



141 Tremont St., Boston, MA 02111

(t) 617-902-2354 (f) 617-902-2349

www.nepga.org

For Immediate Release

February 21, 2014

Contact: Dan Dolan

(617) 516-5355

Statement on Proposed Massachusetts Clean Energy Resources Bill

Boston, MA: NEPGA President Dan Dolan released the following statement on energy legislation introduced today in Massachusetts, *An Act Relative to Clean Energy Resources*:

NEPGA supports energy infrastructure developed through competitive electricity markets, which have provided tremendous benefits to consumers including competitive electricity prices, reliable operations and dramatic improvements in environmental emissions. NEPGA believes that any resource that meets environmental, siting and other regulations should be allowed to compete. Efforts, on the other hand, that pick winners and losers between resources create significant price risk for consumers, threaten future energy investments in the states and undercut electricity producers who have collectively invested tens of billions of dollars in New England.

It is on this basis that NEPGA has deep concerns with the Governor's energy bill announced today. NEPGA opposes the selection of one or a small set of resources for "favored" status that undercuts otherwise economic resources located within the region that have invested capital at their own risk. NEPGA's members support thousands of local jobs, hundreds of millions of dollars in tax base and highly competitive electricity prices for consumers. These Massachusetts and New England-based resources compete every day without government or ratepayer subsidies to provide environmentally responsible, reliable and competitively-priced electricity for consumers.

As proposed, this bill would provide a cornered market for government-owned Canadian hydropower with Massachusetts consumers paying out-of-market 20-25 year contracts. These non-competitive, long-term contracts would imperil private New England investments and the jobs, tax-base as well as reliability and electricity price benefits they provide. Such contracts would create an additional burden on Massachusetts electricity consumers by locking-in them in to non-competitive power prices for decades.

NEPGA is committed to working with Massachusetts and the region to continue to provide competitively-priced power delivered reliably and in an environmentally responsible manner. Massachusetts power generators have shown their commitment through spending on environmental improvements, dramatic efficiency gains at plants and investments in new infrastructure. Massachusetts can't afford to throw away these investments and the competitively priced power that have resulted from them.

The New England Power Generators Association (NEPGA) is the trade association representing competitive electric generating companies in New England. NEPGA's members' represent 80%, or nearly 26,000 megawatts, of all the available generating capacity in New England. NEPGA's mission is to promote sound energy policies which will further economic development, jobs, and balanced environmental policy. NEPGA believes that sustainable competitive markets are the best means to provide long-term reliable and affordable supplies of electricity for consumers. For more information go to www.nepga.org and follow NEPGA on Twitter @NEPGA.