

QUICK FACTS about the Solution

- Selected by ISO-NE because it is “cost effective, but also has superior performance”
- Backed by long-standing community partners committed to regular community outreach and feedback
- Streamlined approval processes for timely construction and in-service dates
- Proven and accessible solutions for rapid repairs, maintenance, and expansion
- Economic benefits in the form of construction jobs and increased property tax revenues in MA and NH

BACKGROUND

A strong electrical transmission system is vital to our region’s safety, security, and economic prosperity. The 2008 ISO New England (ISO-NE) “Greater Boston Study” revealed inadequate transmission resources to serve the needs of Greater Boston and southern New Hampshire. Simply put, the current transmission system cannot meet demand—which is why Eversource Energy and National Grid are putting our decades of experience to work toward making our Solution a reality for the region’s 4.7 million residents. In February 2015, ISO-NE selected this Solution’s projects to address the region’s reliability needs.

ABOUT THE SOLUTION

To address identified weaknesses and growing demands, Eversource and National Grid will implement various projects in Greater Boston and southern New Hampshire to improve power grid reliability now and for years to come. These include various upgrades to existing regional transmission lines and substations, as well as the Merrimack Valley Reliability Project, a new overhead 345-kV line in existing rights-of-way (in service 2017); a new underground 345-kV line from Woburn to Wakefield, MA (in service 2018); and, a new underground 115-kV line from Everett to Woburn, MA (in service 2018).



BENEFITS OF THE SOLUTION

- Improves power system reliability
- Builds in additional transmission capacity
- Invests over \$740 million in local and regional infrastructure improvements
- Creates jobs in Massachusetts and New Hampshire during peak construction
- Enables future expansion of the existing system
- Generates substantial local property tax revenues in core communities
- Supports the region’s economic health and demand for electricity for years to come

Each project will undergo rigorous approval processes with siting authorities, as well as federal and state permitting agencies. National Grid and Eversource are committed to ongoing, two-way dialogue, keeping residents and other stakeholders informed and engaged.