

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
 Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs  
 Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) Office

**Environmental Notification Form**

*For Office Use Only*

EEA#: 16007

MEPA Analyst: Alex Steysky

*The information requested on this form must be completed in order to submit a document electronically for review under the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act, 301 CMR 11.00.*

<b>Project Name: Mt. Tom Plant Decommissioning and Solid Waste Management Project</b>		
<b>Street Address: 200 Northampton Street</b>		
<b>Municipality: Holyoke</b>	<b>Watershed: Connecticut River</b>	
<b>Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: UTM Zone 18T Easting: 697472.4, Northing: 4683773.9</b>	<b>Latitude: 42.281183 Longitude: -72.605070</b>	
<b>Estimated commencement date: 09/2019</b>	<b>Estimated completion date: 2020/2021</b>	
<b>Project Type: Remediation/Demolition</b>	<b>Status of project design: 90 %complete</b>	
<b>Proponent: Mt. Tom Generating Company, LLC</b>		
<b>Street Address: 2 Rowtier Drive</b>		
<b>Municipality: Westminster</b>	<b>State: MA</b>	<b>Zip Code: 01473</b>
<b>Name of Contact Person: Melissa P. Coady</b>		
<b>Firm/Agency: Tighe &amp; Bond</b>	<b>Street Address: 53 Southampton Road</b>	
<b>Municipality: Westfield</b>	<b>State: MA</b>	<b>Zip Code: 01085</b>
<b>Phone: (413) 572-3224</b>	<b>Fax: 413-562-5317</b>	<b>E-mail: mpcoady@tighebond.com</b>

Does this project meet or exceed a mandatory EIR threshold (see 301 CMR 11.03)?

Yes  No

If this is an Expanded Environmental Notification Form (ENF) (see 301 CMR 11.05(7)) or a Notice of Project Change (NPC), are you requesting:

- |  |                              |                             |
|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| a Single EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.06(8))           | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| a Special Review Procedure? (see 301CMR 11.09) | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| a Waiver of mandatory EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.11) | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| a Phase I Waiver? (see 301 CMR 11.11)          | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

*(Note: Greenhouse Gas Emissions analysis must be included in the Expanded ENF.)*

Which MEPA review threshold(s) does the project meet or exceed (see 301 CMR 11.03)?

- 301 CMR 11.03(2)(b)(2) – Greater than two acres of disturbance of designated priority habitat, as defined at 321 CMR 10.02, that results in a take of a state-listed endangered or threatened species or species of special concern
- 301 CMR 11.03(3)(b)(1)(f) – Alteration of ½ or more acres of any other wetlands

Which State Agency Permits will the project require?

- MESA Conservation & Management Permit (CMP)
- MassDEP approvals under Administrative Consent Order (ACO) 00002589

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:

*Not applicable. The proposed project is not receiving financial assistance or land transfer(s) from any Agency of the Commonwealth.*

<b>Summary of Project Size &amp; Environmental Impacts</b>	<b>Existing</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>LAND</b>			
Total site acreage <sup>1</sup>	130		
New acres of land altered		15.3	
Acres of impervious area	2.7	-0.23	2.47
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		0	
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		339,300 <sup>2</sup>	
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0	
<b>STRUCTURES</b>			
Gross square footage	4,000	-4,000	0
Number of housing units	NA	NA	NA
Maximum height (feet)	NA	NA	NA
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>			
Vehicle trips per day	NA	NA	NA
Parking spaces	NA	NA	NA
<b>WASTEWATER</b>			
Water Use (Gallons per day)	NA	NA	NA
Water withdrawal (GPD)	NA	NA	NA
Wastewater generation/treatment (GPD)	NA	NA	NA
Length of water mains (miles)	NA	NA	NA
Length of sewer mains (miles)	NA	NA	NA
Has this project been filed with MEPA before? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (EEA # _____) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
Has any project on this site been filed with MEPA before? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (EEA # <u>4152</u> ) <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>Mt. Tom Coal Reconversion Project (Env. Mon. 16-04; 7/7/1981)</i>			

<sup>1</sup> The Project Site (Site), or Project Locus, is comprised of three (3) parcels of land totaling approximately 130 acres according to the City of Holyoke Assessor's Department property cards.

<sup>2</sup> Approx. 7.8 acres; due to the extent of Bordering Land Subject to Flooding (BLSF) and Riverfront Area within the Site.

## **GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION – all proponents must fill out this section**

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

Describe the existing conditions and land uses on the project site:

*The Site is the location of a former coal-powered electrical generating station located at 200 Northampton Street (US Route 5) in the City of Holyoke, Hampden County, Massachusetts. Mt. Tom Station was constructed in the late 1950s and opened as a coal-fired generation plant in 1960. In 1970, the plant was converted to operate on fuel oil and subsequently converted back to coal in 1981. The Site is located on the eastern side of Route 5. The geographical location of the former Mt. Tom Station generation plant is 42.281183 degrees north latitude and -72.605070 degrees west longitude. The Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) coordinates are 697472.4 meters Easting and 4683773.9 meters Northing. The Site is being closed under an Administrative Consent Order issued by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP; ACO 00002589). Refer to Section 1.3 of the ENF Narrative for further details regarding the ACO. The goal of the proposed project is to satisfy the requirements of the ACO (i.e., Site closure). Engie does not have plans for, or interest in, site redevelopment.*

*The Site is predominantly characterized by previously developed and/or disturbed areas. Key site features include electrical generation plant buildings (previously demolished) on the northern portion of the site, a former coal storage location with runoff control area, and three lined wastewater/coal ash settling basins and associated waste water treatment facility. Ash from the combustion of coal and fuel oil has historically been deposited throughout the site property. Two "traditional" solid waste landfills are located at the site, including a municipal solid waste landfill that received waste from the City of Holyoke, and a former plant dump that received refuse from plant operations. The southern-most portion of the site property has historically been used for agriculture, but was developed as a solar photovoltaic facility in 2016. Most of the Site is secure and surrounded by a six-foot tall chain link fence with locked gates.*

*The Site also contains associated wastewater treatment buildings, access roads and paved parking lots. In addition, overhead electric utility transmission lines are situated within a privately-owned easement aligned north to south across the site. The transmission lines turn east and span the Connecticut River approximately 150 feet north of Kennedy Brook, a perennial stream at the south end of the Site. The Site is bounded to the north and south by forested land, to the east by the Connecticut River, and to the west by railroad tracks and Route 5. Non-native invasive plant species are prevalent in medium to high densities within the northern parcel.*

*The Site is abutted to the north by undeveloped forested land and the City of Easthampton town line and Hampden-Hampshire county line. Undeveloped forested land, including an abandoned greenhouse structure, is located south of the solar photovoltaic facility. Residential properties are located between 200 and 400 feet west of the solar facility. The Connecticut River abuts the Site to the east and forms the eastern boundary. Route 5 abuts the Site to the west with a railroad corridor that parallels the roadway immediately to the east.*

*Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) Priority Habitats for Rare Species and Estimated Habitats for Rare Wildlife are located along the eastern edge of the Site.*

Describe the proposed project and its programmatic and physical elements:

*The following remedial and facility decommissioning efforts will be completed to comply with the terms of the April 2018 ACO, and ultimately achieve regulatory closure.*

- 1. Remediation, including soil excavation with on-site relocation and capping of metals-impacted soils at the former plant dump (Area A), capping of an area of petroleum-impacted soils (Area B) identified at the southern portion of SWMU-4, and capping of an area of elevated vanadium-impacted ash/soils (Area C), located within the northern portion of SWMU-17;*
- 2. Kennedy Brook failed slope (Area D), restoration will include cutting back of the failed ash bank (including on-site material relocation to Area B), re-grading/slope and bank stabilization, and restoration of the failed ash slope associated with Kennedy Brook and nearby disturbed areas;*
- 3. MassDEP Chapter 91 structures (Area E), will include in-place abandonment of the cooling water intake piping from the screen well to a point approximately 25 feet landward of the Mean Annual*

*High Water (MAHW) line of the Connecticut River, in-place abandonment of the return piping from the former plant structure to a point approximately 25 feet landward of the MAHW line of the Connecticut River, and removal of intake/return piping and associated structures (pipe cradles, wing wall, head wall, and diverter sheet pile sections) from the Connecticut River bank and riverbed. In addition, removal of the fire dock and associated sheet piling structure from the Connecticut River are to be conducted as part of this restoration effort;*

4. *Decommissioning of the industrial waste water treatment plant (IWWTP) involving demolition and removal of above grade components (i.e., building, concrete structures, piping/conduit runs, support structures, and pumps), in-place abandonment and as-needed capping of below grade components (i.e., piping and electrical conduits, associated vaults, and the 6,000-gallon stormwater sump);*
5. *Removal of NPDES outfall structures from the Connecticut River bank, and in-place abandonment (capping) of select outfalls that are no longer in use;*
6. *Kennedy Brook Bridge removal, including abatement of the attached section of transite ash sluice line;*
7. *Decommissioning of the coal storage conveyor system, including removal of subsurface equipment, in-place abandonment of the subsurface portion of this structure, and demolition of the above grade portions of the associated structure. In addition, this task includes demolition and removal of on-site ancillary support structures and equipment, and;*
8. *Site restoration, and post-construction mitigation, including restoration of Connecticut River Bank and Riverfront Area in areas of impact and rare species habitat.*

*Refer to Section 3 of the ENF Narrative for additional details.*

**Describe the on-site project alternatives (and alternative off-site locations, if applicable), considered by the proponent, including at least one feasible alternative that is allowed under current zoning, and the reasons(s) that they were not selected as the preferred alternative:**

*The Project is unique in that it entails the decommissioning of an existing facility and related infrastructure, remediation activities under the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (MCP; 310 CMR 40.0000) in accordance with the requirements set forth by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) under an Administrative Consent Order (ACO). The ACO constrains the Project Proponent to a scope of work and schedule, effectively limiting the scope and nature of acceptable alternatives. The proposed designs are driven by the ACO and the results of a Method 3 Risk Characterization that evaluated risk to human health and the environment for soil, sediment and surface water at the Project Site. Refer to Section 5 of the ENF Narrative for further details. To the extent possible within the framework of the ACO, the Proponent evaluated alternative design approaches to achieve project goals, as further described in the ENF Narrative.*

**Summarize the mitigation measures proposed to offset the impacts of the preferred alternative:**

*Disturbed areas will be restored, including the use of bioengineering techniques along the Connecticut River and Kennedy Brook. Restoration measures are described in Section 3 of the ENF Narrative and shown on Sheets C-101 and C-102 of the Project Drawings provided in Appendix B. Discussion of Net Benefit under the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act (MESA) is presented in Section 6 of the ENF Narrative. Overall, the project represents an environmental improvement.*

**If the project is proposed to be constructed in phases, please describe each phase:**

*Not applicable. The proposed project will not be constructed in phases.*