PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 21 §43, an application for 401 Water Quality Certification is pending before the Department of Environmental Protection for the 354 Line Structure Replacement Project. The applicant is Western Massachusetts Electric Company, c/o Northeast Utilities, P.O. Box 270, Hartford, CT 06141-0270. The project involves the replacement of eight (8) electrical utility pole structures along the #354 345 kV transmission line between Erving and Ludlow, Massachusetts. Work which requires the filing of a 401 Water Quality Certification will occur in the communities of Belchertown, Granby and Ludlow. Additional information may be obtained from the applicant's agent – Tighe & Bond, Inc. c/o Daniel Rukakoski, PWS (413-875-1312). Written comments should be addressed within 21 days of this notice to:

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Western Regional Office Division of Wetlands and Waterways 627 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608

Any group of ten persons, any aggrieved person, or any governmental body or private organization with a mandate to protect the environment who submits written comments may appeal the Department's Certification. Failure to submit written comments before the end of the public comment period may result in the waiver of any right to an adjudicatory hearing.