



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

TO: Service List in: NSTAR Electric Company and Western Massachusetts Electric Company, each d/b/a Eversource Energy, D.P.U. 17-05

FROM: Marc J. Tassone, Hearing Officer

RE: Amended Procedural Schedule

DATE: March 7, 2017

CC: Mark D. Marini, Secretary

I. INTRODUCTION

On February 8, 2017, the Department of Public Utilities (“Department”) issued a procedural schedule for this matter. On February 28, 2017, NSTAR Electric Company and Western Massachusetts Electric Company, each doing business as Eversource Energy (collectively, “Companies”) and the Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (“Attorney General”) filed a joint motion to amend the procedural schedule (“Joint Motion”). First, the Companies and Attorney General requested a one week extension of the deadline to file Intervenor/Limited Intervenor testimony to April 28, 2017 (Joint Motion at 1-2). Second, the Companies and the Attorney General requested a one week extension of the deadline to issue discovery to the parties to May 5, 2017 (Joint Motion at 1-2).

I allowed the Joint Motion at the March 2, 2017, procedural conference. Consistent with that that ruling, all final discovery responses are due on May 19, 2017 (i.e., ten business days after issuance).

The amended procedural schedule is set forth below. The ground rules issued on February 8, 2017, remain unchanged and in full effect.

II. AMENDED PROCEDURAL SCHEDULEDiscovery, Public Hearings, and Pre-Evidentiary Hearing Phase

March 20, 2017	Deadline for Intervenors/Limited Intervenors to provide notice of intent to file testimony. ¹
March 22, 2017	Public Hearing in Natick.
March 23, 2017	Public Hearing in Boston.
March 30, 2017	Public Hearing in Cambridge
April 3, 2017	Public Hearing in Barnstable.
April 5, 2017	Public Hearing in New Bedford.
April 6, 2017	Public Hearing in Plymouth.
April 10, 2017	Public Hearing in Pittsfield.
April 12, 2017	Public Hearing in Springfield.
April 24, 2017	Public Hearing in Martha's Vineyard.
April 26, 2017	Public Hearing in Greenfield.
April 28, 2017	Deadline for Intervenors/Limited Intervenors to file direct testimony.
May 5, 2017	Deadline for issuing discovery to Companies and Intervenors/Limited Intervenors. ²
May 19, 2017	Final discovery responses due from Companies and Intervenors/Limited Intervenors.

¹ For Intervenors/Limited Intervenors who intend to file testimony, the notice of intent to file testimony must contain the following information: (1) the identity of each witness; and (2) the subject matter on which each witness is expected to testify.

² The Companies and Intervenors/Limited Intervenors shall provide responses to information requests within ten (10) business days of receipt of the request, unless otherwise indicated.

May 19, 2017	Deadline for Companies to file rebuttal testimony.
May 26, 2017	Deadline for Intervenors/Limited Intervenors to file surrebuttal testimony. ³
May 31, 2017	Public comment period ends.

Evidentiary Hearing Phase

June 2 – June 30, 2017	Evidentiary Hearings. ⁴
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Briefing Phase

Final day of evidentiary hearings + 21 days	Deadline for Intervenors/Limited Intervenors to file initial briefs. ⁵
Final day of evidentiary hearings + 35 days	Deadline for Companies to file initial brief.
Final day of evidentiary hearings + 49 days	Deadline for Intervenors/Limited Intervenors to file reply briefs.
Final day of evidentiary Hearings + 56 days	Deadline for Companies to file reply brief.

³ Surrebuttal testimony shall be limited in scope to new arguments and evidence presented by the Companies for the first time in rebuttal testimony that the Intervenors/Limited Intervenors have not had the opportunity to address.

⁴ The specific order of witnesses will be determined following the procedural conference. However, the Department expects that all counsel and witnesses will be available during the time reserved for evidentiary hearings.

⁵ Any Limited Participant seeking to file comments in accordance with the briefing schedule shall adhere to the deadlines applicable to the Intervenors/Limited Intervenors.