



**Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC)  
Resolution  
In Support of Competitive Transmission**

The Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company and its Member municipal light plants (MLPs) support and promote the energy and environmental policies and objectives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, consistent with the not-for-profit MLP business model. The MMWEC MLPs have a strong record of environmental stewardship, including the development and purchase of clean energy resources that are valuable in achieving the carbon-reduction goals of the Municipal Light Plant Greenhouse Gas Emissions Standard and the Commonwealth's 2050 Decarbonization Roadmap.

Transmission represents a major expense for municipal light departments and transmission costs continue to rise. MMWEC has been successful at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) over the past several years in fighting what it believes are exorbitant returns on equity (ROE) earned by New England transmission owners, but MMWEC believes the ROE remains too high in many cases.

There will be a need for extensive transmission buildout to support future offshore wind, hydro-electric projects and additional decarbonization and electrification efforts in Massachusetts. The preliminary results of the 2050 Transmission Study, conducted by ISO New England at the request of the New England states, shows that nearly half of the transmission miles of Pool Transmission Facilities (PTF) will become overloaded by 2050. Current transmission build-out in Massachusetts and the region, based on Federal Energy Regulatory Commission approved tariffs and procurement procedures, results in transmission infrastructure that is not sufficiently cost competitive and does not minimize environmental impact. Procuring transmission independently increases competition.

MMWEC and its member municipal light plants are interested in participating in transmission ownership, but to date, have been precluded from participating in the process. MMWEC's tax exempt financing authority would allow for MLPs to participate in transmission ownership at a lower cost.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that MMWEC and its Member MLPs are concerned about rising transmission prices, which impact their ratepayers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that MMWEC recognizes that extensive transmission buildout will be needed to support future offshore wind projects and other electrification initiatives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that MMWEC and its Member MLPs support a transmission process designed to increase competition and reduce costs for consumers, in alignment with greener and cleaner energy policies and objectives, reflecting a dynamic and progressive approach to ensuring MLPs meet or exceed MLP carbon emissions reduction targets as outlined by state law.

October 2022