

**Pre-filed Direct Testimony of
David Cameron**

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
ENERGY FACILITIES SITING BOARD**

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Western Massachusetts Electric Company)	EFSB 08-2/D.P.U. 08-105/D.P.U. 08-106
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PRE-FILED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF DAVID J. CAMERON

1 **Q. Please state your name, position and business address.**

2 A. My name is David J. Cameron. I am employed by AECOM Environment, formerly ENSR,
3 (“AECOM”) as a Program Manger and Senior Ecologist. AECOM is a global provider of
4 environmental and energy development services to industry and government. As a full-
5 service environmental firm, AECOM's professionals provide clients with consulting,
6 engineering, remediation, and related services. My business address is 2 Technology Park
7 Drive, Westford, Massachusetts.

8

9 **Q. On whose behalf are you testifying?**

10 A. I am testifying on behalf of Western Massachusetts Electric Company (“WMECO”) in this
11 proceeding.

12

13 **Q. Please summarize your professional and educational background.**

14 A. I graduated from the Franklin Pierce College in 1992 with a Bachelor of Arts in
15 Environmental Science. I have seventeen years of experience as an ecologist and have
16 worked on a variety of power generation and linear utility projects where my responsibilities
17 have included managing the permitting for various utility projects and the preparation of
18 environmental policy manuals. A copy of my resume is provided herewith as Exhibit
19 WMECO-DC-2 and lists the several post-graduate courses and programs I have attended
20 since receiving my degree.

21

1 **Q. Please identify any regulatory proceedings in which you have testified.**

2 A. I have not previously testified in any regulatory proceedings.

3

4 **Q. What is your involvement and responsibility with respect to WMECO's proposed**
5 **Greater Springfield Reliability Project ("Project")?**

6 A. AECOM has been engaged to provide ongoing environmental support for the Greater
7 Springfield Reliability Project. I am currently one of AECOM's environmental permitting
8 specialists on these projects. My responsibilities as environmental permitting specialist on
9 the Project include providing insight as to the potential environmental impact of the Project
10 and alternatives on wetlands, vernal pool, protected species and habitat, and surface waters.
11 With this responsibility, I oversaw the preparation of the analyses of these environmental
12 impacts as presented in the Petition for Approval to Construct 345-kV Transmission Lines,
13 Re-Build 115-kV Transmission Lines, and Build and Upgrade Ancillary Facilities (the
14 "Siting Board Petition") and the Petition of Western Massachusetts Electric Company for
15 Exemptions from the Zoning By-Laws and Ordinances for the Greater Springfield Reliability
16 Project ("Zoning Exemption Petition"), both filed by WMECO with in this proceeding on
17 October 27, 2009.

18

19 **Q. For what portions of WMECO's Siting Board and Zoning Exemption Petitions are you**
20 **responsible?**

21 A. I am responsible for Section 5 of the Siting Board Petition, Comparison of Proposed 345-kV
22 Facilities Along Preferred Northern and Noticed-Alternative Southern Routes Project and
23 Section 7, Comparison of Overhead and Underground 115-kV Facilities. My areas of
24 principal responsibility are as follows:

25

- Land

26

- Rare Species

27

- Wetlands, Vernal Pools and Waterways

1 I am also responsible for various information request responses in this proceeding which
2 cover the same topics, all of which are listed with my name, alone or with another, as the
3 responsible witness.

4

5 **Q. Were the materials referenced above prepared by you or under your supervision and**
6 **control?**

7 A. A collaborative effort with others at AECOM was used to prepare these materials.

8

9 **Q. Are there any revisions, updates or corrections to those matters for which you are**
10 **responsible?**

11 A. No, not at this time. However, as the Project design has been slightly modified as described
12 in the Pre-filed Testimony of John C. Case, AECOM is in the process of analyzing the
13 environmental impacts associated with these design changes and will provide any updates or
14 revisions as soon as this analysis is complete.

15

16 **Q. Does this complete your testimony?**

17 A. Yes, it does.

David Cameron, CWB, PWS

Program Manager & Senior Ecologist

Years Experience: 17

Technical Specialties

- Wetlands, Waterways, Endangered Species, & Land Use Permitting
- Wetland Delineation and Functional Assessment
- Wetland Creation, Ecological Restoration, and Invasive Species Management
- Wildlife Habitat Assessments and Endangered Species Surveys
- Environmental Policy Analysis
- Permitting for Dam Removals and Dam Reconstructions
- Beaver Flooding Solutions
- Peer Reviews and Litigation Support

Professional History

- AECOM Environment
- Tighe & Bond, Inc.
- ENSR Consulting and Engineering

Education

- B.A. (Environmental Science) Franklin Pierce College, 1992
- Graduate Coursework, Wildlife Biology, University of Idaho, 1993
- Graduate Coursework, Soils, Antioch New England Graduate School, 1995
- Graduate Coursework, Wetlands Ecology, University of Massachusetts, 1997
- Graduate Coursework, Soils, University of Massachusetts, 1998
- Graduate Coursework, Botany, Wildlife Ecology, University of Maine, 1998-2004

Professional Registrations and Affiliations

- Wildlife Society - Certified Wildlife Biologist (CWB)
- Society of Wetland Scientists - Professional Wetland Scientist (PWS) # 001210
- PADI Open Water SCUBA Diver Certification
- OSHA 40-Hour Health and Safety Certification (HAZWOPER)
- 48-hr. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineator Certification Training
- Bat Conservation International

Select Power Generation and/or Linear Utility Project Experience

Public Service Company of New Hampshire – Various Sites. Scoped out the permitting requirements and co-managed several large, new transmission line projects in 2007. Devised the field program in order to conduct wetlands delineation and mapping for the over 75 linear miles of associated project lines. Conceived a wetlands mapping pilot study to assist NU transmission vegetation management program with wetlands compliance on rotational mowing, and followed up with

implementation of wetlands mapping for over additional 100 linear miles of ROW. Conducted rare plant surveys in the Concord, NH Pine Barrens area and met and negotiated with agency personnel to develop the rare species mitigation approach. Assisted with post-impact restoration planning and compliance related to inadvertent wetland violations.

Western Massachusetts Electric Company – Lee, MA. Managed the wetlands, waterways, floodplain, local zoning and rare species permitting, and negotiated and developed the rare species mitigation and invasive plant management plans for two substation expansion projects.

Western Massachusetts Electric Company – Western, MA. Currently serving as ENSR's principal environmental permitting specialist on the Massachusetts portion of the Greater Springfield Reliability Project (GSRP). The new 345-kV and 115-kV project's preferred and alternate routes encompass over 70 miles within the municipalities of Agawam, West Springfield, Springfield, Chicopee, Ludlow, Wilbraham, Hampden, East Longmeadow, and Longmeadow.

Western Massachusetts Electric Company – Ludlow, MA. Conducted the fieldwork as well as the wetlands, waterways, and floodplain permitting in order to install a new electric distribution line between the Ludlow Substation and Booth Street.

Northeast Utilities Service Company – Berlin, CT. Prepared the Environmental Policy Guidance Manual for Electric Utility Infrastructure Maintenance, Repair, and Emergency Work for NU internal use on electric distribution and transmission projects involving wetlands, rare species, stormwater, and other land use impacts. (2005, and updated in 2007).

Northeast Utilities Service Company – Berlin, CT. Was primary author and manager for the preparation of the Connecticut Best Management Practices Manual for Electric Transmission Projects in Sensitive Environmental Areas for NU internal use on electric distribution and transmission projects involving wetlands, rare species, stormwater, and other land use impacts (2007).

Northeast Utilities Service Company – Berlin, CT. Was primary author and manager for the preparation of the Massachusetts Best Management Practices Manual for Electric Transmission Projects in Sensitive Environmental Areas for NU internal use on electric distribution and transmission projects involving wetlands, rare species, stormwater, and other land use impacts (2007).

National Grid USA – Various Sites in Massachusetts. Have developed the approach and managed the permitting for over 35 electric distribution capital, improvement, emergency, maintenance, and/or repair projects throughout inland and coastal Massachusetts.

Holyoke Gas & Electric – Connecticut River, MA. Project Manager from 2005-2007 on elements of a FERC license for the Holyoke Dam involving invasive plant mapping, water quality studies, and rare mussel surveys in an 18-mile reach of the Connecticut River and the City of Holyoke Canal System.

FirstLight Power Services (formerly NGS) – Northfield, MA. Designed field survey program to map 11 utility-owned properties along the Connecticut River in Franklin County, MA for rare plant and animal species. Worked with state Natural Heritage Program to negotiate regulatory agreement for properties to be maintained according to the pre-existing facilities practices.

Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority – Penuelas, PR. Conducted field marine cove thermal plume study – both in above and under water - as part of NPDES 316 compliance program for power plant.

Russell Biomass Partners, LLC. – Russell, MA. Served as the natural resources task manager from 2004-2006 for to the siting and permitting of a 50-mW biomass-fired electric generating facility and associated 5-mile transmission line.

Confidential Client - Southwestern Virginia. Conducted surveys and habitat assessments for several rare plant and animal species along a proposed water intake pipeline route from the New River to a power plant site.

Confidential Client - Long Island, New York. Conducted habitat evaluations and surveys for the federally-endangered tiger salamander at a proposed power plant site.

Gas Research Institute – Throughout USA. Principal scientist involved in a 5-year research program involving the assessment of horizontal directional drilling (HDD) as a pipeline installation method and its potential impacts to vegetated wetlands. Conducted literature survey; performed analysis of pipeline regulatory structure; performed field investigations at impacted sites in AL, LA, MI, WI, MA, NY, and CA; developed Best Practices Manual for HDD in sensitive environmental settings; and presented findings of research to federal regulatory agencies and corporate technical advisory working groups in Washington D.C., as well as to the regulated community and others at international symposia.

American National Power - Milford, MA. Task Manager for a long-term (> 10-yr.) monitoring project involving the assessment of fisheries, wetland plant community, soils, macroinvertebrates, and wetland habitat structure for the Upper Charles River. Project conducted as compliance measure after the construction of a natural gas-fired generating facility requiring a surface water withdrawal.

Springfield Water & Sewer Commission – Blandford, MA. Worked with local conservation commission and MADEP to solve drinking water conveyance problems related to an emergency drinking water outfall to Cobble Mountain Reservoir. Designed beaver dam breaching program and water-level control system to ensure sufficient flood storage capacity and downstream passage of pumped emergency flows, oversaw beaver dam removals, and designed and implemented post-breaching wetlands community impact assessment and monitoring program.

Hoosac Water Quality District – Williamstown, MA. Conducted snorkeling surveys for rare aquatic species prior to emergency sewer repairs in the Green River. Developed a conceptual bank stabilization and riparian restoration plan for a site between the HWQD wastewater treatment plant and Hoosic River.

Department of Public Works - Town of West Springfield, MA. Procured the appropriate local, state, and federal emergency wetlands and waterways approvals and designed the restoration plan in order to construct a ½-mile long timber mat road in the wetlands and floodplains of Paucatuck Brook in order to repair the town's primary drinking water main from Bearhole Reservoir.