

*For Office Use Only*  
**Executive Office of Environmental Affairs**  
 MEPA Analyst: **Bill GAGE**  
 Phone: 617-626-1025

# NPC

## Notice of Project Change

The information requested on this form must be completed to begin MEPA Review of a NPC in accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act and its implementing regulations (see 301 CMR 11.10(1)).

Project Name: <b>Former Salem MGP Property Remediation Project at Collins Cove</b>		EOEA #: <b>13541</b>
Street: <b>20 Pierce Avenue</b>		
Municipality: <b>Salem</b>	Watershed: <b>North Shore Coastal Drainage Area</b>	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: <b>N: 4710673 m; E: 345355 m</b>	Latitude: <b>42° 31' 57"</b> Longitude: <b>70° 53' 04"</b>	
Status of project construction: <b>95+</b> %complete		
Proponent: <b>Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a National Grid</b>		
Street: <b>25 Research Drive</b>		
Municipality: <b>Westborough</b>	State: <b>MA</b>	Zip Code: <b>01582</b>
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this NPC May Be Obtained: <b>Kenneth Fields</b>		
Firm/Agency: <b>BSC Group, Inc.</b>	Street: <b>15 Elkins Street</b>	
Municipality: <b>Boston</b>	State: <b>MA</b>	Zip Code: <b>02127</b>
Phone: <b>617-896-4342</b>	Fax: <b>617-896-4301</b>	E-mail: <b>kfields@bscgroup.com</b>

In 25 words or less, what is the project change? **The project change involves additional dredging of less than 100cy of impacted tidal sediment in Collins Cove area. See full project change description beginning on page 3.**

Date of ENF filing or publication in the Environmental Monitor: **Publication date: May 25, 2005**

Was an EIR required?  Yes  No; if yes,  
 was a Draft EIR filed?  Yes (Date: )  No  
 was a Final EIR filed?  Yes (Date: )  No  
 was a Single EIR filed?  Yes (Date: )  No

Have other NPCs been filed?  Yes (Date(s): **April 18, 2006** )  No

If this is a NPC solely for lapse of time (see 301 CMR 11.10(2)) proceed directly to "ATTACHMENTS & SIGNATURES" on page 4.

**PERMITS / FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE / LAND TRANSFER**

List or describe all new or modified state permits, financial assistance, or land transfers not previously reviewed:

The project change requires amendments or updates of the 401 Water Quality Certificate (Transmittal No. W078058), Chapter 91 License No. 10899, and Amended Order of Conditions DEP File No. 64-396

Are you requesting a finding that this project change is insignificant? (see 301 CMR 11.10(6))

Yes  No; if yes, attach justification.

Are you requesting that a Scope in a previously issued Certificate be rescinded?

Yes  No; if yes, attach the Certificate

Are you requesting a change to a Scope in a previously issued Certificate?  Yes  No; if yes, attach Certificate and describe the change you are requesting:

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Previously reviewed	Net Change	Currently Proposed
<b>LAND</b>			
Total site acreage	20.7	0	20.7
Acres of land altered (all wetland resource areas below)	2.7		
Acres of impervious area	-	-	-
Square feet of bordering vegetated wetlands alteration	0	0	0

Square feet of other wetland alteration	+/- 113,400 s.f. Total Cap: +/- 43,140 s.f. permanent  Dredge: +/-70,300 s.f. (Coastal Beach/Flat) temporary  +/- 500 l.f. (Coastal Bank) permanent  +/- 32,160 s.f. Total Cap: +/- 3,360 s.f. permanent Staging and Dewatering: +/- 28,800s.f. temporary (LSCSF)  Staging and Access Road: 6,500 s.f. temporary (BVW/freshwater wetland)	+4,500 s.f. Total  --  Dredge: + 4,500 s.f. Stone Ramp & Timber Mats: + 90 s.f. (Coastal Beach/Flat) temporary  16 l.f. (Coastal Bank) temporary  0 s.f. Total (LSCSF)  0 s.f. (BVW/freshwater wetland)	+/- 117,990 s.f. Total Cap: +/- 43,140 s.f. permanent  Dredge: +/-74,800 s.f. Stone Ramp & Timber Mats: + 90 s.f. (Coastal Beach/Flat) temporary  +/- 516 l.f. (Coastal Bank) 16 lf temporary 500 lf permanent +/- 32,160 s.f. Total Cap: +/- 3,360 s.f. permanent Staging and Dewatering: +/- 32,380 s.f. temporary (LSCSF)  Staging and Access Road: 6,500 s.f. temporary (BVW/freshwater wetland)
Acres of non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways	0	0	0
<b>STRUCTURES</b>			
Gross square footage	-	-	-
Number of housing units	-	-	-
Maximum height (in feet)	-	-	-
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>			
Vehicle trips per day	-	-	-
Parking spaces	-	-	-
<b>WATER/WASTEWATER</b>			
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	-	-	-
GPD water withdrawal	-	-	-
GPD wastewater generation/ treatment	-	-	-
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	-	-	-

Does the project change involve any new or modified:

1. conversion of public parkland or other Article 97 public natural resources to any purpose not in accordance with Article 97?  Yes  No

2. release of any conservation restriction, preservation restriction, agricultural preservation restriction, or watershed preservation restriction? Yes No

3. impacts on Estimated Habitat of Rare Species, Vernal Pools, Priority Sites of Rare Species, or Exemplary Natural Communities? Yes No

4. impact on any structure, site or district listed in the State Register of Historic Place or the inventory of Historic and Archaeological Assets of the Commonwealth?

Yes No; if yes, does the project involve any demolition or destruction of any listed or inventoried historic or archaeological resources? Yes No

5. impact upon an Area of Critical Environmental Concern? Yes No  
If you answered 'Yes' to any of these 5 questions, explain below:

**PROJECT CHANGE DESCRIPTION** (attach additional pages as necessary). The project change description should include:

- (a) a brief description of the project as most recently reviewed
- (b) a description of material changes to the project as previously reviewed,
- (c) the significance of the proposed changes, with specific reference to the factors listed 301 CMR 11.10(6), and
- (d) measures that the project is taking to avoid damage to the environment or to minimize and mitigate unavoidable environmental impacts. If the change will involve modification of any previously issued Section 61 Finding, include a proposed modification of the Section 61 Finding (or it will be required in a Supplemental EIR).

**(a) Description of Project Previously Reviewed**

Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a National Grid ("National Grid") is submitting this Notice of Project Change for EOE #13541. The project was part of remedial actions taken at the former Salem MGP site to address and meet the requirements of the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (MCP) (310 CMR 40.0000). The site is a Tier 1B Disposal Site, assigned Release Tracking Number (RTN) 3-1709 by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

The project proposed in the ENF was a remediation project within the intertidal zone and coastal resource areas adjacent to Collins Cove in Salem. The Secretary's Certificate was issued for the former Salem Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) site, situated on parcels currently owned by National Grid and Boston Gas Company d/b/a KeySpan Energy Delivery – New England ("KeySpan"). The proposed project was a multi-layer beach cap designed to restrict the transport of surface material from the beach. The approximately 81,000 square feet (sf) proposed cap included stone riprap placed over geotextile material and was designed to cover portions of a coastal beach and coastal bank. The geotextile layer was included to limit erosion of miscellaneous fill materials that originated from the former MGP, and the riprap was included to stabilize and protect the cap from wave action and limit damage to the geotextile.

A Notice of Project Change was filed for the project in April 2006. The proposed project modifications included:

- A reduction in the size of the engineered coastal beach cap to 47,500 sf.
- Dredging of approximately 700 cubic yards (cy) for a trench at the toe of the beach cap to accommodate placement of sorbent material for collecting and limiting the migration of non-aqueous phase liquid (NAPL) in shallow coastal beach sediment.
- Dredging approximately 7,800 cy of sediment containing NAPL from tidal flats and

- backfilling the dredge footprint with clean fill.
- Temporary storage of dredged materials on site until stabilized.

The Secretary's Certificate on the Notice of Project Change, issued on May 26, 2006, determined that the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report was not required.

The project was modified in October 2006 to include a temporary access roadway from the existing access gate at the intersection of Ferry and Waite Streets to the previously reviewed staging area. The temporary access road was required to reduce the need to access the portion of the site occupied by a liquefied natural gas storage and distribution facility. Recently upgraded security requirements at that facility resulted in significant complications for accessing that portion of the site, which would have considerably delayed completing the project. The access roadway required the placement of temporary fill over 2,000 sf of a freshwater wetland.

The remediation activities described herein were completed in April 2007 and, per the MCP, the project is in Remedy Operation Status, involving operation, maintenance and monitoring activities.

### **(b) Proposed Project Changes**

The proposed project modification includes the removal of less than 100 cy of additional sediment from tidal flats to remove additional sediment that contains residual oil/tar discovered during the remediation activities described in the April 2006 NPC. The dredging work will be completed with a long-stick excavator.

The additional sediment is being removed because small (generally less than 1-2 inches in diameter) sheens have been observed on the surface of the sediment during the post-construction period. The small sheens have been observed to appear sporadically in a localized area near the northern end of the remediated coastal beach area. The applicant had proposed to monitor the area in the post-construction period to evaluate the effectiveness of the remedial construction. The remedial construction has abated the oil/tar seepage that had been observed along the coastal beach at the site. The project technical team believes the small sheens observed on sediment originate from residual material and are not associated with further discharge from the former seep area, and that the sheens were likely "masked" by the former oil/tar seepage.

To access the work area, timber mats will be temporarily placed along 150-200 feet of the shoreline and a temporary stone construction ramp will be constructed to connect the work area to the existing access roadway. The dredged material will be placed in dewatering roll-off boxes and then transported offsite to a thermal desorption facility or landfill. The dredged area will be backfilled with clean fill to restore the bathymetric contours. All work will be completed near the time of low tide – no work will be performed while the area is submerged. The dredged area will be backfilled before the incoming tide submerges the area each day.

The site will be accessed from the existing gate on Planters Street and will not utilize the temporary access roadway created as part of the October 2006 project modification. In addition, the staging area required for the new work will be reduced from that previously proposed and will not require the alteration of BVW. The wetland area impacted by the temporary access road and staging area has been restored, and is undergoing three seasons of restoration monitoring.

**(c) Significance of Proposed Changes**

Approximately 4,500 sf of beach (tidal flats) by dredge, 3,580 sf of coastal beach by access fill, and 16 linear feet of coastal bank will be temporarily impacted during the dredging process. The dredged footprint will be backfilled to restore bathymetric contours with clean fill in the form of sand and silt. Similar to the Winter 2006-2007 remedial project, the grain-size distribution of the fill will be specified to approximate the existing material grain-size. The stone ramp and timber mats will be removed post construction.

The proposed changes result in a 4% increase in the square footage of resource area impact. The temporary stone access ramp and timber mattresses are proposed mostly within the same footprint, but is limited to smaller portion of beach cap and access road impact used for the Winter 2006-2007 remedial project. Approximately 90 sf of the temporary access road is outside of the beach cap footprint. The proposed impacts are temporary in nature and will result in an environmental benefit by removing undesirable material from the intertidal sediment. The proposed modifications do not meet or exceed any review thresholds. Work is expected to commence in mid to late December of 2007. The dredging and backfilling are expected to be completed within 2 to 3 days.

No new permit applications nor request for financial assistance are necessary for this work. The project seeks amendments or updates of the following permits:

Ch. 91: License No. 10899

WQC: Transmittal No. W078058

Amended Order of Conditions: DEP File No. 64-396

ACOE: NAE-2005-2431

**(d) Measures to Avoid Damage to the Environment**

Dredged material and clean backfill will be transported in roll-off boxes to prevent sedimentation. In addition, the silt fence and/or staked haybales from the Winter 2006-2007 remediation project will remain in place in areas where material is handled.

Turbidity will be managed during the project by limiting operations to periods where the work area is exposed (i.e., near the time of low tide). To limit the generation and migration of sediment solids, sediments will be dredged only during low tide when the tidal flats are exposed using a mechanical excavator. A mechanical excavator will maximize the dredge sediment solid content, reduce dewatering and/or solidification efforts and costs, and minimize objectionable odors associated with sediment on-site dewatering/treatment. Backfilling of the dredged area will be completed before the incoming tide submerges the work area.

**ATTACHMENTS & SIGNATURES**

Attachments:

1. Secretary's most recent Certificate on this project
2. Plan showing most recent previously-reviewed proposed build condition
3. Plan showing currently proposed build condition
4. Original U.S.G.S. map or good quality color copy (8-1/2 x 11 inches or larger) indicating the project location and boundaries
5. List of all agencies and persons to whom the proponent circulated the NPC, in accordance with 301 CMR 11.10(7)

Signatures:

*Elizabeth M Greene*

*10/31/07 - Kenneth Fields*

<u>Date</u>	<u>Signature of Responsible Officer or Proponent</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Signature of person preparing NPC (if different from above)</u>
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<u>Elizabeth Greene</u>	<u>Kenneth Fields</u>
Name (print or type)	Name (print or type)

<u>Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a National Grid</u>	<u>BSC Group, Inc.</u>
Firm/Agency	Firm/Agency

<u>25 Research Drive</u>	<u>15 Elkins Street</u>
Street	Street

<u>Westborough, MA 01582</u>	<u>Boston, MA 02127</u>
Municipality/State/Zip	Municipality/State/Zip

<u>508-389-3244</u>	<u>617-896-4342</u>
Phone	Phone