



November 18, 2022

Dear Neighbor,

I am writing today to inform you about a proposed reliability project for an existing transmission line corridor near your property in Ware, West Brookfield, or Palmer, Massachusetts. **This proposed Project is currently in the planning and design phases and construction is scheduled to begin in 2026 and end in 2028.** The proposed project will address the need for improved reliability and telecommunications as National Grid is invested in improving the electrical infrastructure through upgrades of the existing O15N Transmission Line.

This proposed upgrade includes the approximately 10.35-mile-long segment of overhead power lines southeast of downtown Palmer, crossing Route 20 and the Massachusetts Turnpike, continuing northeast until it crosses Route 9 and Route 32 which is located northeast of downtown Ware. **The extent of the project is illustrated on the other side of this page.**

The project will address ongoing woodpecker damage throughout the structures of the transmission line and in the process will upgrade from the existing 69 kilovolt (kV) Transmission Line to a 115 kV Transmission Line. In order to complete this upgrade, all existing structures will be replaced with steel poles, new conductors, new grounding and signage and the existing shield wire will be replaced with an optical grounding wire (OPGW). The goal of these upgrades is to increase the reliability of the transmission line.

Over the next couple of months, we expect various project team members and consultants to continue accessing the right of way during this preliminary engineering phase to gather additional information needed for a proper planning evaluation. In addition, surveyors will be within the area starting in December.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work to replace this critical infrastructure in your community. Please know that our project team is committed to actively working with local officials, residents, and businesses to solicit feedback and maintain an open dialogue throughout this project. We look forward to providing more detailed information on project timelines as those are finalized.

Sincerely,

The Palmer to Ware Improvement Project Outreach Team

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O15N Transmission Line Project Map

