

ENF Environmental Notification Form

For Office Use Only
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

EOEA No.: 13165
MEPA Analyst: Bill GAGE
Phone: 617-626-1025

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: <i>King Street to Mill Street 23kV Electric Line Extension Project</i>		
Street: <i>King Street, Evergreen Lane, and Pond Street</i>		
Municipality: <i>Georgetown and Groveland, MA</i>		Watershed: <i>Parker River</i>
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: East: <i>335239.8</i> North: <i>4733289.2</i>		Latitude: <i>71 00 43.98</i> Longitude: <i>42 44 18.94</i>
Estimated commencement date: <i>Feb. 2004</i>		Estimated completion date: <i>July 2004</i>
Approximate cost: <i>1.1 million</i>		Status of project design: <i>100 %complete</i>
Proponent: <i>Massachusetts Electric Company (Attention F.P. Richards)</i>		
Street: <i>55 Bearfoot Road</i>		
Municipality: <i>Northboro</i>		State: <i>MA</i> Zip Code: <i>01532</i>
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: <i>Tim Sullivan</i>		
Firm/Agency: <i>Earth Tech</i>		Street: <i>196 Baker Avenue</i>
Municipality: <i>Concord</i>		State: <i>MA</i> Zip Code: <i>01742</i>
Phone: <i>978-371-4216</i>	Fax: <i>978-371-2468</i>	E-mail: <i>timothy.sullivan@earthtech.com</i>

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): None

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, Local Street Crossing Permits, and Local Building Permit (Groveland-Control House Expansion).*

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

- Land
 Water
 Energy
 ACEC
- Rare Species
 Wastewater
 Air
 Regulations
- Wetlands, Waterways, & Tidelands
 Transportation
 Solid & Hazardous Waste
 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"/> Superceding Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 91 License <input type="checkbox"/> 401 Water Quality Certification <input type="checkbox"/> MHD or MDC Access Permit <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: <i>Conservation and Management permit for Rare Species (Potential)</i> <i>Department of Telecommunications and Energy – Public Convenience and Necessity</i>
Total site acreage	N/A			
New acres of land altered		- 0.13		
Acres of impervious area	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		300 sf		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		200 sf		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		N/A		
STRUCTURES				
Gross square footage	704sf	264sf	968sf	
Number of housing units	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Maximum height (in feet)	N/A	N/A	N/A	
TRANSPORTATION				
Vehicle trips per day	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Parking spaces	N/A	N/A	N/A	
WATER/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	

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 Estimated/Priority Habitat and Vernal Pools) No

Earth Tech's initial review of the MassGIS, Massachusetts Natural Heritage 2003 data layer showed that the proposed project is located within Priority Habitat for Rare Wildlife. The project route is in close proximity to two Certified Vernal Pools. The Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program has been contacted regarding any additional information on this project. A copy of the response letter is included in Attachment B – Agency Correspondence.

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

Earth Tech's initial review of the State Register of Historic Places and the inventory of Historic and Archaeological Assets of the Commonwealth showed that the proposed site does not include any historic or archaeological resources. An information request has been sent to the Massachusetts Historical Commission. A copy of this letter is included in Attachment B – Agency Correspondence.

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 activities associated with the proposed project coincide with the upgrades to the electrical transmission and distribution system in the Merrimack Valley. These upgrades are intended to help increase supply and reliability of service to residents of Merrimack Valley communities that currently receive electrical power from the King Street substation. This project involves the construction of a second 23kV electric line section (approximately 1.6 miles) from the King Street Substation (Groveland) to the Mill Street Junction (Georgetown). Currently, a single 23kV line runs from King Street to the Mill Street Line Junction. This line is split at Mill Street. One line proceeds north and services Newbury, West Newbury, and Newburyport. The other line proceeds east and serves Georgetown, Rowley, and Ipswich. The proposed second line would connect to the existing Georgetown-Rowley-Ipswich line, and the existing line would connect to the Newbury-West Newbury-Newburyport line. This would effectively increase supply to all six communities.

The primary component of the project involves the installation of a 37-structure (single wooden pole) 23kV line from the King Street Substation to the Mill Street Line Junction. The route of the new line will follow an existing and previously cleared electric line right-of-way (ROW). This right-of-way

leaves the north side of the King Street Substation and crosses King Street (Groveland), Evergreen Lane (Groveland), and Pond Street (Georgetown).

In order to accommodate the equipment needed to monitor and control the new line, the Massachusetts Electric Company will need to expand the existing control house at the King Street Substation. Due to the configuration of the existing control house, electrical components, and other features, the only feasible option is to expand the fence line of the substation accordingly. This fence expansion will increase the footprint of the King Street Substation by approximately 1,824 square feet. New breakers and other equipment will also be installed within the existing fence at the King Street Substation.

As King Street is the sole source of electricity to the area, the Massachusetts Electric Company has exhausted most alternative methods of providing additional supply to this area of need. Past projects have involved re-conductoring of the existing line on this section, installation of a fourth transformer at the King Street Substation, and re-conductoring of other lines in the system to increase capacity. The alternative second right-of-way from King Street to Mill Street is already full with two 23kV lines.

The selected route is the only feasible alternative for increasing the supply of electricity needed to meet the current demand. The proposed work requires work in areas subject to the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act. Notices of Intent have been filed with the Conservation Commissions of both Groveland and Georgetown. Work will occur with areas designated as Estimated and Priority Habitat for rare species. The Massachusetts Electric Company is conducting habitat surveys and will meet with the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program to determine appropriate measures needed to protect rare species.