

July 24, 2013

Mark D. Marini, Secretary  
Department of Public Utilities  
One South Station – 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA 02110

RE: D.P.U. 12-76, Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities on its own Motion into Modernization of the Electric Grid

Dear Secretary Marini:

Advanced Energy Economy (AEE) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the “Report to the Department of Public Utilities from the Grid Modernization Steering Committee,” filed on July 2, 2013, in the Investigation by the Department of Public Utilities on its own Motion into Modernization of the Electric Grid, D.P.U. 12-76.

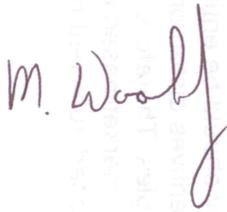
AEE is a national association of businesses and business leaders who are making the global energy system more secure, clean, and affordable. Advanced energy encompasses a broad range of products and services that constitute the best available technologies for meeting energy needs today and tomorrow. AEE’s mission is to transform public policy to enable rapid growth of advanced energy businesses. The New England Clean Energy Council (NECEC) is AEE’s partner organization in the New England region.

An efficient, intelligent and resilient electricity grid is an essential part of a secure, clean and affordable energy future. As such, AEE strongly supports the DPU’s goals for a modernized grid. In particular, all of the goals listed on page 8 of the report are consistent with AEE’s vision of a prosperous world running on secure, clean, affordable energy, as well as the goals and activities of its member companies and its state and regional partners. Similarly, the opportunities listed on pages 8-9 all represent ways for advanced energy technologies, products, and services to deliver value to consumers and to the grid itself, provided the market and regulatory structures are in place to facilitate investment in them.

AEE has not been directly involved in the Grid Modernization Stakeholder Working Group, but we understand and acknowledge the important role that NECEC, as the voice of the advanced energy industry in Massachusetts, played in the process. We urge the DPU to consider the recommendations of NECEC and the Clean Energy Caucus, of which it is a part, as representative of an industry eager to deliver on the promise of grid modernization as envisioned by the Department.

Once again, AEE commends the DPU for its leadership in undertaking this stakeholder process on grid modernization. We encourage you to move forward with this process expeditiously to provide clear direction to all stakeholders so that the Commonwealth will be able to reap the benefits of a modern, intelligent, and resilient power grid for its citizens, businesses, and industries.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "M. Woolf". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the letter "f".

Malcolm Woolf  
Senior Vice President, Policy and Government Affairs  
Advanced Energy Economy