



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

NOTICE OF FILING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENT

D.P.U. 20-130

December 2, 2020

Petition of NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its annual Storm Cost Recovery Adjustment Factor for effect January 1, 2021.

On October 30, 2020, NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy (“Eversource” or “Company”) filed a petition with the Department of Public Utilities (“Department”) seeking approval of the Company’s Storm Cost Recovery Adjustment Factor (“SCRAF”) for effect January 1, 2021. This filing was made pursuant to NSTAR Electric Company and Western Massachusetts Electric Company, D.P.U. 17-05 (2017), NSTAR Electric Company, D.P.U. 18-101 (2018), and the Company’s SCRAF tariffs, M.D.P.U. Nos. 63D and 64C. The Department docketed this matter as D.P.U. 20-130.

The Company’s SCRAF tariffs allow for the annual recovery of eligible incremental costs associated with storm restoration. In its filing, Eversource presents three components of its SCRAF rate calculations: (1) the Eastern Massachusetts rate calculation for storms occurring prior to February 1, 2018, plus a storm cost reconciliation pursuant to Northeast Utilities/NSTAR Merger, D.P.U. 10-170 (2012); (2) the Western Massachusetts rate calculation for storms occurring prior to February 1, 2018; and (3) the Consolidated Eversource Massachusetts rate calculation for an exogenous storm event associated with three storm events collectively referred to as the March 2018 Nor’easter. For the Eastern Massachusetts rate calculations, the Company proposes to recover in calendar year 2021 approximately \$28.5 million associated with 17 storm events which occurred prior to February 1, 2018. For the Western Massachusetts rate calculation, the Company has closed the storm cost adjustment for 2020 and proposes to reconcile the SCRAF for any over- or under-recovery of costs for storm events prior to February 1, 2018. For the Consolidated Eversource Massachusetts rate calculation, Eversource proposes to recover in calendar year 2021 approximately \$20.3 million in costs related to the March 2018 Nor’easter storm event.

If the Company’s request is approved, Eversource states that a typical residential customer in Eastern Massachusetts using a monthly average of 516 kWh a month can expect a decrease of \$1.80 on their monthly bill, or a 0.10 percent annual decrease. A typical

residential customer in Western Massachusetts using a monthly average of 516 kWh can expect an increase of \$0.08 on their monthly bill, or a 0.10 percent annual increase. The Company states that the bill impacts for commercial and industrial (“C&I”) customers range from an annual decrease of 0.20 percent (Eastern Massachusetts) to an annual increase of 0.10 percent (Western Massachusetts), depending on rate class and usage. Any residential or C&I customer may contact the Company, as indicated below, for specific bill impacts.

On March 10, 2020, Governor Baker issued a state of emergency related to COVID-19 for the entire Commonwealth. Ordinarily, all parties would follow Sections B.1 and B.4 of the Department’s Standard Ground Rules (D.P.U. 15-184-A, App. 1 (March 4, 2020)); however, at this time, all filings will be submitted only in electronic format in recognition of the difficulty that parties and the Department may have filing and receiving original copies. To the extent a person or entity wishes to submit written comments in accordance with this Notice, electronic submission, as detailed below, is sufficient. Until further notice, parties must retain the original paper version of all other filings and the Department will later determine when the paper version must be filed with the Department Secretary.

On November 30, 2020, the Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts filed a notice to intervene in this matter pursuant to G.L. c. 12, § 11E(a).

Any person interested in commenting on this matter may submit written comments no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Wednesday, December 16, 2020**. Any person interested in participating in the evidentiary phase of this proceeding must file a written petition for leave to intervene with the Department no later than the close of business on **Friday, December 18, 2020**. A petition for leave to intervene must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 220 CMR 1.03. Receipt by the Department, not mailing, constitutes filing and determines whether a petition has been timely filed. A petition filed late may be disallowed as untimely, unless good cause is shown for waiver under 220 CMR 1.01(4). To be allowed, a petition under 220 CMR 1.03(1) must satisfy the standing requirements of G.L. c. 30A, § 10.

All written comments or petitions to intervene must be submitted to the Department in **.pdf** format by email attachment to peter.ray@mass.gov, Tina.Chin@mass.gov, and to the Company’s attorneys at dwinter@keeganwerlin.com and kmahoney@keeganwerlin.com. The text of the email must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 20-130); (2) the name of the person or company submitting the filing; (3) a brief descriptive title of the document; and (4) the name, title, email address, and telephone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing. Importantly, all large files submitted must be broken down into electronic files that **do not exceed 20 MB**.

The Company’s filing and all related documents submitted to the Department or issued by the Department will be available on the Department’s website as soon as is practicable at <https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/DPU/Fileroom/dockets/bynumber> (enter “20-130”). A paper copy of the filing will not be available for public viewing at the Company’s offices or

the Department due to the State of Emergency. To request materials in accessible formats (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format) for people with disabilities, contact the Department's ADA coordinator at DPUADACoordinator@state.ma.us.

Any person desiring further information regarding Eversource's filing should contact the Company's attorneys, Danielle C. Winter, Esq. and Kerri Mahoney, Esq. at (617) 951-1400. Any person desiring further information regarding this notice should contact Tina W. Chin, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at tina.chin@mass.gov.