

Office of the Chief and Council

Kirk Francis  
Chief



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2 Oliver Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA 02109

Dear Sir(s)/Madam(s):

The Penobscot Indian Nation is writing in support of NextEra Energy's bid to provide clean energy and transmission to the Procuring Commonwealth of Massachusetts as part of the State's 83D RFP.

Currently New England is facing a host of significant challenges related to the reliable and affordable supply of electricity. These problems have been building over many years and the impacts are hitting customers now. Electric power prices in Massachusetts, our home State of Maine, and throughout New England are some of the highest in the country and electric rates continue to increase further. In short, many of the older power generating units in New England

are retiring which is reducing the amount of available in-region power generation. Further, many of the new power generators are unable to get adequate fuel supplies to run on the coldest days. And finally, New England's ambitious Renewable Portfolio Standards goals are requiring that any new power generation capacity is clean.

The Penobscot Indian Nation (PIN) supports any and all efforts to facilitate the introduction of clean and efficient energy solutions in our region. Our culture dictates we make a top priority of protecting the environment especially through the reduction of air emissions. In addition, our leadership and tribal citizenry look forward to this project facilitating needed economic development. The PIN has agreed to host parts of this project for compensation that is much needed by our people. Over time, these revenues will be used to support social service programs, including health, higher education, elder care, and work force development. The tribe has an additional objective of having our qualified business ventures having ample opportunity to provide services and supplies to the development project. Our key personnel have also gained indelible experience in energy development through these efforts. All business our companies do further benefits our people, with profits going back into reinvestment and further social service support. We have had extended discussions with the leaders of NextEra and firmly believe, if successful in this effort, the company will support our environmental and economic development goals for years to come.

NextEra Energy, Inc. (NYSE: NEE) is a leading clean energy company with 2016 consolidated revenues of approximately \$16.2 billion, approximately 45,900 megawatts of generating capacity with approximately 14,700 employees in 30 states and four Canadian Provinces. NextEra Energy generates clean, emissions-free electricity from eight commercial nuclear power units in Florida, New Hampshire, Iowa and Wisconsin. NextEra Energy has been recognized for its efforts in sustainability, corporate responsibility, ethics and compliance, and diversity, and has been ranked in the top 10 worldwide for innovativeness and community responsibility as part of Fortune's 2015 list of "World's Most Admired Companies."

Some of the benefits NextEra Energy has identified for Massachusetts, Maine and New England, include:

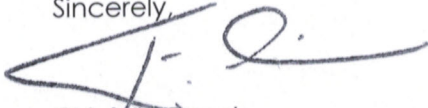
- Economic Benefits –
  - Lowers energy costs regionally by bringing more affordable energy onto the grid;
  - Increase in needs of goods and services, such as food, fuel, lodging, machine work, and contractor opportunities;
  - Permanent jobs and opportunities to learn trades;
  - Sales tax, income tax, and annual property taxes during the life of the project;
  - Expands and enhances access to broadband in rural Maine.
- Environmental Benefits – Clean energy is a key component of New England's energy future.
  - Lowering carbon emissions across the region;
  - Promotes wind, solar, and other renewable and low carbon energy technologies;
  - Enables Massachusetts to achieve its clean energy goals by delivering wind, solar, and battery storage-generated energy;
  - Recreational opportunities, land use typically remains open to hunting and fishing;
  - Minimizes impacts to environmental and social resources by co-locating transmission with existing utility rights-of-way;



- Fitting into the existing landscape and utilizing lands managed for timber.

The Penobscot Indian Nation is pleased to submit this letter in support of the NextEra Energy clean energy and transmission bid. If the Evaluation Team has any questions, please feel free to contact me, or Eric Nicolar, the assigned Project Director (207-817-6045, [enicolar@pine-online.com](mailto:enicolar@pine-online.com)).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "K. Francis", written over a horizontal line.

Chief Kirk Francis  
Penobscot Indian Nation