

TOWN OF SUDBURY

Office of the Town Manager www.sudbury.ma.us

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Massachusetts State House Office of the Governor Room 280 Boston, MA 02133

March 14, 2016

Dear Governor Baker,

Since beginning my tenure in Sudbury as Town Manager four months ago, I have learned of an Eversource reliability project that plans to run through Sudbury to Hudson.

Learning more about the project and hearing from residents about this project daily, I have become more and more concerned about the negative impact on our community.

This transmission route will run a 115kV above ground power transmission line from Sudbury to Hudson. Part of this process will include clear cutting 82 feet of trees and placing a road directly abutting approximately 500 properties. In some areas, a 82 foot clear cut will lead directly to the backdoors of the homes of residents who moved to Sudbury to enjoy the view, the environment and their privacy. This transmission route will go directly through the Hop Brook Conservation Land, the Sudbury Valley Trustees Memorial Forest, and the Assabet Valley National Wildlife Refuge.

The transmission route will be destructive to our conservation lands. It will travel through multiple DEP Wetlands areas, through vernal pools identified by the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species (NHESP) list and over Hop Brook, which is listed as a Major Stream and a River by the DEP on their 2002 and 2012 Integrated Rivers List.

This proposal is unacceptable. The Town of Sudbury will be solely burdened by this project with no benefit to the residents of Sudbury. No other proposal that would be less burdensome has been introduced. Even a discussion of an underground line has been dismissed based merely on cost.

Thousands of residents have come together to oppose this project. While the situation is dire, I continue to be impressed by the residents' tenacity and organization. I'm proud to stand with them.



Melissa Murphy-Rodrigues, Esq. Town Manager

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The community impact caused by this project is significant. The impact on our environment is unacceptable. The burden on Sudbury is unacceptable, the plan is unacceptable and I urge Eversource, our legislators and the State to stand with Sudbury to demand better for our town.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best.

111. 600 209

Melissa Rodrigues, Esq. Town Manager

Cc:

Joanne O'Leary, Eversource
Protect Sudbury
Representative Gentile
Senator Barrett
Senator Eldridge
John Laidler, Boston Globe
Lt. Governor Karen Polito
Jay Ash, Secretary of Housing and Economic Development
Britney McNamara, Metrowest Daily News
Tom Moses, Town Administrator Hudson
Sudbury Board of Selectmen
Congresswoman Niki Tsongas
Congresswoman Katherine Clark
Senator Edward Markey
Senator Elizabeth Warren