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Date: August 7, 2012

To: Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities
From: Dr. Jonathan Raab (MA DG WG Facilitator)
Re: Third Monthly Report on DG Working Group

The Working Group has now held five Plenary Sessions, and our two Subcommittees—1) Processes, Timelines, and Costs; and 2) Technical issues, have each met several times. We have made substantial progress and are nearly done with the following issues:

- 1) A new required pre-application report process
- 2) A new centralized statewide application and tracking system
- 3) A strategy for managing stale projects
- 4) Developing uniform technical standards
- 5) Massaging some of the screens to allow more projects thru the simplified process
- 6) Better managing multiple project applications on a single feeder

We are still trying to figure out workable strategies and well-supported recommendations in the following areas:

- 7) A potential 4th track or sub-track within the Standard track for very large, stand-alone projects
- 8) Potential changes to screens to allow more projects to go thru the Expedited track instead of the Standard track, and the timelines for Expedited and Standard tracks
- 9) An assurance and enforcement strategy for meeting utility timelines
- 10) Adjustments to application and other fees

More details on all of these issues can be found in the <u>combined meeting summary</u> of our 5th Plenary and the two subcommittee meetings following it, as well as by perusing the other working documents on our <u>website</u>. However, I'd like to caution the DPU that until our Report is final, everything is still negotiable and may change. As such, please view everything as a work-in-progress.

We are still working diligently and are basically on track to submit our final report around September 11th, (although it's possible that a redlined tariff implementing the proposed recommendations may not be completed by then).

Please let us know if you need any additional information or have questions.