The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

MEMORANDUM

TO: Service List
Common System Modification Fee, D.P.U. 26-57

FROM: Ian Bollag-Miller, Hearing Officer

RE: Procedural Notice

DATE: November 6, 2026

CC: Peter Ray, Department Secretary

I. Introduction

On March 27, 2026, the electric distribution companies ("Distribution Companies")[1] submitted to the Department of Public Utilities ("Department") a joint proposal to revise the Standards for Interconnection of Distributed Generation ("DG Interconnection Tariff") to incorporate Section 13, Common System Modification Fee Program ("CSM Fee Program"). The joint CSM Fee Program proposal was developed with the Interconnection Implementation Review Group's ("IIRG's") Interconnection Fees Subgroup and, on March 26, 2026, the IIRG voted unanimously to support the joint CSM Fee Program proposal (Cover Letter at 1). The Department docketed this matter as D.P.U. 26-57.

On July 29 and 30, 2026, per Department request, National Grid, Unitil, and NSTAR Electric filed company specific DG Interconnection Tariffs that incorporated the CSM Fee Program with two revised reporting metrics and one new reporting metric in subsections 13.3

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[1] The Distribution Companies are Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company each d/b/a National Grid ("National Grid"), Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company d/b/a Unitil ("Unitil"), and NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy ("NSTAR Electric").

and 13.7 ("Compliance Tariffs").[2] On August 12, 2026, the Department approved each of the Distribution Companies' Compliance Tariffs.

The CSM Fee Program requires the Distribution Companies to file two progress reports due to the Department at 18-months and 30-months from the Effective Date of the Compliance Tariffs. NSTAR Electric, M.D.P.U. No. 55F at § 13.3; National Grid, M.D.P.U. No. 1646, at § 13.3; Unitil, M.D.P.U. No. 495, at § 13.3. Further, should the CSM Fee Program continue beyond the initial 36-month term, the Distribution Companies are required to file annual reports. NSTAR Electric, M.D.P.U. No. 55F at § 13.7; National Grid, M.D.P.U. No. 1646, at § 13.7; Unitil, M.D.P.U. No. 495, at § 13.7. To further inform the Department and interested stakeholders, the Distribution Companies shall incorporate the following additional reporting metrics into their CSM Fee Program reporting:

1. Total cost of implementation, administration, and maintenance of the CSM Fee Program;

2. Number of applications that reduced size to avoid triggering system modifications;

3. Total capacity in megawatts ("MW") of distributed energy resources ("DER") interconnected under the CSM Fee Program;

4. Total hosting capacity in MW enabled by completed system modifications under the CSM Fee Program;

5. Number of and capacity in MW of withdrawn projects that would have otherwise been eligible for the CSM Fee Program;

6. Percentage of projects interconnected and total DER capacity in MW interconnected under the CSM Fee Program that are:

    a. Commercial and Industrial ("C&I") customers;

    b. residential customers;

7. Percentage of projects completed in Environmental Justice communities under the CSM Fee Program.

By **January 5, 2027**, the Distribution Companies shall jointly propose a standardized Microsoft Excel reporting template to be used for progress and annual report submissions to the Department. Further, if the Distribution Companies require clarification of any of the additional reporting requirements listed above and/or they difficult for the Distribution Companies to report

[2] NSTAR Electric M.D.P.U. No. 55F, National Grid M.D.P.U. No. 1646, and Unitil M.D.P.U. No. 495

on, the Distribution Companies shall contact the Hearing Officer as soon as practicable to schedule a conference call to address these issues.