyer and Seller are referred to herein individually as a “Party” and collectively as the “Parties”.

**ARTICLE 1. BASIC UNDERSTANDINGS**

This Agreement sets forth the terms under which Seller will supply a quantity of NEPOOL GIS Certificates to the Buyer.

**ARTICLE 2. DEFINITIONS**

As used in this Agreement, the following terms shall have the meanings specified in this Article. In addition, except as otherwise expressly provided, terms with initial capitalization used in this Agreement and not defined herein shall have the meaning as defined in the NEPOOL Rules.

**Affiliate** means, with respect to any Party, any entity (other than a person) that, directly or indirectly, controls, or is controlled by or is under common control with such Party. For this purpose, “control” means the direct or indirect ownership of fifty percent (50%) or more of the outstanding capital stock or other equity interests having ordinary voting power.

**Alternative Compliance Payment Rate** means the value as stated in 225 CMR § 14.08 (3)(a)(2) of the Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS) for MA Class I certificates, 225 CMR § 15.08 (3)(a)(2) of the RPS for MA Class II certificates, 225 CMR § 15.08 (4)(a)(2) of the RPS for MA Class II waste energy certificates, and 225 CMR § 16.08 (3)(a)(2) of the APS for MA APS certificates.

**Alternative Energy Facility Alternative Portfolio Standards** (“APS Regulations” or “APS”) The regulations found at 225 CMR 16.00 promulgated pursuant to M.G.L. c. 25A §11F1/2 that requires all retail electricity Sellers in Massachusetts to provide a minimum percentage of electricity from certain alternative generating resources.

**APS Generation Unit** shall be defined in the APS Regulations.

**APS Certificate** means the Generation Attribute associated with an APS Alternative Energy Unit as defined in the APS Regulations.

**Business Day** means a 24-hour period ending at 5:00 p.m. EPT (as defined below), other than Saturday, Sunday and any day which is a legal holiday or a day on which banking institutions in Boston, MA are authorized by law or other governmental action to close.

**Commission** means the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission or its successor.

**EPT** means Eastern Prevailing Time.

**Governing Documents** means, with respect to any particular entity, (a) if a corporation, the (i) articles of organization, articles of incorporation or certificate of incorporation and (ii) the bylaws; (b) if a general partnership, the partnership agreement and any statement of partnership; (c) if a limited partnership, the limited partnership agreement and the certificate of limited partnership; (d) if a limited liability company, the articles or certificate of organization or formation and operating agreement; (e) if another type of entity, any other charter or similar document adopted or filed in connection with the creation, formation or organization of such entity; (f) all equity holders' agreements, voting agreements, voting trust agreements, joint venture agreements, registration rights agreements or other agreements or documents relating to the organization, management or operation of any entity or relating to the rights, duties and obligations of the equity holders of any entity; and (g) any amendment or supplement to any of the foregoing.

**Interest Rate** means, for any date, the lesser of (a) the per annum rate of interest equal to the prime lending rate as may from time to time be published in *The Wall Street Journal* under "Money Rates" on such day (or if not published on such day, on the most recent preceding day on which published), plus two percent (2%) and (b) the maximum rate permitted by applicable law.

**ISO** means ISO New England Inc., authorized by the Commission to exercise for New England the functions required pursuant to the Commission's Order No. 2000 (and its progeny) and the Commission's regulations, and any successor organization (including but not limited to a Regional Transmission Organization.).

**ISO Tariff** means the ISO New England Inc. Transmission, Markets and Services Tariff, FERC Electric Tariff No. 3, as amended, modified, superseded and supplemented from time to time, and including the Market Rules and Procedures.

**ISO New England Operating Documents** means the ISO Tariff and the ISO New England Operating Procedures, as amended, modified, superseded and supplemented from time to time.

**Market Rules and Procedures** means the Market Rules, Manuals and Procedures adopted by the ISO and/or NEPOOL, as may be amended from time to time, and as administered by the ISO to govern the operation of the NEPOOL markets.

**Material Adverse Effect** means, with respect to a Party, any change in or effect on such Party after the date of this Agreement that is materially adverse to the transactions contemplated hereby, excluding any change or effect resulting from (a) changes in the international, national,

regional or local wholesale or retail markets for electric power; (b) changes in the international, national, regional or local markets for any fuel; (c) changes in the North American, national, regional or local electric transmission or distribution systems; and (d) any action or inaction by a governmental authority, but in any such case not affecting the Parties or the transactions contemplated hereby in any manner or degree significantly different from others in the industry as a whole.

**MWH** means Megawatt-hour.

**NEPOOL GIS** means the NEPOOL Generation Information System, which includes a generation information database and certificate system, operated by NEPOOL, its designee or successor entity, that accounts for generation attributes of electricity consumed within New England.

**NEPOOL GIS Certificates** means an electronic record produced by the NEPOOL GIS that identifies the relevant generation attributes of each MWH accounted for in the NEPOOL GIS that comply with the Massachusetts Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard Law or the Alternative Energy Facility Alternative Portfolio Standards Law. NEPOOL GIS Certificates shall be from generation units that have been approved by the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources as meeting the eligibility criteria set forth in the Massachusetts Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard Law or the Alternative Energy Facility Alternative Portfolio Standards Law, and shall represent title to and claim over all environmental attributes associated with the specified MWH of generation.

**NEPOOL Agreement** means the Second Restated New England Power Pool Agreement dated as of February 1, 2005, as amended or accepted by the Commission and as may be amended, modified, superseded, supplemented and/or restated from time to time.

**NEPOOL GIS Operating Rules** means the New England Power Pool Generation Information System Operating Rules as may be amended from time to time pursuant to the NEPOOL Agreement.

**NEPOOL Rules** means all rules adopted by NEPOOL or the ISO, as such rules may be amended, modified, supplemented or superseded and restated from time to time, including but not limited to, the NEPOOL Agreement, the ISO Tariff, the ISO New England Operating Documents, the Transmission Operating Agreement, the Participants Agreement, the NEPOOL Manuals, and the NEPOOL Operating Procedures, as amended, superseded or restated from time to time.

**Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard** (“RPS Regulations” or “RPS”) – The regulations found at 225 CMR 14.00 (Class I), 225 CMR 15.00 (Class II), respectively, promulgated pursuant to M.G.L. c. 25A § 11F that requires all retail electricity Sellers in Massachusetts to provide a minimum percentage of electricity from certain Class I, Class II and Class II waste energy generating resources.

**Trading Period** means the term as defined in the NEPOOL GIS Operating Rules.

**Vintage** means the calendar year that a NEPOOL GIS Certificate represents as the relevant generation attributes for an energy resource.

### **ARTICLE 3. TERM**

The term of this Agreement (“Term”) shall commence on the date first above-written and expire effective on the date on which all performances of the Parties under this Agreement have been completed, including, but not limited to, the delivery of all NEPOOL GIS Certificates and the payment of all amounts due as required by this Agreement. As of the expiration of this Agreement or, if earlier, its termination, the Parties shall no longer be bound by the terms and provisions hereof, except (a) to the extent necessary to enforce the rights and obligations of the Parties arising under this Agreement before such expiration or termination and (b) the obligations of the Parties hereunder with respect to audit rights, remedies for default, damages claims, indemnification and defense of claims shall survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement to the full extent necessary for their enforcement and the protection of the Party in whose favor they run, subject to any time limits specifically set forth in this Agreement with respect thereto.

### **ARTICLE 4. SALE AND PURCHASE**

#### Section 4.1 Provision Delivery and Receipt

Seller shall sell and deliver and the Buyer shall purchase and receive NEPOOL GIS Certificates as set forth in Exhibit A. Seller shall utilize the NEPOOL GIS to transfer the appropriate number of NEPOOL GIS Certificates required to be transferred hereunder for each Trading Period to an account within the NEPOOL GIS designated by the Buyer at least five (5) business days prior to the end of the applicable Trading Period.

#### Section 4.2 Seller Representations and Warranties:

(a) The NEPOOL GIS Certificates sold and delivered to the Buyer’s account under this Agreement are and shall be free and clear of any liens, encumbrances and title defects;

(b) Seller has obtained, and will maintain, all necessary regulatory approvals required to enable it to provide the NEPOOL GIS Certificates as required by this Agreement and that the NEPOOL GIS Certificates sold hereunder are and will be compliant with the applicable RPS Regulations or APS; and

(c) The NEPOOL GIS Certificates sold hereunder have not been, and shall not be, sold, retired, claimed or represented as part of electricity output or sales, or used to satisfy obligations in any other jurisdiction.

### **ARTICLE 5. AMOUNT, BILLING and PAYMENT**

#### Section 5.1 Amount

The amount payable by Buyer to Seller for NEPOOL GIS Certificates shall be the product of (a) the number of NEPOOL GIS Certificates transferred and confirmed during a Trading Period and (b) the NEPOOL GIS Certificate Purchase Price for the applicable Vintage in such Trading Period. The total quantity of NEPOOL GIS Certificates transferred and confirmed for each Vintage in a Trading Period shall not exceed, nor be less than, the NEPOOL GIS Certificates Quantity required to be transferred to Buyer under this Agreement for such Vintage.

#### Section 5.2 Billing and Payment

(a) After each NEPOOL GIS Certificate transfer has been confirmed, the Seller shall calculate the amount due and payable to Seller pursuant to this Article and provide an invoice ("Invoice") for such amount. The Invoice shall be provided to the Buyer and shall include sufficient detail for the Buyer to verify its formulation and computation.

(b) The Buyer shall pay Seller the amount due and owing in accordance with Section 5.1 within thirty (30) days after receiving the Invoice (the "Due Date"). If all or any part of such amount remains unpaid after the Due Date, interest shall accrue after but not including the Due Date and be payable to Seller on such unpaid amount at a rate per annum equal to the Interest Rate in effect on the Due Date.

(c) Each Party shall notify the other Party upon becoming aware of any error in an Invoice (whether the amount is paid or not) and Seller shall promptly issue a corrected Invoice. Overpayments shall be returned by the receiving Party upon request or deducted by the receiving Party from subsequent invoices, with interest accrued at a rate per annum equal to the Interest Rate in effect on the Due Date from the date of the receipt of the overpayment until the date paid or deducted.

#### Section 5.3 Taxes, Fees and Levies

Seller shall be obligated to pay all present and future taxes, fees and levies ("Taxes") which may be assessed by any entity upon the Seller's provision of NEPOOL GIS Certificates to the Buyer.

#### Section 5.4 Netting and Setoff

Unless otherwise specified in another written agreement between the Parties, if the Parties are required to pay an amount on the same date each to the other under this Agreement or any other agreement between the Parties, such amounts shall be netted, and the Party owing the greater aggregate amount shall pay to the other Party any difference between the amounts owed. Each Party reserves all rights, setoffs, counterclaims and other remedies and defenses (to the extent not expressly herein or therein waived or denied) that such Party has or to which such Party may be entitled arising from or out of this Agreement or such other written agreement. Further, if the Buyer incurs any costs or charges that are the responsibility of Seller under this Agreement, such costs or charges may, at the Buyer's election, be netted against any amount due to Seller under this Agreement. All outstanding obligations to make payment under this Agreement may be netted against each other, set off or recouped there from.

## Section 5.5 Delivery Shortfall

If Seller has not transferred all or part of the NEPOOL GIS Certificates required pursuant to Exhibit A (a "Shortfall") to the applicable certificate accounts of FG&E by the close of the applicable Trading Period for NEPOOL GIS Certificates, Seller shall pay FG&E an amount equal to the product of (i) the number of MWHs which constitute the Shortfall, and (ii) the Alternative Compliance Payment Rate minus the NEPOOL GIS Certificate Purchase Price that the Buyer would have had to pay Seller for each Certificate.

## **ARTICLE 6.           DEFAULT AND TERMINATION**

### Section 6.1 Events of Default

(a) Any one or more of the following events shall constitute an "Event of Default" hereunder with respect to the Buyer:

(i) Failure of the Buyer

(A) in any material respect to comply with, observe or perform any covenant, warranty or obligation under this Agreement (but excluding events that are otherwise specifically covered in this Section as a separate Event of Default and except to the extent attributable to Seller's wrongful act or failure to act in breach of this Agreement), but only if

(ii) (B) After receipt of written notice from Seller such failure continues for a period of five (5) Business Days, or, if such failure cannot be reasonably cured within such five (5) Business Day period, such further period as shall reasonably be required to effect such cure (but in no event longer than thirty (30) days), provided that the Buyer (x) commences within such five (5) Business Day period to effect a cure and at all times thereafter proceeds diligently to complete the cure as quickly as possible and (y) provides to Seller written documentation of its efforts and plan to cure and estimated time for completion of the cure.

(b) Any one or more of the following events shall constitute an "Event of Default" hereunder with respect to Seller:

(i) Failure of Seller

(A) in any material respect to comply with, observe, or perform any covenant, warranty or obligation under this Agreement (but excluding events that are otherwise specifically covered in this Section as a separate Event of Default and except to the extent attributable to the Buyer's wrongful act or wrongful failure to act in breach of this Agreement), but only if

(B) after receipt of written notice from the Buyer such failure continues for a period of five (5) Business Days, or, if such failure cannot be reasonably cured within such five (5) Business Day period, such further period as shall reasonably be required to effect a cure (but in no event longer than thirty (30) days), provided that Seller (x) commences within such five (5) Business Day period to effect such cure and at all times thereafter proceeds diligently to complete the cure as quickly as possible and (y) provides to Buyer written documentation of its efforts and plan to cure and estimated time for completion of the cure;

(ii) Failure of Seller to transfer NEPOOL GIS Certificates in the amounts and/or at the times required by, and otherwise in accordance with, Article 4; and

(c) Any one or more of the following events with respect to either Party shall constitute an "Event of Default" hereunder with respect to such Party:

(i) The entry by a court having jurisdiction in the premises of (A) a decree or order for relief in respect of such Party in an involuntary case or proceeding under any applicable federal or state bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization or other similar law, or (B) a decree or order adjudging such Party as bankrupt or insolvent, or approving as properly filed a petition seeking reorganization, arrangement, adjustment or composition of or in respect of such Party under any applicable federal or state law, or appointing a custodian, receiver, liquidator, assignee, trustee, sequestrator or other similar official of such Party or of any substantial part of its property, or ordering the winding up or liquidation of its affairs;

(ii) The commencement by such Party of a voluntary case or proceeding, or any filing by a third party of an involuntary case or proceeding against a Party that is not dismissed within thirty (30) days of such third party's filing, under any applicable federal or state bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization or other similar law, or of any other case or proceeding to be adjudicated as bankrupt or insolvent, or the consent by it to the entry of a decree or order for relief in respect of such Party in an involuntary case or proceeding under any applicable federal or state bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization or other similar law or to the commencement of any bankruptcy or insolvency case or proceeding against it, or the filing by it of a petition or answer or consent seeking reorganization or relief under any applicable federal or state law, or the consent by it to the filing of such petition or to the appointment of or taking possession by a custodian, receiver, liquidator, assignee, trustee, sequestrator or other similar official of a Party or of any substantial part of its property, or the making by it of an assignment for the benefit of creditors, or the admission by it in writing of its inability to pay its debts generally as they become due, or the taking of corporate action by such Party in furtherance of any such action; and

(iii) Any representation or warranty made by a Party is or becomes false or

misleading in any material respect.

## Section 6.2 Remedies Upon Default

The Parties shall have the following remedies available to them with respect to the occurrence of an Event of Default with respect to the other Party hereunder:

(a) Upon the occurrence of an Event of Default, the non-defaulting Party shall have the right to (i) continue performance under this Agreement and exercise such rights and remedies as it may have at law, in equity or under this Agreement and seek remedies as may be necessary or desirable to enforce performance and observation of any obligations and covenants under this Agreement, so long as such rights and remedies are not duplicative of any other rights and remedies hereof, and do not otherwise enable the non-defaulting Party to obtain performance or payments in excess of the performance and payments to which it is otherwise entitled pursuant to this Agreement, or (ii) at its option, give such defaulting Party a written notice (a "Termination Notice"). Termination shall be effective on the date set forth in the Termination Notice, which date shall be no more than twenty (20) Business Days after the date such Termination Notice is provided to the Defaulting Party in accordance with Article 7. Termination of this Agreement shall in no way limit or restrict any Party's right to pursue any legal or equitable remedies available to it arising from an Event of Default.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, the cure of an Event of Default or failure to comply with, observe or perform any covenant, warranty or obligation under this Agreement within the period provided therefore in this Agreement shall not release such defaulting Party from its liability to indemnify, save harmless and defend the non-defaulting Party for any claims, demands, suits, losses, liabilities, damages, obligations, payments, costs and expenses (including the costs and expenses of any and all actions, suits, proceedings, assessments, judgments, settlements and compromises relating thereto and reasonable attorneys' fees and reasonable disbursements in connection therewith) relating to, arising out of or resulting from such Event of Default or any failure to comply with, observe or perform any covenant, warranty or obligation under this Agreement.

(c) In the event Seller causes or suffers an Event of Default, and the Buyer elects to terminate this Agreement, then, on or before five (5) Business Days following issuance of a Termination Notice by Buyer, Seller shall pay the Buyer an amount equal to the positive amount, if any, equal to the product of (i) the number of NEPOOL GIS Certificates to be transferred to Buyer under this Agreement during the Term that have not been so transferred ("Undelivered Certificates"), and (ii) the positive difference, if any, of the applicable Alternative Compliance Payment rate or rates determined in accordance with the applicable RPS or APS Regulations less the applicable NEPOOL GIS Certificate Purchase Price the Buyer would have had to pay Seller for each Undelivered Certificate if the same had actually been delivered hereunder as and when required, plus all costs, fees and expenses incurred by Buyer in connection with making Alternative Compliance Payment(s) for the Undelivered Certificates. Seller and Buyer agree that the foregoing provision is intended to reflect a mutually acceptable measure of damages for such Event of Default.

(d) In the event the Buyer causes or suffers an Event of Default, and Seller elects to

terminate this Agreement, then, on or before five (5) Business Days following issuance of the Termination Notice by Seller, the Buyer shall pay Seller the positive amount, if any, equal to the product of (i) the number of NEPOOL GIS Certificates required to be transferred by Seller under this Agreement during the Term that have not been so transferred (“Untransferred Certificates”) and (ii) the positive difference, if any, of the NEPOOL GIS Certificate Purchase Price less the average market price as of the date of issuance of such Termination Notice for the number of Untransferred Certificates of a vintage equivalent to the calendar year in which such Untransferred Certificates were to be delivered hereunder as specified in Article 4. Such average market price is to be determined based upon the average of prices quoted by three independent third party brokerage services selected by Seller and reasonably acceptable to the Buyer. Seller and Buyer agree that the foregoing provision is intended to reflect a mutually acceptable measure of damages for such Event of Default.

Section 6.3 Forward Contract.

Each Party represents and warrants to the other that it is a “forward contract merchant” within the meaning of the United States Bankruptcy Code, that this Agreement is a “forward contract” within the meaning of the United States Bankruptcy Code, and that the remedies identified in this Agreement, including but not limited to those specified in Section 7, shall be “contractual rights” as provided for in 11 U.S.C. § 556 as that provision may be amended from time to time.

**ARTICLE 7. NOTICES, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PARTIES**

Section 7.1 Notices

Any notice, demand, or request required or authorized by this Agreement to be given by one Party to another Party shall be in writing. It shall either be sent by facsimile (with receipt confirmed by telephone and electronic transmittal receipt), courier, personally delivered (including overnight delivery service) or mailed, postage prepaid, to the representative of the other Party designated in accordance with this Article. Any such notice, demand, or request shall be deemed to be given (i) when sent by facsimile confirmed by telephone and electronic transmittal receipt, (ii) when actually received if delivered by courier or personal delivery (including overnight delivery service) or (iii) seven (7) days after deposit in the United States mail, if sent by first class mail return receipt requested.

Notices and other communications by Seller to the Buyer shall be addressed to:

Robert S. Furino  
Vice President  
Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company  
6 Liberty Lane West  
Hampton, NH 03842-1720  
(603) 773-6452 (phone)  
(603) 773-6652 (fax)

Notices and other communications by the Buyer to Seller shall be addressed to:

[Name]  
[Company]  
[Address]  
[City, State & Zip]  
[Phone]  
[FAX]

Any Party may change its representative or address for notices by written notice to the other Party; however such notice shall not be effective until it is received by the other Party.

## **ARTICLE 8. LIABILITY; INDEMNIFICATION; RELATIONSHIP OF PARTIES**

### Section 8.1 Limitation on Consequential, Incidental and Indirect Damages

EXCEPT AS EXPRESSLY PROVIDED IN SECTION 8.2, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMISSIBLE BY LAW, NEITHER THE BUYER NOR SELLER, NOR THEIR RESPECTIVE OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AGENTS, EMPLOYEES, PARENT OR AFFILIATES, SUCCESSOR OR ASSIGNS, OR THEIR RESPECTIVE OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AGENTS, OR EMPLOYEES, SUCCESSORS, OR ASSIGNS, SHALL BE LIABLE TO THE OTHER PARTY OR ITS PARENT, SUBSIDIARIES, AFFILIATES, OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AGENTS, EMPLOYEES, SUCCESSORS OR ASSIGNS, FOR CLAIMS, SUITS, ACTIONS OR CAUSES OF ACTION FOR INCIDENTAL, INDIRECT, SPECIAL, PUNITIVE, MULTIPLE OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES (INCLUDING ATTORNEY'S FEES OR LITIGATION COSTS EXCEPT AS EXPRESSLY PROVIDED IN 13.2 AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LIMITATION THEREUNDER) CONNECTED WITH OR RESULTING FROM PERFORMANCE OR NON-PERFORMANCE OF THIS AGREEMENT, OR ANY ACTIONS UNDERTAKEN IN CONNECTION WITH OR RELATED TO THIS AGREEMENT, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION ANY SUCH DAMAGES WHICH ARE BASED UPON CAUSES OF ACTION FOR BREACH OF CONTRACT, TORT (INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE AND MISREPRESENTATION), BREACH OF WARRANTY, STRICT LIABILITY, STATUTE, OPERATION OF LAW, OR ANY OTHER THEORY OF RECOVERY. THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION SHALL APPLY REGARDLESS OF FAULT AND SHALL SURVIVE TERMINATION, CANCELLATION, SUSPENSION, COMPLETION OR EXPIRATION OF THIS AGREEMENT.

### Section 8.2 Indemnification

(a) Seller agrees to defend, indemnify and save the Buyer, its officers, directors, employees, agents, successors, assigns, and Affiliates and their officers, directors, employees and agents harmless from and against any and all third-party claims, suits, actions or causes of action and any resulting losses, damages, charges, costs or expenses, (including reasonable attorneys' fees and court costs), arising from or in connection with any (a) breach of a representation or

warranty or failure to perform any covenant or agreement in this Agreement by Seller, (b) any violation of applicable law, regulation or order by Seller, (c) any act or omission by Seller with respect to this Agreement, first arising, occurring or existing during the term of this Agreement, whether incurred by settlement or otherwise, and whether such claims or actions are threatened or filed prior to or after the termination of this Agreement, except to the extent caused by an act of gross negligence or willful misconduct by an officer, director, agent, employee, or Affiliate of the Buyer or its respective successors or assigns.

(b) The Buyer agrees to defend, indemnify and save Seller, its officers, directors, employees, agents, successors, assigns, and Affiliates and their officers, directors, employees and agents harmless from and against any and all third-party claims, suits, actions or causes of action and any resulting losses, damages, charges, costs or expenses, (including reasonable attorneys' fees and court costs), arising from or in connection with any (a) breach of representation or warranty or failure to perform any covenant or agreement in this Agreement by said Buyer, (b) any violation of applicable law, regulation or order by Buyer, (c) any act or omission by the Buyer, with respect to this Agreement first arising, occurring or existing during the term of this Agreement, whether incurred by settlement or otherwise, and whether such claims or actions are threatened or filed prior to or after the termination of this Agreement, except to the extent caused by an act of gross negligence or willful misconduct by an officer, director, agent, employee or Affiliate of Seller or its respective successors or assigns.

(c) If any Party intends to seek indemnification under this Section from the other Party with respect to any action or claim, the Party seeking indemnification shall give the other Party notice of such claim or action within thirty (30) days of the later of the commencement of, or actual knowledge of, such claim or action; provided, however, that in the event such notice is delivered more than thirty (30) days after the Party seeking indemnification knows of such claim or action, the indemnifying Party shall be relieved of its indemnity hereunder only if and to the extent such indemnifying Party was actually prejudiced by such delay. The Party seeking indemnification shall have the right, at its sole cost and expense, to participate in the defense of any such claim or action. The Party seeking indemnification shall not compromise or settle any such claim or action without the prior consent of the other Party, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

### Section 8.3 Independent Contractor Status

Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as creating any relationship between the Buyer and Seller other than that of independent contractors for the sale and delivery of NEPOOL GIS Certificates.

### Section 8.4 No Third Party Beneficiaries

There are no third party beneficiaries to this Agreement.

## **ARTICLE 9. ASSIGNMENT**

### Section 9.1 General Prohibition Against Assignments

Except as provided in Section 9.2, neither Party shall assign, pledge or otherwise transfer this Agreement or any right or obligation under this Agreement without first obtaining the other Party's written consent, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

Section 9.2 Exceptions to Prohibition Against Assignments

Either Party may, upon written notice, assign its rights and obligations hereunder, or transfer such rights and obligations by operation of law, to any entity with which or into which such Party shall merge or consolidate or to which such Party shall transfer all or substantially all of its assets, provided that such other entity agrees to be bound by the terms hereof and provided further, that such other entity's creditworthiness is comparable to or higher than that of such Party at the time this Agreement was executed and such Party is not relieved of any obligation or liability hereunder as a result of such assignment.

**ARTICLE 10. SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS**

This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of, and shall be binding upon the Parties hereto and their respective successors and permitted assigns.

**ARTICLE 11. WAIVERS**

No delay or omission in the exercise of any right under this Agreement shall impair any such right or shall be taken, construed or considered as a waiver or relinquishment thereof, but any such right may be exercised from time to time and as often as may be deemed expedient. The waiver of any single breach or default of any term or condition of this Agreement shall not be deemed to constitute the waiver of any other prior or subsequent breach or default of the Agreement or any other term or condition.

**ARTICLE 12. LAWS AND REGULATIONS**

Section 12.1 Applicable Laws

This Agreement and all rights, obligations, and performances of the Parties hereunder, are subject to all applicable federal and state laws, and to all duly promulgated orders and other duly authorized action of governmental authorities having jurisdiction hereof.

Section 12.2 Laws and Regulations

Each Party shall perform its obligations hereunder in accordance with applicable law, rules and regulations. The rates, charges, terms and conditions contained in this Agreement are not subject to change under Sections 205 or 206 of the Federal Power Act, as either section may be amended or superseded, absent the mutual written agreement of the Parties. It is the intent of this Section that, to the maximum extent permitted by law, the rates, charges, terms and conditions of this Agreement shall not be subject to such change. Absent the agreement of the Parties to the proposed change, the standard of review for changes to the rates, terms, and/or conditions of service of this Agreement proposed by a Party, a non-Party, or the Commission, acting sua sponte, shall be the “public interest” standard of review set forth in *United Gas Pipe Line Co. v. Mobile Gas Service Corp.*, 350 U.S. 332 (1956) and *Federal Power Commission v. Sierra Pacific Power Co.*, 350 U.S. 348 (1956) (the “Mobile-Sierra” doctrine).

### Section 12.3 NEPOOL Requirements

This Agreement is subject to all NEPOOL Rules. If, during the term of any Transaction, a NEPOOL Rule is terminated, modified or amended in a manner that would eliminate or materially alter a material right or obligation of a Party hereunder, the Parties agree to negotiate in good faith in an attempt to amend this Agreement to embody the Parties’ original intent and economic effect. The intent of the Parties is that any such amendment reflect, as closely as possible, the intent, substance and effect of the NEPOOL Rule being replaced, modified or amended as such NEPOOL Rule was in effect prior to such termination, modification or amendment, provided that such amendment shall not alter: (i) the obligations of the Parties pursuant to Article 4 or 5 of this Agreement, or (ii) the NEPOOL GIS Certificate Purchase Price.

### Section 12.4 Competitive Affiliates of Seller

If a Competitive Affiliate of Seller exists during the Term, Seller shall not disclose any information received from FG&E regarding the service provided hereunder, or the customers served under this Agreement, nor shall Seller assign any interest hereunder, to any such Competitive Affiliate. The term “Competitive Affiliate” shall be as defined in 220 C.M.R 12, and shall refer to an entity that is engaged in the sale of electricity to retail customers in Massachusetts.

### Section 12.5 Sales Tariffs

Each Party agrees that if it seeks to amend any applicable power sales tariff during the Term, such amendment will not in any way materially and adversely affect this Agreement without the prior written consent of the other Party. Each Party further agrees that it will not assert, or defend itself, on the basis that any applicable tariff is inconsistent with this Agreement.

## **ARTICLE 13. INTERPRETATION, DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

### Section 13.1 Governing Law

The Agreement shall be governed by and construed and performed in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, without giving effect to its conflict of laws principles.

### Section 13.2 Dispute Resolution

In the event of any dispute among the Parties arising out of or relating to this Agreement, the Parties shall refer the matter to their duly authorized officers for resolution. Should such officers fail to resolve the dispute within five (5) days after such referral, either Party may seek such further legal recourse as such Party sees fit, provided that for the purposes of any litigation of such disputes the Parties agree to submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

### Section 13.3 Venue; Waiver of Jury Trial

Each Party hereto irrevocably (i) submits to the exclusive jurisdiction of the federal and state courts located in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; (ii) waives any objection which it may have to the laying of venue of any proceedings brought in any such court; and (iii) waives any claim that such proceedings have been brought in an inconvenient forum. EACH PARTY WAIVES, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY APPLICABLE LAW, ANY RIGHT IT MAY HAVE TO A TRIAL BY JURY IN RESPECT OF ANY SUIT, ACTION OR PROCEEDING RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT.

## **ARTICLE 14. SEVERABILITY**

Any provision declared or rendered unlawful by any applicable court of law or regulatory agency or deemed unlawful because of a statutory change will not otherwise affect the remaining provisions and lawful obligations that arise under this Agreement. If any provision of this Agreement, or the application thereof to any Party or any circumstance, is invalid or unenforceable, (a) a suitable and equitable provision shall be substituted therefore in order to carry out, so far as may be valid and enforceable, the intent and purpose of such invalid or unenforceable provision, and (b) the remainder of this Agreement and the application of such provision or circumstances shall not be affected by such invalidity or unenforceability.

## **ARTICLE 15. MODIFICATIONS**

No modification or amendment of this Agreement will be binding on any Party unless it is in writing and signed by both Parties.

## **ARTICLE 16. ENTIRE AGREEMENT**

This Agreement, including the Appendices, the tariffs and agreements referred to herein or therein, embody the entire agreement and understanding of the Parties in respect of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement. There are no restrictions, promises, representations, warranties, covenants or undertakings, other than those expressly set forth or referred to herein or therein. It is expressly acknowledged and agreed that there are no restrictions, promises, representations, warranties, covenants or undertakings contained in any material provided or otherwise made available by the Seller or the Buyer to each other. No exclusive rights or obligations are granted in or by this Agreements unless specifically set forth herein. This Agreement supersedes all prior agreements and understandings between the Parties with respect to the transactions contemplated hereby.

#### **ARTICLE 17. COUNTERPARTS**

This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, and each executed counterpart shall have the same force and effect as an original instrument.

#### **ARTICLE 18. INTERPRETATION; CONSTRUCTION**

The article and section headings contained in this Agreement are solely for the purpose of reference, are not part of the agreement of the Parties and shall not in any way affect the meaning or interpretation of this Agreement. For purposes of this Agreement, the term "including" shall mean "including, without limitation." The Parties acknowledge that, each Party and its counsel have reviewed and or revised this Agreement and that any rule of construction to the effect that any ambiguities are to be resolved against the drafting Party shall not be employed in the interpretation of this Agreement, and it is the result of joint discussion and negotiation.

#### **ARTICLE 19. REPRESENTATIONS; WARRANTIES AND COVENANTS**

Each Party represents to the other Party, upon execution and continuing throughout the term of this Agreement, as follows:

(a) It is duly organized in the form of business entity set forth in the first paragraph of this Agreement, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of its state of its organization and has all requisite power and authority to carry on its business as is now being conducted, including all regulatory authorizations as necessary for it to legally perform its obligations hereunder.

(b) It has full power and authority to execute and deliver this Agreement and to consummate and perform the transactions contemplated hereby. This Agreement has been duly and validly executed and delivered by it, and, assuming that this Agreement constitutes a valid and binding agreement of the other Party, constitutes its valid and binding agreement, enforceable against it in accordance with its terms, subject to bankruptcy, insolvency, fraudulent transfer, reorganization, moratorium and similar laws of general applicability relating to or affecting creditors' rights and to general equity principles.

(c) Such execution, delivery and performance do not violate or conflict with any law applicable to it, any provision of its constitutional documents, or the terms of any note, bond, mortgage, indenture, deed of trust, license, franchise, permit, concession, contract, lease or other instrument to which it is bound, any order or judgment of any court or other agency of government applicable to it or any of its assets or any contractual restriction binding on or affecting it or any of its assets.

(d) No declaration, filing with, notice to, or authorization, permit, consent or approval of any governmental authority is required for the execution and delivery of this Agreement by it or the performance by it of its obligations hereunder, other than such declarations, filings, registrations, notices, authorizations, permits, consents or approvals which, if not obtained or made, will not, in the aggregate, have a Material Adverse Effect.

(e) Neither the execution and delivery of this Agreement by it will nor the performance by it of its obligations under this Agreement will or does (i) conflict with or result in any breach of any provision of its Governing Documents, (ii) result in a default (or give rise to any right of termination, cancellation or acceleration) under any of the terms, conditions or provisions of any note, bond, mortgage, indenture, license, agreement or other instrument or obligation to which it or any of its subsidiaries is a party or by which it or any of its subsidiaries is bound, except for such defaults (or rights of termination, cancellation or acceleration) as to which requisite waivers or consents have been obtained or which, in the aggregate, would not have a Material Adverse Effect; or (iii) violate any order, writ, injunction, decree, statute, rule or regulation applicable to it, which violation would have a Material Adverse Effect.

(f) There are no claims, actions, proceedings or investigations pending or, to its knowledge, threatened against or relating to it before any governmental authority acting in an adjudicative capacity relating to the transactions contemplated hereby that could have a Material Adverse Effect. It is not subject to any outstanding judgment, rule, order, writ, injunction or decree of any court or governmental authority which, individually or in the aggregate, would create a Material Adverse Effect.

(g) There are no bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, receivership or other similar proceedings pending or being contemplated by it, or of its knowledge threatened against it.

(h) It is acting for its own account, has made its own independent decision to enter into this Agreement and as to whether this Agreement is appropriate or proper for it based upon its own judgment, is not relying upon the advice or recommendations of the other Party hereto, and is capable of assessing the merits of and understanding, and understands and accepts, the terms, conditions and risks of this Agreement.

## **ARTICLE 20. CONSENTS AND APPROVALS**

The Parties shall cooperate in a reasonable manner so that each Party may take such actions as necessary and required for the other Party to effectuate and comply with this Agreement including to (i) promptly prepare and file all necessary documentation, (ii) effect all necessary applications, notices, petitions and filings and execute all agreements and documents, and (iii) use all commercially reasonable efforts to obtain all necessary consents, approvals and

authorizations of all other entities, in the case of each of the foregoing clauses (i), (ii) and (iii), necessary or advisable to consummate the transactions contemplated by this Agreement. The Buyer shall have the right to review and approve in advance all characterizations of the information relating to the transactions contemplated by this Agreement which appear in any filing, press release or public announcement made in connection with the transactions contemplated hereby.

## **ARTICLE 21. SURVIVAL**

Subject to Section 3(b), as of the expiration of this Agreement in accordance with Article 3 or, if earlier, its termination, the Parties shall no longer be bound by the terms and provisions hereof, except (a) to the extent necessary to enforce the rights and obligations of the Parties arising under this Agreement before such expiration or termination and (b) the obligations of the Parties hereunder with respect to indemnification and defense of claims.

## **ARTICLE 22. CONFIDENTIALITY**

All Confidential Information shall be held and treated by the Parties and their agents in confidence, used solely in connection with this Agreement, and shall not, except as hereinafter provided, be disclosed without the other Party's prior written consent. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Confidential Information may be disclosed to a third party: (a) to the extent necessary for the purpose of effectuating the supply, transmission and/or distribution of Energy or any other product or service to be delivered pursuant to this Agreement, (b) to regulatory authorities of competent jurisdiction, or as otherwise required by applicable law, regulation or order, and (c) to third parties in connection with a merger, acquisition/disposition and financing transactions, or audit, provided that any such third party shall have signed a confidentiality agreement with the disclosing party containing customary terms and conditions that protect against the disclosure of the Confidential Information, that strictly limit the recipient's use of such information only for the purpose of the subject transaction and that provide for remedies for non-compliance. In the event that either Party ("Disclosing Party") is requested or required to disclose any Confidential Information pursuant to subsection (b) above, the Disclosing Party shall, to the extent legally permissible, provide the other Party with prompt written notice of any such request or requirement, so that the other Party may seek an appropriate protective order, other confidentiality arrangement or waive compliance with the provisions of this Agreement. If, failing the entry of a protective order, other confidentiality arrangement or the receipt of a waiver hereunder, the Disclosing Party, in the opinion of counsel, is compelled to disclose Confidential Information, the Disclosing Party may disclose that portion of the Confidential Information which the Disclosing Party's counsel advises that the Disclosing Party is compelled to disclose; provided, that any such disclosure includes a request for confidential treatment of this Agreement and the request for redaction of the Confidential Information from the copies of this Agreement which are placed in the public record or otherwise made available. The Parties shall be entitled to all remedies available at law or in equity to enforce, or seek relief in connection with, this confidentiality obligation.

*[Remainder of Page Intentionally Left Blank]*



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have caused their duly authorized representatives to execute this Agreement on their behalf as of the date first above written.

**Fitchburg Gas & Electric Light Company**

\_\_\_\_\_

Name (print): Robert S. Furino

Title: Vice President

**[Company Name]**

\_\_\_\_\_

Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**EXHIBIT A**

**NEPOOL GIS CERTIFICATE VINTAGE, PURCHASE PRICE, QUANTITY AND TRADING PERIODS FOR DELIVERY**

VINTAGE	TYPE OF NEPOOL GIS CERTIFICATE	PURCHASE PRICE PER NEPOOL GIS CERTIFICATE	QUANTITY OF NEPOOL GIS CERTIFICATES	DELIVERY DATE FOR NEPOOL GIS CERTIFICATES
2017				On or before June 1, 2018
2018				On or before June 1, 2019