

Town of Sudbury

Historical Commission

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www.sudbury.ma.us/historicalcommission

September 24, 2020

Christine Hopps
Assistant Director, Waterways Regulation Program
Mass Department of Environmental Protection
One Winter Street, 5th Floor
Boston, MA 02108

Transmittal by Email to Christine.Hopps@mass.gov

RE: Public Comment on M.G.L. Chapter 91 Waterways License Application Number W20-5835;
Applicants NSTAR Electric Company (Eversource) and MA Department of Conservation and Recreation;
Bridge No. 127, Map K09 Parcel 5000, 0 Railway, MBTA ROW, (42.3598 Latitude / -71.4136
Longitude), Sudbury, MA

RE: Public Comment on M.G.L. Chapter 91 Waterways License Application Number W20-5826;
Applicants NSTAR Electric Company (Eversource) and MA Department of Conservation and Recreation
Bridge No. 128, Map H03 Parcel 5000, 0 Railway, MBTA ROW, (42.3763 Latitude / -71.4624
Longitude), Sudbury, MA

Dear Ms. Hopps:

The Town of Sudbury Historical Commission wishes to submit public comments on each of the above named Noticed Chapter 91 License Applications concerning Bridge 127 and Bridge 128 located in Sudbury on the Hop Brook waterway along the historically significant 1881 Central Mass Railroad Complex.

The Historical Commission is opposed to the removal of the existing Bridge 127 and advocates that it either be restored/rehabilitated or avoided entirely by the use of another technology to install the transmission line across the waterway at Hop Brook.

The Historical Commission has concerns about the proposed changes to the existing Bridge 128.

Bridge 127 and Bridge 128 are rare extant historically significant plate girder bridges each listed on the Massachusetts Historical Commission's MACRIS listing (SUD.901 and SUD.900) and are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

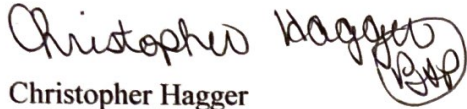
The Sudbury Historical Commission is a Consulting Party in the review of the NSTAR (Eversource) project under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. The Commission's review of the projects impacts on Bridge 127 and Bridge 128 is ongoing, has not concluded and the Commission has not provided comment and recommendations about the treatment of Bridge 127 and Bridge 128 to the Massachusetts Historical Commission or to the US Army Corps of Engineers. The Section 106 process is incomplete at this time.

Although Eversource has acknowledged that the project will demolish and replace the Bridge 127, Eversource has also acknowledged it has evaluated alternatives to full replacement of the Bridge 127 and

has stated in the past that the installation of the transmission line could be accomplished by use of technology that would not involve Bridge 127 or Bridge 128.

Please be informed that all of the Historical Commission members are residents of Sudbury.

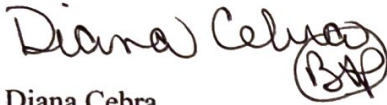
Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Christopher Hagger in black ink, with a circled 'BAP' stamp to the right.

Christopher Hagger
Chair, Historical Commission

Handwritten signature of Diana Warren in black ink, with a circled 'BAP' stamp to the right.

Diana Warren
Vice Chair, Historical Commission

Handwritten signature of Diana Cebra in black ink, with a circled 'BAP' stamp to the right.

Diana Cebra
Member, Historical Commission

Handwritten signature of Taryn Trexler in black ink, with a circled 'BAP' stamp to the right.

Taryn Trexler
Member, Historical Commission

Handwritten signature of Steve Greene in black ink, with a circled 'BAP' stamp to the right.

Steve Greene
Member, Historical Commission

CC:

Brona Simon, MHC
Alan R. Anacheka-Nasemann, ACE-NED
Denise Bartone, Eversource
Select Board
Town Manager
Town Counsel