



**Western Massachusetts
Electric**

The Northeast Utilities System



Greater Springfield
Reliability Project

June 16, 2008

Secretary Ian A. Bowles
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
Attn: MEPA Office
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

**Re: Western Massachusetts Electric Company – Greater Springfield Reliability Project
Expanded Environmental Notification Form (“EENF”)**

Dear Secretary Bowles:

Western Massachusetts Electric Company (“WMECO”) is pleased to file the enclosed Environmental Notification Form (ENF), the additional attachments listed in the ENF and the Supplemental Report, together constituting an EENF, for the proposed Greater Springfield Reliability Project (the “Project”).

The Project consists of proposed upgrades to WMECO’s existing 115-kilovolt electric transmission system, as well as the addition of new 345-kilovolt transmission lines, along a preferred route following existing transmission rights-of-way in the municipalities of Agawam, Chicopee, Ludlow, Springfield and West Springfield.

Although the Project triggers two (2) thresholds (land altered and wetlands impacted) for completion of a mandatory Environmental Impact Report, the EENF demonstrates that construction pursuant to proposed plans and consistent with applicable permits will provide needed improvements to the region’s electric system without resulting in significant adverse environmental effects. Therefore, WMECO respectfully requests that you approve the preparation of a Single Environmental Impact Report for the Project.



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If you have any questions or are in need of additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (860) 665-6774.

Very truly yours,

Robert E. Carberry, Manager
NEEWS Project Siting and Permitting

cc: See the EENF Distribution List