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NEPGA RESPONSE TO MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE PASSAGE OF ENERGY LEGISLATION

Boston, MA: The New England Power Generators Association (NEPGA) is disappointed to see the Massachusetts House of Representatives today approve energy legislation that has the potential to dramatically increase costs for consumers and derail billions of dollars in energy investments here in Massachusetts. The legislation would provide contracts of up to 25 years for one-third of the Massachusetts electricity market for particular resources. The primary focus appears to be to increase contracting with provincially-owned Canadian hydropower.

Commenting on the bill NEPGA President Dan Dolan said, "Proposals like this undermine a competitive electricity market driving the lowest prices in over a decade. In response to retiring power plants, thousands of megawatts of new local plants are under development today to preserve reliability and continue Massachusetts' leadership in driving lower emissions. Locking consumers into decades-long contracts would also freeze out innovation at a time when tremendous growth and promise is evident from more efficient power generation, lower renewable energy costs and burgeoning distributed electricity supplies."

Dolan went on to say, "Competition, among all electricity sources, has provided lower prices for consumers while also delivering the Commonwealth with one of the cleanest power generation fleets in the country. Our hope is that Massachusetts will continue to support the successful marketplace it helped create almost 20 years ago. Consumers deserve nothing less."

NEPGA looks forward to continuing to work with Massachusetts policymakers to provide for competitive, reliable and environmentally-responsible electricity supplies.

NEPGA's mission is to support competitive wholesale electricity markets in New England. We believe that open markets guided by stable public policies are the best means to provide reliable and competitively-priced electricity for consumers. A sensible, market-based approach furthers economic development, jobs and balanced environmental policy for the region.

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