

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT
696 VIRGINIA ROAD
CONCORD MA 01742-2751

April 21, 2021

Regulatory Division
File No. NAE-2017-01406

Brona Simon, State Historic Preservation Officer
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Blvd.
Boston, MA 02125

Dear Ms. Simon:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) regulates certain activities in waters of the United States under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. We are writing to engage the Massachusetts State Historic Preservation Office on the SUDBURY- HUDSON ELECTRIC LINE/RAIL TRAIL project. This is also further to our letter of September 24, 2019, to the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe and the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head/Aquinnah in which we explained what we believed to be our Permit Area for Eversource Energy and the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (the applicant's project). Since that time, we have learned that the Narragansett Indian Tribe is now interested in all of Massachusetts; thus we have submitted copies of the letters to the other two tribes to them. The applicants were proposing to discharge fill within waters of the United States along a paved public roadway, and within an existing, inactive railroad right-of-way, within Sudbury, Marlborough, Stow and Hudson, Massachusetts. Please be aware, the plans have been updated by the applicants, and wetland impacts have been reduced. Therefore, the authority over waters of the United States by the USACE has also reduced.

I have attached a USGS reference page and 31 sheets, that show the location of the proposed work. Specifically, sheet 8 (Hudson Bridge No. 130) and sheet 29 (Sudbury Bridge No. 127) depict the waters of the United States that fall within the USACE authority, in accordance with the Navigable Waters Protection Rule, which became effective on June 22, 2020. The location of these waters of the United States proposed for impact determine our permit area. We would appreciate your review and any comments you have on the areas identified within our authority that you may be aware of within the project area.

In addition, we have determined that, pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800 and 33 CFR Part 325, Appendix C, Bridge No. 127, the Easternmost Bridge, in Sudbury, Massachusetts is within the USACE permit area, is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and thus subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). We are requesting your review and participation on the enclosed Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the installation of the proposed 115kV underground electric transmission line project within the towns of Sudbury, Marlborough, Stow and Hudson by Eversource Energy (Eversource). We have also notified the Advisory Council of Historic Preservation, providing an opportunity for

their participation. Finally, although Bridge No. 130, in Hudson, Massachusetts, is within the USACE permit area, we understand that the bridge is not eligible for listing in the NRHP.

If you have any concerns about this proposed project and/or potential impacts on cultural resources, your feedback is requested; we will not act further until after May 21, 2021. If you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter, please contact Alan R. Anacheka-Nasemann, SPWS of my staff at (978) 318-8214, or via e-mail at: alan.r.anacheka-nasemann@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,



Tammy R. Turley
Chief, Regulatory Division

Attachments

cc:

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