

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
 Executive Office of Environmental
 Affairs ■ MEPA Office

ENF Environmental
 Notification Form

<i>For Office Use Only</i> Executive Office of Environmental Affairs	
EOEA No.:	<u>14481</u>
MEPA Analyst:	<u>Aisling Eglinton</u>
Phone:	617-626- <u>1024</u>

The information requested on this form must be completed to begin MEPA Review in accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act, 301 CMR 11.00.

Project Name: Z-126 115kV Electric Transmission Line		
Street: Millbury No. 2 Substation, Millbury to Tower 510, Auburn		
Municipality: Millbury/Auburn	Watershed: Blackstone/French	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: Not Applicable – linear utility project	Latitude: Not Applicable, linear utility project	Longitude: Not Applicable, linear utility project
Estimated commencement date: Summer 2010	Estimated completion date: Spring 2011	
Approximate cost: \$14 million	Status of project design: 85 %complete	
Proponent: New England Power Company (d/b/a National Grid)		
Street: 40 Sylvan Road		
Municipality: Waltham	State: MA	Zip Code: 02451
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: John Vieira		
Firm/Agency: Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.	Street: Union Station, Suite 219, 2 Washington Square	
Municipality: Worcester	State: MA	Zip Code: 01604
Phone: 508-752-1001	Fax: 508-752-1276	E-mail: jvieira@vhb.com

Does this project meet or exceed a mandatory EIR threshold (see 301 CMR 11.03)?
 Yes No

Has this project been filed with MEPA before?
 Yes (EOEA No. _____) No

Has any project on this site been filed with MEPA before?
 Yes (EOEA No. _____) No

Is this an Expanded ENF (see 301 CMR 11.05(7)) requesting:
 a Single EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.06(8)) Yes No
 a Special Review Procedure? (see 301CMR 11.09) Yes No
 a Waiver of mandatory EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.11) Yes No
 a Phase I Waiver? (see 301 CMR 11.11) Yes No

Identify any financial assistance or land transfer from an agency of the Commonwealth, including the agency name and the amount of funding or land area (in acres): No financial assistance or land transfer from any agency of the Commonwealth is proposed as part of the Project.

Are you requesting coordinated review with any other federal, state, regional, or local agency?
 Yes (Specify _____) No

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals: Orders of Conditions from the Towns of Millbury and Auburn;
Programmatic General Permit (Category 2) from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; NPDES Storm Water Construction General Permit
for Stormwater Discharge from Construction Activities from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Which ENF or EIR review threshold(s) does the project meet or exceed (see 301 CMR 11.03):

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land | <input type="checkbox"/> Rare Species | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wetlands, Waterways, & Tidelands |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water | <input type="checkbox"/> Wastewater | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy | <input type="checkbox"/> Air | <input type="checkbox"/> Solid & Hazardous Waste |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ACEC | <input type="checkbox"/> Regulations | <input type="checkbox"/> Historical & Archaeological
Resources |

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Existing	Change	Total	State Permits & Approvals
LAND				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Superseding Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 91 License <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 401 Water Quality Certification <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MHD or MDC Access Permit (Construction Access Only) <input type="checkbox"/> Water Management Act Permit <input type="checkbox"/> New Source Approval <input type="checkbox"/> DEP or MWRA Sewer Connection/ Extension Permit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Permits (including Legislative Approvals) – Specify:
Total site acreage	±209*			
New acres of land altered		42.4**		
Acres of impervious area	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		273,744***		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration (Riverfront Area and BLSF)****		RA – 303,708 BLSF – 169,948		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0		
STRUCTURES				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Permits (including Legislative Approvals) – Specify: Department of Public Utilities (DPU) approval under M.G.L. Chapter 164, Section 72 Mass Historic Commission Determination of No Adverse Effect
Gross square footage	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Number of housing units	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Maximum height (in feet)	±60	+15	±75	
TRANSPORTATION				
Vehicle trips per day	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Parking spaces	N/A	N/A	N/A	
WASTEWATER				
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	N/A	N/A	N/A	
GPD water withdrawal	N/A	N/A	N/A	
GPD wastewater generation/treatment	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	N/A	N/A	N/A	

*Represents the 36,415 lf length of easement times 250 feet wide = 9,103,750 sf = 209± acres.

**Includes all upland and wetland areas of disturbance (all within easements or existing rights of way), including 23.1 acres of tree clearing and 19.3 acres of disturbance for temporary access roads, laydown areas, access aprons. Please refer to Appendix B – Aerial and Topographic Plans and Appendix C – Limits of Tree Clearing, which show limits of tree clearing and land alteration.

***Represents 4.8 acres of wetland vegetation conversion from forested wetland to scrub/shrub or emergent wetland and 1.4 acres of temporary construction disturbance.

****Please refer to Table 3.1 – Z-126, 115 kV Transmission Line Wetland Impacts in Chapter 3 – Wetlands and Natural Resources for a breakdown of all wetland resource area impacts.

CONSERVATION LAND: Will the project involve the conversion of public parkland or other Article 97 public natural resources to any purpose not in accordance with Article 97?

Yes (Specify _____) No

Will it involve the release of any conservation restriction, preservation restriction, agricultural preservation restriction, or watershed preservation restriction?

Yes (Specify _____) No

RARE SPECIES: Does the project site include Estimated Habitat of Rare Species, Vernal Pools, Priority Sites of Rare Species, or Exemplary Natural Communities?

Yes (Specify _____) No

HISTORICAL /ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES: Does the project site include 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 (Specify _____) No

If yes, does the project involve any demolition or destruction of any listed or inventoried historic or archaeological resources?

Yes (Specify _____) No

AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN: Is the project in or adjacent to an Area of Critical Environmental Concern?

Yes (Specify _____) No

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project description should include (a) a description of the project site, (b) a description of both on-site and off-site alternatives and the impacts associated with each alternative, and (c) potential on-site and off-site mitigation measures for each alternative (You may attach one additional page, if necessary.)

The New England Power Company (d/b/a National Grid) plans to build a new single circuit electric transmission line within approximately 7 miles of an existing electric utility Right-of-Way (ROW) from the Millbury No. 2 substation in Millbury to a switch station location in Auburn near the Auburn /Leicester town line (the Project). Within approximately 0.9 miles on the same ROW, there are also plans to relocate a portion of an existing 115 kv transmission line to allow for construction of the new 115kV line. The Project objective is to strengthen the transmission system that serves the Webster Street substation in Worcester as well as to enhance the system's overall operating capabilities.

Please refer to Chapter 1 - *Project Summary* for more detailed information pertaining to the Project and Project Site. Please refer to Chapter 2 - *Alternatives Analysis* for more detailed information pertaining to alternatives to the Project, alternative routing, and alternative construction methodologies. Please refer to Chapter 3 - *Wetlands and Natural Resources* for more detailed information on wetland resource area impacts, avoidance, minimization and mitigation.

LAND SECTION – all proponents must fill out this section

I. Thresholds / Permits

A. Does the project meet or exceed any review thresholds related to **land** (see 301 CMR 11.03(1)) X Yes ___ No; if yes, specify each threshold: 11.03(1)(b)1. The Project will result in the direct temporary alteration of 25 or more acres of land.

II. Impacts and Permits

A. Describe, in acres, the current and proposed character of the project site, as follows:

Existing Change Total