



Town of Bolton
Conservation Department
663 Main Street
Bolton, MA 01740

Governor Baker,

The Bolton Conservation Commission was established in 1967 for the promotion and development of natural resources, and protection of water resources. As conservationists and protectors of our natural habitat, we understand Sudbury's concern with the adverse effects that the proposed Eversource Sudbury to Hudson high voltage transmission line along the MBTA right of way, would have on Hop Brook, Memorial Forest, the Desert Natural Area, the Assabet River Natural Wildlife Refuge, as well as the water supply of the 18,000 residents of Sudbury.

Governor Baker, we are asking you to help protect these special areas. We, the Bolton Conservation Commission are writing to you to express our support for the Town of Sudbury and the Sudbury Conservation Commission in its efforts to protect the areas that would be adversely impacted and permanently changed as a result of the proposed Sudbury to Hudson transmission line project

These conserved lands provide critical functions such as protecting water resources, protected species of plants and animals' habitat, and more specifically, sensitive habitat of native eastern brook trout. Our wetlands provide ecological services to many towns within the Commonwealth's watershed. These services include aquifer recharge, flood control, and water supply filtration, to name a few. Natural spaces offer "natural infrastructure" to filter air, block wind, buffer temperature extremes, sink carbon, and promote physical and mental health and should be protected for the enjoyment of all citizens. The proposed long-term exposure of herbicides, and herbicide persistence in the environment, its potential transport through air, surface and groundwater place these sensitive wetlands, wildlife habitat and public water supply at risk of being permanently damaged.

The proposed high voltage transmission line would have widespread environmental costs. These costs are not offset by the need associated with the Eversource proposal. *The environmental costs of construction, encroachment on wetlands and herbicide spraying for a transmission line are not offset by the outdated and tenuous estimate of additional electrical power supply needs.* Real data now shows that this transmission line is likely unnecessary thanks to the continuing decline in energy demands due to energy efficiencies, renewables and behind the meter solar serving demands without requiring energy from the grid being transmitted long distances.

The Bolton Conservation Commission supports Sudbury in its efforts to protect the areas that would be adversely impacted and permanently changed from the Sudbury to Hudson transmission line project. We, the Bolton Conservation Commission support our neighbors in their efforts to protect what is special about Massachusetts and we ask that you do so as well.

For the Conservation Commission,

Jeffrey Bryan *John White* *Ken Pyne*
K. M. Amara

Bolton Conservation Commission

08/10 AM 10:00
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Cc: Kathleen Theoharides
Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

Mark Tisa
Director of the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife
MassWildlife Field Headquarters
1 Rabbit Hill Road, Westborough, MA 01581

Lieutenant Governor Karen Polito
Massachusetts State House
24 Beacon St.
Office of the Governor
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Senator Ed Markey
975 JFK Federal Building
15 New Sudbury Street
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Senator Elizabeth Warren
2400 JFK Federal Building
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Melissa Rodrigues
Sudbury Town Manager
Flynn Building
278 Old Sudbury Road
Sudbury, MA01776

Sudbury Conservation Commission
Department of Public Works Building
275 Old Lancaster Road
Sudbury, MA01776

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