

PUBLIC NOTICES



**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
ENERGY FACILITIES SITING BOARD**
**NOTICE OF ADJUDICATION
AND PUBLIC COMMENT HEARING**



<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/blandford-substation-project>

EFSB 25-09 NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy (Blandford Substation Expansion)

NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy (“Eversource” or “Company”) has asked the Energy Facilities Siting Board (“Siting Board” or “EFSB”) to grant individual and comprehensive zoning exemptions from the Town of Blandford’s Zoning Bylaws for the expansion of the Company’s existing Blandford Substation located at 79 North Blandford Road in Blandford, Massachusetts (the “Project”). To accommodate this expansion, the Company proposes to increase the Substation yard from 0.65 acres to 1.13 acres and will remove 4,000 square feet of trees. A Project description of the Project site is provided below.

The Siting Board will conduct a public comment hearing with both in-person and remote participation options on:

Tuesday, February 3, 2026 at 6:30 P.M.
Snow Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2026, at 6:30 P.M.

In-person hearing location:
Blandford Town Hall
1 Russell Stage Rd. Blandford, MA 01008

Remote attendees: join by clicking (or entering) this link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82900586470> from a computer, tablet, or smart device. For audio-only participation, attendees can dial-in at (646) 558-8656 (not a toll-free number) and then enter the **Webinar ID: 829-0058-6470**.

To provide oral comments during the public comment hearing (in person or on Zoom), please send an email to Yonathan.Mengesha@mass.gov with the subject line “EFSB 25-09 SPEAKER SIGN UP”, and your name, email address, and mailing address in the body of your email by **noon, February 2, 2026 (or for Snow date by February 10, 2026)**. To sign up by telephone, please leave a voicemail message referencing “EFSB 25-09” at (617) 305-3544 with your name, telephone number, and mailing address by noon, February 2, 2026 (or for Snow date by February 10, 2026). Pre-registered commenters will speak first, and other commenters afterward.

The Siting Board also invites written comments on the Project. Written comments will be most useful to the Siting Board if submitted by **5:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 18, 2026 (or for Snow date by 5:00 p.m., February 26, 2026)**. Persons or groups who wish to be involved in the Siting Board proceeding (beyond providing comments at the public comment hearing or in writing) may seek to intervene as a party or to participate as a limited participant. Any petition to intervene or participate must likewise be filed no later than **5:00 p.m., February 18, 2026 (or for Snow date by 5:00 p.m., February 26, 2026)** and must follow the instructions below.

Severe Weather Notification and Snow Date

In the event of severe weather, the Siting Board may postpone the public comment hearing. Any postponement will be announced on the Siting Board’s Project website (accessible via the URL link or QR code at the top of this notice’s first page). If the hearing is postponed, it will be rescheduled for the snow date of Wednesday, February 11, 2026, at the original location. The deadlines for submitting public comments and filing for intervention or limited participant status will be extended until Thursday, February 26, 2026.

Important Dates:

Public Comment Hearing
Planned: February 3, 2026
Snow Date: February 11, 2026

Deadline to file written comments
Planned: February 18, 2026
Alternate: February 26, 2026

Deadline to file for intervention/limited participant status
Planned: February 18, 2026
Alternative: February 26, 2026

Public Comment Hearing

At the public comment hearing, the Company will present an overview of the Project. Public officials and members of the public will have an opportunity to ask questions and comment on the Project. The public comment hearing will be transcribed by a court reporter. A recording of the public comment hearing will be available on the **Siting Board’s YouTube channel** after the hearing, at https://www.youtube.com/@MaDPU_hearing.

Public Review of the Company’s Petition

A description of the Project, links to the Company’s petitions, attachments, and analysis, and periodic updates are available via the Siting Board’s webpage: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/blandford-substation-project>. The Company maintains a webpage for the Project at: <https://www.eversource.com/residential/about/transmission-distribution/projects/massachusetts-projects/der-projects/plainfield-blandford/blandford-substation-upgrade>.

Hard copies of the Company’s petitions, including all attachments, are available for public inspection at the following locations:

Boston
Energy Facilities Siting Board
One South Station, 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02110

Blandford
Town Clerk’s Office
1 Russell Stage Road
Blandford, MA 01008

Porter Memorial Library
87 Main Street
Blandford, MA 01008

Zoning Petition

The Company requests a comprehensive zoning exemption for the Project; the Company also requests the following individual zoning exemptions from the Town of Blandford Bylaw provisions: (1) substa-

tion use in an agricultural zoning district; (2) signs; (3) construction trailers; and (4) site plan review. The Siting Board will review the Zoning Petition to determine whether the zoning exemptions should be granted, and whether the proposed use of the Substation parcel, which includes the Substation and the surrounding yard, is reasonably necessary for the convenience or welfare of the public, pursuant to G.L. c. 40A, § 3.

Intervention and Participation

Persons or groups who wish to be involved in the Siting Board proceeding, beyond providing comments at the public comment hearing or submitting written comments, may seek either to intervene as a party or to participate as a limited participant.

“Intervenor” of “Party” Status: An **intervenor** can participate fully in the evidentiary phase of the proceeding, including the right to participate in evidentiary hearings, file a brief, and appeal the final order.

“Limited participant” status: A **limited participant** receives documents during the proceeding and may file a brief.

A petition to intervene must demonstrate that the petitioner may be substantially and specifically affected by this proceeding. See below for filing instructions. For additional information on the Siting Board’s procedural rules, please see the following link: <https://www.mass.gov/how-to/file-a-petition-to-intervene-in-an-efsb-or-dpu-siting-case>.

Filing Instructions

Written comments on the Zoning Petition, or a petition to intervene or participate as a limited participant in this proceeding, must be filed in the following places:

First, the petition to intervene or participate, and comments, must be filed with the Siting Board in electronic format, by email or email attachment to dpu.efiling@mass.gov; AND to connor.c.tarr@mass.gov no later than 5:00 p.m., **February 18, 2026 (or for Snow date 5:00 p.m. February 26, 2026)**. The text of the email must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (EFSB 25-09); (2) the name of the person or entity submitting the filing; and (3) a brief description of the document. The email should also include the name, title, and telephone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing.

Second, the petition or comments must be sent electronically to counsel for the Company, Catherine J. Keuthen, Esq., and Cheryl A. Blaine, Esq., Keegan Werlin LLP, 1 Cranberry Hill, Suite 304, Lexington, MA 02421, ckeuthen@keeganwerlin.com and cblaine@keeganwerlin.com.

Accommodation Requests

Reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities (e.g., Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format) are available upon request. To submit a request for an accommodation, please email Melizza Esenyie - Non-Discrimination Coordinator and Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs at eeadiversity@mass.gov, or call 617-626-1282. In your communication, please include a description of the request in as much detail as possible and a way we can contact you if we need more information. Please allow at least one week (7 days) advance notice. Last-minute requests will be accepted but we may be unable to fulfill the request.

Language interpretation services are available upon request. Include in your request the language required and a way to contact you if we need more information. Requests may be made at least one week in advance. It may not be possible to accommodate last-minute requests. Contact the Presiding Officer for more information (contact information below).

Non-discrimination Notice

The Siting Board does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age, sex, income, ethnicity, class, disability, religious creed or belief, gender identity, sexual orientation, genetic information, English language proficiency, or ancestry in administration of its programs or activities. See the Siting Board’s Non-Discrimination Notice at: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/efsb-non-discrimination-notice-and-grievance-procedure>.

If you believe that you have been discriminated against with respect to a Siting Board program or activity, you may contact Melizza Esenyie (identified above) to learn how and where to file a complaint of discrimination.

Contact

For further information about the proceeding, please contact the Presiding Officer at the address or telephone number below:

Connor Tarr, Presiding Officer
Energy Facilities Siting Board
One South Station
Boston, MA 02110
Connor.C.Tarr@mass.gov
(617)305-3596

Project Description

The Company proposes to expand its existing Blandford Substation located on approximately 2.8 acres of Company owned land at 79 North Blandford Road in Blandford. To accommodate the new and upgraded substation equipment, the fenced yard would be expanded from approximately 0.65 acres to 1.13 acres. Additionally, the Company would remove 4,000 square feet of trees.

The proposed expansion at Blandford Substation includes replacing a 30 megavolt-ampere (“MVA”) transformer and a 25 MVA transformer with two 62.5 MVA transformers; installing new foundations, trenching and conduits, a new 23 kilovolt (“kV”) switchgear enclosure, two new 115 kV circuit breakers in series, and a new galvanized chain link mesh fence of similar height to the existing fence; and constructing a new access driveway off of North Blandford Road. The Company states that the expansion would be conducted in phases to allow the Blandford Substation to remain in service during construction, and it anticipates that construction would last about 18 months.

According to the Company, the Project, at an estimated cost of \$64.5 million, is needed for the timely and cost-effective development and interconnection of distributed generation, and to maintain a reliable electric power system. The Project is a component of the Company’s Capital Investment Project proposal, which the Department of Public Utilities approved, with certain modifications. See **NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy**, D.P.U. 22-52 (2024).
01/22, 01/29/2026

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF HUNTINGTON
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
PUBLIC HEARING**

The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) of the Town of Huntington will hold a public hearing on **February 9, 2026 beginning at 6:00 pm** in Stanton Hall.

In the event of inclement weather, the snow date is February 10, 2026, same time, same place.

The Public Hearing is scheduled for 6:00 pm for the Special Permit Application of Paul and Sandra (Tischler) Saner of 462 Chestnut Hill Avenue, Brookline, MA to demolish and replace a 4 bedroom L-shaped single story cottage with failing foundation piers with a new rectangular 2 story home with a fully accessible first floor at property they own at 125 Norwich Lake (AKA 125 Searle Road), Huntington, Parcel# L-4-16-0. They also will be replacing the septic system with a new one located farther from the lake on Parcel # L-4-17-0, which they also own, with a shared system servicing both 125 Norwich Lake and 126 Norwich Lake (Parcel # L-4-17-0), Huntington.

The Special Permit Application will be available to view **by appointment** in the office of the Selectboard during regular business hours, as well as at the Public Hearing.

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
TOWN OF HUNTINGTON
01/22, 01/29/2026**

**Town of Huntington RFQ
Blandford Hill Road Improvement Project Engineering Design**

The Town of Huntington has been awarded funds from the FY 2025 Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities, Community Development Block Grant Program. The Town wishes to receive responses for professional engineering design services for water main replacement, sewer system replacement, road reconstruction, storm drainage, and sidewalk reconstruction needed for the infrastructure improvement project on Blandford Hill Road. The project area includes Blandford Hill Road, from the intersection with Russell Road State Route 20 to #26 Blandford Hill Road, approximately 1,100 feet in length. This is a two-phase project. The Phase 1 engineering services sought through this Request for Qualifications (RFQ) will include right of way and utility research, site survey and base plan development,

identification of all required easements, preparation of preliminary design plans, final design plans and specifications, preparation of bid documents, and preparation of an opinion of construction costs. Phase 2 is contingent upon funding and will include bidding services, construction administration services, resident engineering services, and construction close-out services.

The fee for services sought for phase 1 will be negotiated and shall not exceed \$102,000. In the event project construction funding is procured in the future, the engineer shall provide Phase 2 services to be negotiated according to Chapter 7C of the Massachusetts General Laws. A more detailed RFQ is available at the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, 60 Congress Street, Springfield, MA 01104, (413) 781-6045, between 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM. To request an electronic copy of the RFQ, please contact Sue Ortiz at sortiz@pvpc.org. The RFQ will be available from January 21, 2026, until the due date specified below. The Town of Huntington reserves the right to reject any and all responses if it is deemed in the best interests of the Town to do so. The Huntington Selectboard will be the awarding and contracting authority.

Completed proposals are to be submitted no later than 2:00 PM, Wednesday, February 11, 2026, at the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, 60 Congress Street, 1st Floor, Springfield, MA 01104.
01/22, 01/29/2026

**Town of Chester
Conservation Commission
Notice of Public Hearing
Thursday, January 29th,
4:30 PM – 6:00 PM,
Town Hall**

Pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 131, Section 40, the Wetlands Protection Act, the Chester Conservation Commission will review the following:

RDA submitted by Matt Puntin, 11 and 15 Main Street, Septic Work/Repair
DEP NOI # 131-0063, partial.

RDA submitted by Matt Putnim, 12 Riverfront Road, Septic Work/Repair.

RDA submitted by James Adams, 97 Old State Highway, Septic Work/Repair
DEP Transaction ID # 1961311.

RDA submitted by David Tompkins, 139 Kinne Brook Road, Septic Work/Repair.

RDA submitted for 187 Route 20, Septic Work/Repair.
01/29/2026

NOTICE

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Palmer, MA 01069
Email:jamie@turley.com

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