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

Dear Governor Baker:

We join with Mass Audubon, the Sierra Club, the Sudbury Valley Trustees, and the town of Sudbury in opposing both Preferred Routes highlighted in the Eversource proposal to construct a new 115 kV power line between Sudbury and Hudson. We strongly favor a below-ground street-based alternative route that would bypass the natural areas that the current Preferred Routes put at risk.

Eversource's proposal includes a street-based option as its Noticed Alternative Route, but still highlights the MBTA right-of-way as its Preferred Route with two options; an above ground design and a below ground design. We are:

- In strong support of a street-based route which Eversource has acknowledged to have minimal environmental impacts.
- Strongly opposed to the above-ground option following the MBTA right-of-way due to the unacceptable destruction to conservation areas.
- Strongly opposed to a below-ground option following the right-of-way due to the irreparable damage that construction and maintenance will have on the conservation area.

Routing this utility line along the right-of-way would undo much of the significant investment that the Commonwealth, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Town of Sudbury, the City of Marlborough, private foundations, and individual donors have already made in protecting and caring for one of the metrowest region's most important natural areas. Eversource did not accurately consider the environmental impacts of its Preferred Routes when evaluating the three options and the Environmental League of Massachusetts believes that the permanent damage to topography, wildlife, and vegetation in this unique area cannot be understated.

We ask you to urge Eversource to table both Preferred Routes using the MBTA right-of-way and proceed only with the Alternative Route under existing streets.

Sincerely,

George Bachrach
President

cc. Secretary Matt Beaton