



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

House of Representatives

State House, Boston 02133-1054

CARMINE L. GENTILE  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
13TH MIDDLESEX DISTRICT  
SUDBURY • MARLBOROUGH  
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Committees:  
Joint Committee on Higher Education  
Committee on Technology and  
Intergovernmental Affairs  
Joint Committee on Elder Affairs  
Committee on Global Warming  
and Climate Change

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Honorable Members of the Joint Committee on  
Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy  
MA State House  
Room 413-F  
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Chairman Golden, Chairman Downing, and Honorable Members of the Committee,

I write to you today to respectfully request that you vote H4357, An Act relative to the Energy Facilities Siting Board (EFSB), favorably out of Committee.

Eversource is currently planning to file a project with the EFSB in September which would severely impact two communities in my district, Sudbury and Marlborough, together with the Town of Hudson. The plan previously aired this past spring would clear cut an area of 60 acres in Sudbury to place 100 foot high poles carrying a 115 kilovolt (kV) line. An area large enough to place three (3) Gillette Football Stadiums would cut through four protected conservation areas, Hop Brook Marsh, Memorial Forest, Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge and Marlborough-Sudbury State Forest along a path 82 feet wide.

H.4357 would cause the EFSB to consider a proposal's impact on public health and the environment, not just the financial costs and prioritize minimum impact on the overall wellbeing of residents abutting a project over the "lowest possible cost" of the proposal when considering whether or not to grant a permit.

Eversource has gone back to the drawing board to formulate a pathway for the 115 kilovolt line through Sudbury, Marlborough and Hudson. However, the plan aired earlier this year would have placed 100 foot high towers and an 82 foot clear cut adjacent to 600 properties negatively impacting property values substantially and causing approximately 26,795 trees to be removed. Another 1200 properties are within 3,000 feet of the path previously chosen.

A route underneath existing streets would not disturb sensitive conservation lands or adversely affect property values.

Cities and towns in the path of new transmission lines should not have to bear the overwhelming brunt of the burdens imposed by projects that bolster regional infrastructure without due consideration of environmental and safety concerns. The project for a new 115 Kv line through my district will benefit municipalities from Northborough through Waltham and communities in Southern New Hampshire.

I respectfully request that you report H.4357 favorably out of Committee as soon as possible and add an emergency preamble.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Carmine L. Gentile". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Carmine L. Gentile