



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

D.P.U. 19-52-A

April 30, 2021

Petition of the Town of Stoughton for Approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Municipal Aggregation Plan, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 134

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### ORDER APPROVING COMPLIANCE FILING

On October 23, 2020, the Department of Public Utilities (“Department”) issued an Order finding that, subject to certain required modifications, the Town of Stoughton’s (“Town”) revised municipal aggregation plan (“Plan”)<sup>1</sup> satisfied all procedural and substantive requirements contained in G.L. c. 164, § 134(a) and met the requirements established by the Department concerning aggregated service. Town of Abington and Town of Stoughton, D.P.U. 19-51 and D.P.U. 19-52, at 40 (2020). The Department directed the Town to file a further revised Plan, education and information plan (“Education Plan”), opt-out notice, Language Access Document, and reply envelope (together “Opt-Out Documents”) and exemplar electric service agreement (“ESA”) containing all required modifications within 14 days of the date of the Order. D.P.U. 19-51 and D.P.U. 19-52, at 36.

On November 2, 2020, the Town filed a motion requesting an extension of the deadline to submit its compliance filing until November 20, 2020, citing competing work

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<sup>1</sup> On April 14, 2020, the Town filed a revised Plan and supporting documents (including a revised exemplar electric service agreement, a revised education and information plan, and revised opt-out documents, including an opt-out notice, Language Access Document, and reply envelope).

requirements and staff availability (Motion at 1). On November 5, 2020, the Department granted the Town's extension request (D.P.U. 19-52, Hearing Officer Stamp Grant (November 5, 2020)). On November 19, 2020, the Town filed a motion for an additional extension to submit its compliance filing until five business days after the Department has approved the Town of Abington's compliance filing in D.P.U. 19-51 (Second Motion at 1). On November 20, 2020, the Department granted the Town's further extension request (D.P.U. 19-52, Hearing Officer Stamp Grant (November 20, 2020)). On April 16, 2021, the Town submitted its compliance filing with further revisions to its revised Plan, Education Plan, Opt-Out Documents and exemplar ESA.<sup>2</sup>

After review, the Department finds that the Town has complied with the Department's directives. Accordingly, the Department approves the revised Plan, Education Plan, exemplar ESA, and Opt-Out Documents filed by the Town on April 16, 2021. The Town shall implement its municipal aggregation program consistent with the directives set forth in the Department's October 23, 2020 Order in this proceeding.

Through its municipal aggregation program, the Town intends to offer a standard opt-out product and may offer one or more optional opt-in products to all eligible customers that will either meet the required Massachusetts Renewable Portfolio Standard or provide additional Renewable Energy Certificates above required minimums, depending upon the

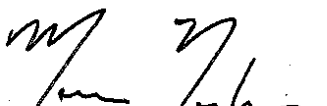
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<sup>2</sup> On April 9, 2021, the Department approved the second revised compliance filing submitted by the Town of Abington on March 18, 2021. Town of Abington, D.P.U. 19-51-A (April 9, 2021).

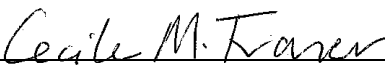
content of bids received. D.P.U. 19-51 and D.P.U. 19-52, at 3, 14-15, 19. Any new product the Town seeks to make available to its municipal aggregation program participants is subject to Department approval. Town of Becket, et al., D.P.U. 18-133 through D.P.U. 18-146, at 18-19 (2020); Town of Milton, D.P.U. 19-84, at 10 & n.16 (2020); Town of Abington, D.P.U. 19-51-A at 3 (April 9, 2021).

Finally, within 14 days of the date of this Order, the Town shall certify to the Hearing Officer that (1) it has provided basic information about the Plan in a prominent location on its website with appropriate links to the dedicated municipal aggregation program website; and (2) all Plan documents (including the Department-approved Plan, Education Plan, Opt-Out Documents, and exemplar ESA) and education materials are available on the Program website. See, D.P.U. 19-51 and D.P.U. 19-52, at 9, 23.

By Order of the Department,

  
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Matthew H. Nelson, Chair

  
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Robert E. Hayden, Commissioner

  
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Cecile M. Fraser, Commissioner

An appeal as to matters of law from any final decision, order or ruling of the Commission may be taken to the Supreme Judicial Court by an aggrieved party in interest by the filing of a written petition praying that the Order of the Commission be modified or set aside in whole or in part. Such petition for appeal shall be filed with the Secretary of the Commission within twenty days after the date of service of the decision, order or ruling of the Commission, or within such further time as the Commission may allow upon request filed prior to the expiration of the twenty days after the date of service of said decision, order or ruling. Within ten days after such petition has been filed, the appealing party shall enter the appeal in the Supreme Judicial Court sitting in Suffolk County by filing a copy thereof with the Clerk of said Court. G.L. c. 25, § 5.