



Mariclaire Rigby
 Lead Vegetation Strategy Specialist
 Vegetation Strategy
 939 Southbridge Street Worcester, MA 01610
 508-860-6282

December 5, 2016

Board of Selectmen Chair
 Town of Millville
 8 Central Street
 Millville, MA 01529

Dear Board of Selectmen Chair:

In compliance with 333 CMR 11.07, *21 day herbicide application notification*, this letter is to inform you that National Grid (New England Power Company and/or Massachusetts Electric Company) intends to selectively apply herbicides along power line rights-of-way that pass through your municipality in 2017.

As detailed in National Grid's Five Year Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) and Yearly Operational Plan (YOP), this treatment is conducted as a component of an integrated vegetation management (IVM) program that also utilizes mechanical and natural control techniques. National Grid's current Five Year Vegetation Management Plan (2014-2018) is posted at the following website (hard copy available upon request):

http://www.nationalgridus.com/non_html/National%20Grid%20VMP%202014%20-%202018.pdf

The current YOP is posted at the following website (hard copy available upon request):

https://www9.nationalgridus.com/non_html/2017%20YOP.pdf

As described in the VMP and YOP, the program will consist of a late winter-spring mechanical control, cut surface (CST) or basal treatment; a summer selective foliage, and, as necessary, summer and fall CST and basal treatments.

Treatment Periods*

January 30, 2017 – May 31, 2017	May 31, 2016 - October 15, 2017	October 15, 2017 – December 31, 2017
CST	Foliar	CST
Basal	CST	Basal
	Basal	

* The exact treatment dates are dependent upon weather conditions and field crew progress.

In compliance with 333 CMR 11.06-11.07, no herbicide applications will occur before the conclusion of the 45 day YOP review period, the 21 day treatment notice and the 48 hour newspaper notice. At the end of these review periods, which can run concurrently, no application shall commence more than ten days before nor conclude more than ten days after the treatment periods listed above.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts recommended herbicides for use in *sensitive areas* listed in Section 7 (pages 13-15) of the YOP will be selectively applied to target vegetation by experienced, Massachusetts' licensed/certified applicators that walk along the rights-of-way using



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**45 Day Yearly Operational Plan
Public Notice, Review and Comment Period**

Dear Municipal Official:

In compliance with 333 CMR 11.06, *45 Day Yearly Operational Plan Public Notice, Review and Comment*, please review National Grid's (New England Power Company and/or Massachusetts Electric Company) 2017 Yearly Operational Plan (YOP) at the following website (hard copy available upon request):

https://www9.nationalgridus.com/non_html/2017%20YOP.pdf

National Grid's YOP details specific information pertaining to the intended 2017 program. Please note that the YOP also lists the rights-of-way from the 2016 treatment program in case National Grid needs to request a "touch-up" retreatment of scattered locations from our contractor(s).

Please review the enclosed YOP map(s) that locate the right-of-way corridors and the plotted location of known *sensitive areas* including public and private drinking water supplies. If there are any additional *sensitive areas* located on or near the rights-of-way, please advise us as soon as possible so we may establish permanent records and implement appropriate field protective actions. ***We particularly rely on this process to collect corrections to the public wells and to record the location of private wells.***

A copy of the Environmental Monitor Notice, published under the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) is available at: <http://www.env.state.ma.us/mepa/emonitor.aspx>.

Enclosures: 21 Day Herbicide Application Notification
Environmental Monitor Notice
Map(s)

Notice Sent to:
Chief Elected Municipal Official
Board of Health
Conservation Commission
Private and Public Water Suppliers
Lewis Tree Service or Lucas Tree Experts or Stanley Tree or Vegetation Control Service
Massachusetts Water Resources Authority
Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Massachusetts Pesticide Bureau

Municipality: Millville

CERTIFIED MAIL—Return Receipt Requested

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



Department of Agricultural Resources

251 Causeway Street, Suite 500, Boston, MA 02114
617-626-1700 fax: 617-626-1850 www.mass.gov/agr



CHARLES D. BAKER
Governor

KARYN E. POLITO
Lt. Governor

MATTHEW A. BEATON
Secretary

JOHN LEBEAUX
Commissioner

Notice

Pursuant to the provisions of the Rights-of-Way Management Regulations, 333 CMR 11.00, to apply herbicides to control vegetation along rights-of-way, a five year Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) and a Yearly Operational Plan (YOP) must be approved by the Department of Agricultural Resources (DAR). National Grid has submitted and holds a current VMP, therefore, notice of receipt of a YOP and procedures for public review is hereby given as required by Section 11.06 (3).

National Grid has submitted a YOP to DAR for 2017 and National Grid's YOP identifies the following municipalities as locations where they intend to use herbicides to treat their electric Rights-of-Way in 2017:

2017 Municipalities			
Adams	East Brookfield	North Attleboro	Spencer
Attleboro	Fall River	North Brookfield	Sterling
Auburn	Grafton	Northbridge	Sunderland
Ayer	Groton	Norton	Sutton
Belchertown	Hanson	Oxford	Swansea
Beverly	Harvard	Paxton	Tewksbury
Billerica	Haverhill	Pelham	Uxbridge
Bolton	Hingham	Pepperell	Ware
Boylston	Holbrook	Plainville	Webster
Braintree	Lancaster	Randolph	Wendell
Buckland	Lanesborough	Rehoboth	West Boylston
Charlton	Leicester	Rutland	West Brookfield
Chelmsford	Leominster	Seekonk	Westborough
Cheshire	Leverett	Shelburne	Westminster
Clinton	Lowell	Shirley	Westport
Conway	Mansfield	Shrewsbury	Weymouth
Deerfield	Marlborough	Shutesbury	Winchendon
Dighton	Millbury	Somerset	Worcester
Dudley	Millville	Southborough	Wrentham
Dunstable	North Adams	Southbridge	

In 2017 National Grid will conduct a selective herbicide treatment program on their rights-of-way as part of an Integrated Vegetation Management (IVM) program on transmission and distribution lines.

The twenty-one day public review period of the Municipal Notification Letter may serve concurrently with the forty-five day YOP review period in order to provide public notifications as required by 333 CMR 11.06-7, if the applicant has an approved VMP and if all the requisite city-town offices that received copies of the YOP completed their review and all corrections were duly made by the applicant and approved by DAR.

A failure by the city/town to respond to the applicant's submission of the YOP within the forty-five day period will automatically be considered by DAR to indicate agreement by the municipal officials with the sensitive area demarcations provided by the applicant in their YOP.

Any questions or comments on the information provided in this *Notice* and the procedures established for the municipal review outlined above should be addressed to:

Clayton Edwards
Director of Rights-of-Way Programs
Massachusetts State Pesticide Bureau
251 Causeway Street, Suite 500
Boston, MA 02114-2151

Any questions or comments regarding the YOP should be addressed to:

Mariclaire Rigby
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National Grid Vegetation Management
Strategy
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COMMENT PERIOD ENDS AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON January 23, 2017

