

Town of Sudbury

Historical Commission

Flynn Building
278 Old Sudbury Road
Sudbury, MA 01776
978-639-3387
Fax: 978-443-0756

historical@sudbury.ma.us

www.sudbury.ma.us/historicalcommission

September 24, 2020

Denise Bartone
Eversource
247 Station Drive, SE270
Westwood, MA 02090

RE: Sudbury-Hudson Transmission Reliability Project: Sudbury, Marlborough, Stow and Hudson, MA
MHC #RC.62384, EEA #15703

Dear Ms. Bartone,

The Commission looks forward to receiving a response to our July 23, 2020 letter to Eversource requesting documents and information – which include the following:

- The VHB November 14, 2019 letter to the Army Corps of Engineers states, “An in-depth evaluation of eight alternatives was completed which considered several metrics...” and “...concluded that a new single-span bridge was the best alternative” to replace Bridge 127. The Commission requests a copy of the “in-depth evaluation of eight alternatives” and explanations of each of the eight alternatives which were considered and why each alternative not chosen was not the “best” alternative, and why the “new single-span” alternative chosen was the “best alternative.” The VHB letter also stated that the metrics considered included historic, environmental, structural, maintenance, bike/pedestrian use, constructability, and cost. Please provide specific information about each of these metrics.
- Provide copy of the “preliminary engineering review” of Bridges #127 and #128 referred to in the April 21, 2017 ESFB Filing.

The Commission would appreciate receipt of the information and documentation requested in its letter of July 23, 2020 to Eversource prior to the Commission’s site visit of the project corridor area.

We also request a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding executed between Eversource and DCR.

As the Historical Commission acknowledged in its August 26, 2020 letter to Eversource, we received the August 21, 2020 VHB cover letter and most of the documents and information requested in the Commission’s letter to Eversource dated June 17, 2020. The Commission is reviewing the information it received.

The Historical Commission in its capacity as a Section 106 Consulting Party again requests the documents we requested in our June 17th letter under items 15, 16 and 17 to facilitate review and comment on avoidance/mitigation plans. We would like to be informed what plans have been formulated, and if any have not, advised when they will be prepared because the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) has recommended that such plans be stipulated in the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). The Commission would like the opportunity to review the draft plans prior to providing comments to MHC and the Army Corps.

15. The Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) in its December 18, 2019 letter to the US Army Corp of Engineers stated that the draft written site avoidance and protection plan for significant

historic and archaeological resources, including the George Pitt Tavern Historic District ((SUD.P), the Boston and Maine Railroad Section Tool House (SUD.282) including stipulations for fencing, signage and constructor briefings should be submitted to the consulting parties for review and comment. .

16. The MHC also stated in its December 18, 2019 letter a recommendation that the Memorandum of Agreement include stipulations for the development and implementation of design specifications and details for the proposed removal and resetting of railroad features (to include protection during removal and short term storage) to avoid adverse effects to the historic railroad features. The Commission as a consulting party requests a copy of the design specifications.

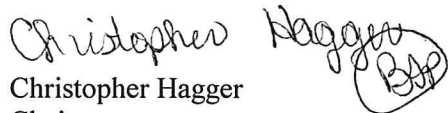
17. Further, the MHC also stated in the December 18, 2019 letter a recommendation that the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) include a stipulation that a mitigation plan for the Massachusetts Central Railroad historic district including Hop Brook Bridges 127 and 128.

The Historical Commission appreciates the opportunity in the near future before inclement weather becomes a factor for Commission members to conduct a site visit of the Central Mass Railroad corridor along the route of the transmission line project. The Commission will contact you by email to provide various dates the Commission is available for that site visit.

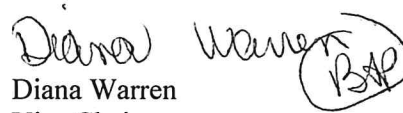
After the site visit the Commission would like to meet again with Eversource on November 9, 2020 to move forward with the Section 106 consultation and review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended.

Thank you for your timely response to our requests.

Sincerely,

 Christopher Hagger

Christopher Hagger
Chair
Historical Commission

 Diana Warren

Diana Warren
Vice Chair
Historical Commission

CC:

Barbara Newman, ACE
Alan. R. Anacheka-Nasemann, ACE
Brona Simon, MHC
Conservation Commission
Henry Hayes, Town Manager
George Pucci, Town Counsel