

TOWN OF SUDBURY
Office of the Town Manager
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Melissa Murphy-Rodrigues, Esq.
Town Manager

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Representative Thomas Golden, Chairman
Senator Benjamin Downing, Chairman
Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy
Room 473B, State House
Boston, MA 02133

June 20, 2016

RE: H4357, An Act relative to the Energy Facilities Siting Board

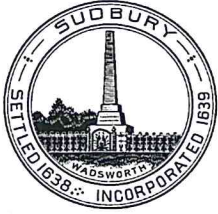
Dear Chairmen Golden and Downing,

The Town of Sudbury is currently the potential site of an overhead high voltage transmission line, designed to provide redundant service to the Town of Hudson and some of southern New Hampshire. The current design proposes to run the wires above ground on a series of poles on a former MBTA Right-of-Way and through our neighborhoods, in conservation land and along our National Wildlife Refuge. Eversource, the proponent of the project, is planning to file their application with the Siting Board in September. The project, as described, will require a clear cutting of trees 82 feet wide and the spraying of herbicides in and around our conservation land.

Eversource, while understanding the impacts to our community, is continuing in this path because this is the most inexpensive option for them.

The expense for Sudbury is truly exorbitant. This project will be detrimental to our community, and will damage our aquaphor, endanger our environment and lower property values thereby negatively impacting the Town's budget. Currently, we are one of the only overhead plans being proposed in the Commonwealth.

I respectfully request favorable action on House Bill 4357. This bill has given Sudbury hope that perhaps the sole factor could not be cost to the ratepayers, but instead could focus on quality of life, our environment and the safety of the Commonwealth in addition to financial concerns. I understand that the state needs reliability projects, and I ask that they be balanced with the significant burdens that this project puts on our Town.



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I further respectfully request the addition of an emergency preamble. That addition would allow this bill to have the most positive impact on Sudbury as the potential filing date is quite near.

I appreciate your consideration of this matter and look forward to hearing from you.

Best,

Melissa Murphy-Rodrigues, Esq.
Town Manager

Cc: Board of Selectmen
Representative Gentile
Senator Barrett
Senator Eldridge