

Town of Bingham

13 Murray Street
P.O.Box 652
Bingham, ME 04920

Tel. (207) 672-5519
Fax (207) 672-3080
E-Mail: binghamselectmen@yahoo.com

Office of the Selectmen
7/18/17

Judith Judson
Commissioner
Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 1020
Boston, MA 02114

Lisa Glover
Energy Analyst
Unitil Service Corp.
6 Liberty Lane
Hampton, NH 03842-1720

Jeffery S. Waltman
Manager, Planning & Power Supply
Eversource
One NSTAR way, NE220
Westwood, MA 02090-9230

Corinne DiDomenico
Manager, Environmental Transactions
National Grid
100 East Old Country Road
Energy Procurement, 2nd Floor
Hicksville, NY, 11801

Dear Sir(s)/Madam(s):

The Town of Bingham is writing in support of certain affiliates of NextEra Energy, Inc. that are bidding to provide clean solar energy to the Procuring State of Massachusetts as part of the Massachusetts Clean Energy RFP.

Currently, New England is facing a host of significant challenges related to the reliable and affordable supply of electricity. These challenges have been building over many years and the impacts are currently affecting customers in the region. Many of the older power generating units in New England are retiring which is reducing the amount of available in-region power generation. In addition, New England's ambitious Renewable Portfolio Standards goals are requiring that any new power generation capacity is clean.

NextEra Energy is proposing a new solar project near the Town of Bingham. The solar project will be one of the largest of its kind in New England and will contribute to economic development through construction and operations jobs in the area as well as tax benefits without requiring additional local

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government resources. The addition of clean solar energy will help alleviate existing bulk power system constraints in the region and provide reliable, clean energy to be delivered to New England's consumers.

Some of the benefits NextEra Energy's proposed project will have for New England include:

- **Economic Benefits**

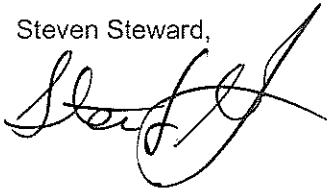
- Lowers energy costs regionally by bringing more affordable energy onto the grid;
- Increase in needs of goods and services, such as food, fuel, lodging, construction work, and contractor opportunities;
- Creates jobs and opportunities to learn trades for the fastest growing energy resource;
- Generates sales tax, income tax, and annual property tax revenues during the life of the project;
- Expands and enhances access to broadband in rural Maine.

- **Environmental Benefits**

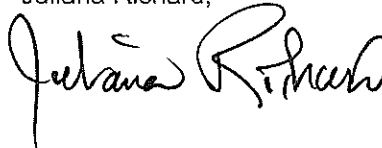
- Lowers carbon emissions across the region;
- Enables New England states to achieve clean energy goals by delivering clean, renewable energy to the grid;
- Maintains recreational opportunities with surrounding land use typically remaining open to hunting, fishing, snowmobiling and other outdoor activities;
- Minimizes impacts to environmental and social resources with a benign grassed solar site with minimal visual and noise effects;
- Fits into the existing landscape and utilizing lands managed for timber.
- At end of life, the facility can be returned to its natural condition.

The Town of Bingham is pleased to submit this letter in support of NextEra Energy's clean energy and transmission bid. If the Evaluation Team has any questions, please feel free to contact me at (207) 672-5519.

Sincerely, Steven Steward,



Juliana Richard,



Gloria Jean Shaw

