PUBLIC NOTICE

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION WATERWAYS REGULATION PROGRAM

Notice of 401 WQC Application pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 1341 and M.G.L. Chapter 21 New England Power Company (NEP)

NOTIFICATION:

Pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 1341 and M.G.L c. 21 §§ 26-53, notice is given of a 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) application for the 339/349 Line Asset Condition Refurbishment (ACR) Project in Tewksbury, Andover, Wilmington, North Reading, Lynnfield, Wakefield, and Saugus, MA. The purpose of the Project is to complete various system maintenance and improvement activities along the entire (~17.25 miles) of the 339/349 Transmission Line, including structure replacements, access road improvements, construction of work envelopes, and re-alignment of ~0.6 miles of line within the existing ROW, requiring tree removals. Work will entail the temporary installation of more than 5,000 square feet of construction mats within Bordering Vegetated Wetlands. Therefore, in accordance with 314 CMR 9.04(1), authorization is required under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

Additional information about this project may be obtained from: Alison Milliman, BSC Group, 1 Mercantile Street, Suite 610, Worcester, MA 01608.

Written comments on the 401 WQC must be sent within twenty-one (21) days of this notice to:

Department of Environmental Protection Division of Wetlands and Waterways Program Northeast Regional Office 150 Presidential Way, Woburn, MA 01801

Any group of ten persons, any aggrieved person, or any governmental body or private organization with a mandate to protect the environment who submits written comments may appeal the Department's Certification. Failure to submit written comments before the end of the public comment period may result in the waiver of any right to an adjudicatory hearing.

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