

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Energy Facilities Siting Board
EFSB 25-03/D.P.U. 24-93/D.P.U. 24-94
Siting Board Staff's Proposed Amendments to the Tentative Decision
July 28, 2026

Page	Line	Amendment
6-7	25 on page 6 1-2 on page 7	Replace " <i>The Sentinel; Millbury-Sutton Chronicle; Auburn News; Spencer New Leader; Ware River News; Springfield Republican; Daily Hampshire Gazette; and Greenfield Recorder</i> " with " <i>The New Bedford Standard Times, The Wanderer, and The Portuguese Times.</i> "
7	20	Add the following footnote to the end of the sentence ending "...to the Company": "On July 17, 2026, the Company filed supplemental responses to information requests DPU-G-2 and DPU-W-2."
9	19	Add the following sentence after the existing sentence ending "... file written comments": "The Board received timely written comments from the Company and Ms. Machie."
9	19	Add the following footnote at the end of the new sentence: "In the Company's comment, it stated that it had reached an agreement with the Machies regarding the location of Structure #2 consistent with the Board's recommendation (Eversource Comment on the Tentative Decision at 32)."
26	4	Add the following footnote to the end of the first sentence of the paragraph: "In her comment on the Tentative Decision, Ms. Machie reiterated her concerns about the location of the Company's ROW."
31	26	Add the following sentence to the end of the paragraph: "The Company also developed a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan and stated that the stormwater management system was designed so post-construction conditions do not cause an increase in stormwater runoff peak discharge rate or volume relative to the current conditions (Exh. DPU-W-2(S1)(1))."
34	10	Add the following sentence to the end of the paragraph: "The Company also stated that it updates its Operations and Management Plan annually with NHESP; this plan establishes

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		guidelines and would consider time-of-year restrictions to avoid impacts during critical life stages including but not limited to nesting season for ground and shrub nesting birds, rearing season for bats, and flowering and seed times (Exh. DPU-W-2(S1)(1) at 209).”
36	2	Add the following sentence to the end of the paragraph: “Further, the Siting Board recommends that the Company schedule vegetation clearing outside the primary bird nesting season where practicable, consistent with applicable federal and state wildlife protection requirements.”
37	2	Add the following sentence to the end of the paragraph: “The Company explained that, during operation, it would primarily use downward-facing lights and would only use upward-facing lights to view circuit switchers (Exh. DPU-Z-1(1), at 15).”
37	23	Add the following sentence after the existing sentence ending “characteristics of the area.” “The Board directs the Company to design permanent exterior lighting at the expanded Crystal Spring Substation using DarkSky-compliant, fully shielded fixtures directed downward to minimize attraction or disorientation of nocturnal migrants as practicable.”
38	17	Add the word “design” after “develop upgrades to the stormwater management system”
40	20	Add the following sentence to the end of the paragraph: “MassDEP granted the Project a Water Quality Certification, subject to conditions (Exh. DPU-G-2(S2)(2) at 35).”
41	13	Replace the word “upgrade the current” with “construct the”
41	24	Add the following sentences before the last sentence in the paragraph: “The Board recommends that the Company delineate wetlands resources within the Project footprint in accordance with MassDEP Wetlands Protection regulation 310 CMR 10.00 and relevant MassDEP wetlands delineation guidance, including, without limitation, to assess the suspected vernal pool near Structure #16 and the Company investigate the Mattapoissett River and the unnamed stream that bisect the Right-of-Way to determine whether such water bodies are within the jurisdiction of the Chapter 91 Waterways program and, if so, to apply for

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		any licenses or permits for the crossings required by either G.L. c. 91 or MassDEP's Waterways regulation 310 CMR 9.00."
58	Former footnote 17, line 1	Remove the word "Expanded" before "Environmental Notification Form"
58	Former footnote 17, line 2	Remove the first "E" in the acronym "EENF".
59	22	Replace "Conditions A through I" with "Conditions A through J"
61	Condition I, line 5	Replace "upgrade the current" with "construct the"
61	25	Add new Condition J after Condition I: "The Siting Board directs the Company to design permanent exterior lighting at the expanded Crystal Spring Substation using DarkSky-compliant, fully shielded fixtures directed downward to minimize attraction or disorientation of nocturnal migrants as practicable."
61	Recommendation 3	Add the following sentence to Recommendation 3: "further, the Company schedule vegetation clearing outside the primary bird nesting season where practicable, consistent with applicable federal and state wildlife protection requirements; "