

December 8, 2023

Energy Facilities Siting Board  
Department of Public Utilities, Siting Division  
One South Station  
Boston, MA 02110

Dear Members of the Energy Facilities Siting Board,

The Cambridge Redevelopment Authority (CRA) is writing to express its strong support of the Greater Cambridge Energy Program (NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource – EFSB 22-03/D.P.U. 22-21), and the adoption of the transmission and distribution routes as currently proposed and submitted by Eversource. We have reviewed the proposals put forth by MIT, and believe that considering MIT's proposal would cause measurable delays to the completion of this critical project, and would not be in the best interest to the Cambridge community.

Since 2019, the CRA has worked collaboratively with Eversource to facilitate the relocation of their proposed substation to a property in Kendall Square. Over those four years, Eversource has participated in numerous community meetings, and met countless times with City departments to plan for the substation's relocation and to receive community input on the proposed line routes. The final routing proposal submitted by Eversource was informed by significant City and community process and should be prioritized for EFSB review. Eversource has studied the preferred routes extensively and they are known to be feasible and implementable. On the other hand, the routes MIT proposes have significant feasibility challenges and clear impacts on public facilities in Kendall Square including parks and transit facilities.

Timely completion of the Greater Cambridge Energy Program is of critical importance to the economic development of our region. As the EFSB would be well aware, ensuring a reliable and sustainable energy supply is paramount in the face of growing electricity demands facilitating economic growth and research within the Kendall Square and the transition to a carbon neutral energy future for Cambridge. The careful planning and timely execution of energy infrastructure projects is essential to the long-term prosperity of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Considering the urgency of implementing sustainable energy solutions and the potential long-term impact on our community, we strongly urge the Energy Facilities Siting Board to endorse the preferred routes as submitted by Eversource.

Sincerely,



Thomas Evans  
Executive Director