



Proposed Acushnet to Fall River Reliability Project

June 1, 2021

Dear Neighbor,

A strong electrical transmission grid is vital to the safety, security and economic growth of the region. The transmission system serves a critical role to ensure that electricity flows with a high degree of reliability to where power is needed. ISO-New England (ISO-NE), the independent system operator for New England, has identified inadequate transmission resources to serve the Southeastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island (SEMA-RI) area electricity needs. In 2016, ISO-NE selected the Acushnet to Fall River Reliability Project (AFRRP) as one of the preferred solutions to address this need and, in 2020, reconfirmed this selection.

The Acushnet to Fall River Reliability project is a proposed 115 kilovolt (kV) overhead transmission line to be constructed in an existing right-of-way, with approximately 7.9 miles located in Acushnet, Dartmouth and New Bedford, MA (Eversource Energy) and approximately 4.2 miles in Fall River, MA (National Grid). The new transmission line is proposed to be built on the south side of the power line corridor alongside an existing 115 kV transmission line, from the Industrial Park Tap in Acushnet to Bell Rock Substation in Fall River.

A map of the preferred and noticed alternative routes under evaluation is on the back of this letter. *Your property is along or near the preferred route or one of the alternative routes under evaluation.* Please note, that should our preferred route receive approval by the Massachusetts Energy Facilities Siting Board (EFSB), the Project <u>will not be constructed</u> on either of the alternative routes.

The Project requires approval from the EFSB. Members of the public and all interested parties will have the opportunity to participate in the siting process through the EFSB-sponsored public hearings (dates to be determined). Pending regulatory approvals, construction will begin in 2023, and the Project will be in service in 2024.

Eversource and National Grid remain committed to ongoing public communications on the proposed Project and will undertake extensive community outreach activities in the months ahead and throughout Project construction. Soon, you will receive information in the mail about virtual open houses that will offer an opportunity to learn more about the Project.

Additional Project information can be found online at <u>www.SouthCoastReliabilityProjects.com</u> (National Grid) or <u>www.Eversource.com</u> (Eversource Energy).

Thank you in advance for your patience and cooperation during this effort.

Sincerely,

Alyson Rossini Eversource Project Manager **David Beron** National Grid Project Manager





Project Routes Under Evaluation:

The map below outlines the Preferred and Noticed Alternative routes for the proposed transmission line.

