



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

### NOTICE OF INVESTIGATION

D.P.U. 11-03

January 3, 2011

Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities on its Own Motion into the Preparation and Response of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company, each d/b/a National Grid to the December 26, 2010 Winter Storm.

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On January 3, 2011, the Department of Public Utilities (“Department”) issued an Order opening an investigation into efforts by Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company, each d/b/a National Grid (jointly “National Grid” or “Company”) to prepare for, and restore power following, the winter storm that occurred on December 26, 2010 (“Winter Storm 2010”). The Department conducts this investigation pursuant to its authority to open a full investigation upon its own initiative to determine whether an electric or gas distribution company has violated the Department’s standards regarding acceptable performance for emergency preparedness and restoration of service, G.L. c. 164, § 1J, 220 C.M.R. § 19.00 *et seq.*; the Department’s authority to review the performance of an electric or gas distribution company in restoring service during an emergency event, G.L. c. 164, § 85B; the Department’s authority to establish service quality standards and review service quality performance by electric and gas distribution companies, G.L. c. 164, §§ 1E and 1I; and the Department’s general supervisory authority over electric distribution companies, G.L. c. 164, § 76. This matter has been docketed as D.P.U. 11-03.

The Department will conduct public hearings in the Company’s service territory to receive comments regarding National Grid’s preparation for and performance during Winter Storm 2010. The Department will issue a subsequent notice establishing the date, time, and location of the public hearings. Any person who desires to comment may do so at the public hearings noted in the forthcoming notice or submit written comments to the Department by a date established by the notice.

An original of all written comments must be filed with Mark D. Marini, Secretary, Department of Public Utilities, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts 02110. Two (2) copies of all written comments must also be sent to Jennifer M. Murphy, Hearing Officer, at the Department of Public Utilities.

All documents should also be submitted to the Department in electronic format using one of the following methods: (1) by e-mail attachment to [dpu.efiling@state.ma.us](mailto:dpu.efiling@state.ma.us) and the hearing officer, [Jennifer.M.Murphy@state.ma.us](mailto:Jennifer.M.Murphy@state.ma.us); or (2) on CD-ROM. The e-mail or CD-ROM label must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 11-03); (2) the name of the person or company submitting the filing; and (3) a brief descriptive title of the document. The electronic filing should also include the name, title, and telephone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing. All documents submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's website: <http://www.mass.gov/dpu>.

By Order of the Department,

/s/

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Mark D. Marini, Secretary