

Dear DG Applicant,

NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy (“Eversource”) is processing the interconnection of your proposed distributed generation (“DG”) project pursuant to its Massachusetts Standards for Interconnection of Distributed Generation tariff. As part of this processing, a distribution impact study is required to understand what upgrades to the system are needed to support your project’s generation output. On April 9<sup>th</sup> the Department of Public Utilities issued a final Order to allow for Eversource to conduct distribution Group Studies. Group Studies will enable Eversource to conduct impact studies more efficiently by analyzing multiple projects at once as opposed to studying individual projects in sequence. The purpose of this communication is to inform you that your project has been selected to be a part of a distribution Group Study and the associated study solution for upgrades required.

In preparation for conducting Group Studies, Eversource has reviewed all projects in the distribution queue and grouped them in a manner as it relates to circuits and regions. There are 8 initial groups that have been formed, 6 in eastern MA (“EMA”) and 2 in western MA (“WMA”) as follows:

<b>Region</b>	<b>Group Study</b>	<b># of Customers</b>	<b>MWs</b>
EMA	Marion-Fairhaven	27	87
EMA	Plymouth	52	162
EMA	Cape	56	84
EMA	Freetown	6	23
EMA	Dartmouth-Westport	17	38
EMA	New Bedford	15	47
WMA	Plainfield-Blandford	7	29
WMA	Ashfield-Shelburne	5	17

At this time for planning purposes, costs may range from approximately \$20,000 to approximately \$50,000. Exact costs for Group Studies are unknown at this time due to variables such as the number of customers who may choose to opt out of the study, and whether the final Group members may choose to have Eversource perform an Extended Group Study with more refined cost estimates for potential System Modifications. After the scoping meeting is held and the customers in the Group Study are finalized, a more precise cost per project will be provided to each customer.

Customers will be able to find updates and answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on Eversource’s Group Study website that’s currently under development in addition to receiving regular email updates on how each study is progressing. If a customer chooses to opt out of the Group Study, its proposed Facility will not be included in the Group Study and the customer’s individual distribution study will proceed in sequence once the Group Study is completed. Every 40 days there will be a batching cycle conducted for new projects that have entered the queue to formulate new groups moving forward.

A summary of next steps for Group Studies is as follows:

- Eversource will hold scoping meetings for each group within 20 business days followed by asking each customer to opt in or out of the study via Group Study Agreements and associated

payment. Note that you will have 10 business days to notify us that you wish to proceed in the Group Study. We will reach out to you to schedule the scoping meeting accordingly.

- Each group will become finalized with participants and Eversource will request any missing technical data from customers needed for the study (**Note: if a project is in the Level 3 ASO study underway, that same set of technical data will be utilized for the Group Study**).
- Group Studies will commence

Thank you, and we look forward to continuing to work with you on your project.