The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

NOTICE OF TECHNICAL CONFERENCE

TO: Any Person Interested in Net Metering and Interconnection of Distributed Generation
Service Lists in Net Metering Rulemaking, D.P.U. 08-75, Net Metering Tariff, D.P.U. 09-03, Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company, d/b/a Unitil, D.P.U. 09-71, Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company, d/b/a National Grid, D.P.U. 09-72, NSTAR Electric Company, D.P.U. 09-73, and Western Massachusetts Electric Company, D.P.U. 09-74; John Robertson, Deputy Director, Legislative Department, Massachusetts Municipal Association, One Winthrop Square, Boston, MA, 02110; and Marilyn Contreas, Senior Program and Policy Analyst, Mass. Dept. of Housing and Community Development, 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 300, Boston, MA 02114
Via First Class and Electronic Mail

FROM: Ann G. Berwick, Chair
Tim Woolf, Commissioner
Jolette A. Westbrook, Commissioner

RE: Inquiry into Net Metering and Interconnection of Distributed Generation, D.P.U. 11-11
Notice of Technical Conference on Net Metering and Interconnection Inquiry
To be Held on February 14, 2011

DATE: February 7, 2011

cc: Mark D. Marini, Secretary

I. INTRODUCTION

On October 15, 2010, Governor Patrick signed into law Chapter 359 of the Acts of 2010, An Act Making Appropriations for the Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011 to Provide for Supplementing Certain Existing Appropriations and for Certain Other Activities and Projects ("Act"). The Act requires the Department of Public Utilities ("Department") to adopt rules and regulations implementing certain changes to the net metering provisions of G.L. c. 164,

§§ 138 and 139. St. 2010, c. 359, §§ 25-30. The Department will hold a technical conference to assist in the implementation of some of the Act's net metering changes on February 14, 2011, at 1:00 p.m., at the Department's offices, One South Station, 5th Floor, Boston, MA.

II. PURPOSE

The purpose of the technical conference is to engage interested persons in a discussion that identifies: (1) issues related to developing a system that provides an assurance of net metering eligibility; (2) issues related to net metering and interconnection of distributed generation facilities; (3) processes that could be used for resolving identified issues (e.g., working groups, additional technical conferences, Department investigations); and (4) mechanisms for implementing or memorializing solutions to identified issues.

The technical conference is intended to foster discussion about what issues exist, how to resolve them and what the next actions are to move forward in an efficient and effective manner. The Department therefore anticipates that the technical conference will be the first step in a multiphase process. Written comments are therefore not necessary at this time. There will be ample opportunity for interested persons to comment on the proposed net metering regulations in the context of the rulemaking and any proposed resolutions to identified issues in other contexts.

III. DATE, TIME AND LOCATION

The Department will hold this technical conference on Monday, February 14, 2011, at 1:00 p.m., in Hearing Room A, at the Department's offices, One South Station, 5th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts. Agenda and discussion materials will be distributed electronically in advance of the technical conference. Documents related to this docket will be available for public inspection at the Department's offices during business hours. In addition, these documents will also be available, when electronically filed, on the Department's website: http://www.mass.gov/dpu. For additional information, please contact Shaela Collins, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at (617) 305-3611.