

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT HEARING **PLEASE READ**

On June 16, 2008, Westfield Land Development Company LLC ("WLDC") filed with the Energy Facilities Siting Board ("Siting Board") a petition for (1) approval to construct and operate a 400 megawatt electric generating facility in Westfield, and (2) approval to construct, in conjunction with Westfield Gas & Electric Company ("WG&E"), an associated natural gas pipeline in the Town of Westfield. The attached legal notice describes the proposed generation facility and proposed gas pipeline in more detail, and explains the opportunities for public participation in the review process. **Please read this notice carefully.**

The Siting Board is a state agency that will determine whether the generation facility can be constructed. The Siting Board will hold a public comment hearing at **7 pm on Tuesday, August 5, 2008 at the North Middle School, 350 Southampton Road, Westfield**. At the public comment hearing, the Company will provide information on the generation facility, and the Siting Board will present information on its review process and receive comments and questions from members of the community. The public comment hearing is an important opportunity for the community to learn about the proposed generation facility and the Siting Board review process, and for the Siting Board to hear questions and concerns from the community. All comments are important to the Siting Board; anyone with an interest in the Project is encouraged to attend.

Individuals and groups affected by the Company's petition who wish to be involved in the Siting Board review process may request to participate as either intervenors or limited participants. Such requests must meet the criteria outlined in the attached legal notice. **The deadline to make such a request is 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 12, 2008.** The process for making a request to participate is explained in the legal notice. Questions concerning participation also will be answered at the public comment hearing.

Copies of the Company's petition are available for public inspection at the four (4) locations listed on the enclosed notice, including the office of WLDC, 102 Elm Street, the Westfield Town Clerk's office, the Westfield Athenaeum, 6 Elm Street, and the Siting Board's Offices at the address below. If you have any questions about the Siting Board's review process, please feel free to call the Presiding Officer, Selma Urman, at (617) 305-3525. The Siting Board's address is as follows:

Energy Facilities Siting Board
One South Station
Boston, MA 02110

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
ENERGY FACILITIES SITING BOARD

NOTICE OF ADJUDICATION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT HEARING

EFSB 08-1

Westfield Land Development Company
Westfield Gas & Electric Company

Notice is hereby given that Westfield Land Development Company LLC ("WLDC") has filed with the Energy Facilities Siting Board ("Siting Board") a petition for (1) approval to construct and operate a 400 megawatt electric generating facility in Westfield, and (2) approval to construct, in conjunction with Westfield Gas & Electric Company ("WG&E"), an associated natural gas pipeline in Westfield. The generating facility would be located on a vacant site located on Ampad Road in Westfield (the "Site"). WLDC, together with WG&E (the "Applicants") would construct the gas pipeline to interconnect the generating facility to the WG&E gas delivery system by one of two proposed routes. The Applicants anticipate that the generating facility, to be known as the Pioneer Valley Energy Center, would begin commercial operation in June 2012.

The generating facility, the gas pipeline, and ancillary facilities such as water supply pipelines for the generating facility (together, the "Project") are subject to Siting Board review. The Applicants' petition to the Siting Board was docketed as EFSB 08-1. The Siting Board will review the Applicants' filing pursuant to G.L. c. 164, §§ 69H, 69J and 69J¼, which require the Siting Board to ensure a reliable energy supply for the Commonwealth with a minimum impact on the environment at the lowest possible cost.

The Siting Board will conduct a public comment hearing to receive public comment at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 5, 2008 at the North Middle School, 350 Southampton Road, Westfield. The Siting Board will accept comment on the Applicants' Project at the public comment hearing. **Comments also may be filed with the Siting Board at the address below, until 5:00 p.m. on August 12, 2008.**

The Site is a 45-acre parcel of land located on the east side of Ampad Road and northwest side of Servistar Industrial Way. It is approximately one mile north of the Massachusetts Turnpike and three-quarters of a mile west of U.S. Route 202. Abutting properties include other commercial or industrial properties on the northwest side of Servistar Industrial Way. Additional commercial or industrial properties are located across Ampad Road and Servistar Industrial Way from the Site. Land located to the north of the Site is currently undeveloped. The Site and the surrounding properties are zoned for industrial use.

The generating facility would be of combined-cycle design, incorporating a combustion turbine and a heat recovery steam generator within a 115-foot tall building, a 41-foot tall wet cooling tower, and a 19-foot diameter, 180-foot tall exhaust stack. Natural gas would be the primary fuel, with ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel as a backup. The generating facility would also include an auxiliary boiler, a diesel generator to provide station power under emergency conditions, a diesel water pump for use in event of a fire, a 1,000,000 gallon diesel fuel tank, 1,000,000- and 600,000-gallon water

tanks, a 20,000-gallon tank for aqueous ammonia, electrical transformers, and an on-site switching station connecting to an existing 115 kilovolt transmission line that passes through the site.

For the gas pipeline, the Applicants propose to use one of two route alternatives. The Applicants' preferred route for the gas pipeline starts at WG&E's system near downtown Westfield on the south side of the Westfield River, and crosses underneath the river via a 550-foot horizontal directional drill. Upon crossing the river, the Applicants' preferred route follows alongside the Pioneer Valley Railroad northward for a approximately 2.2 miles, crossing Pochassic Street, Notre Dame Street, Twiss Street, the Massachusetts Turnpike, and Lockhouse Road. The Applicants' preferred route then turns east for a distance of approximately 0.2 miles, crossing land of 66 Ampad Road, LLC in a new easement, crossing Ampad Road and terminating at the Site. The Applicants' alternative route for the gas pipeline connects to Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company's existing Northampton Lateral at the intersection of North Road and East Mountain Road in Westfield. The alternative route follows North Road approximately 2.0 miles west to an existing Western Massachusetts Electric Company ("WMECo") electric transmission easement, then approximately 2.0 miles southwest and south along that easement, crossing Southampton Road and Summit Lock Road before reaching the Site. For either route, the gas pipeline would consist of new 12-inch diameter, coated-steel pipe, normally operating at approximately 700 pounds per square inch gauge ("psig"), with a maximum allowable operating pressure of 878 psig.

Water would be supplied to the generating facility from two different sources. The wet cooling tower, which provides cooling water for the steam condensing turbine, would be supplied with up to 2 million gallons per day from the Tighe-Carmody Reservoir, which is maintained by the Holyoke Water Works but located in Southampton. Existing Holyoke Water Works underground pipes would be used to bring water to a point 0.9 miles north of the Site, and a new 12-inch water supply line would be constructed by either WLDC or Holyoke Water Works from that point, along the WMECo electric transmission easement, to interconnect the generating facility. The existing pipes have been out of service since 1997 and would be rehabilitated for use by the Project. Other water uses, including potable water supplies, water for air intake cooling, and air pollution control, would typically amount to less than 120,000 gallons per day, with a peak demand of 500,000 gallons per day; this water would be supplied through the City of Westfield's water supply system.

Copies of the Applicants' petition are available for public inspection at: (1) the Siting Board's Offices at the address below; (2) the office of WLDC at 102 Elm Street, Suite 15 in Westfield; (3) the City Clerk's Office in the City of Westfield; and (4) the Westfield Athenaeum, 6 Elm Street, Westfield.

Any person interested in intervening as a party or participating as a limited participant in this proceeding must file a written petition with the Presiding Officer on or before **5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 12, 2008**. Petitions should be filed in accordance with 980 Code of Massachusetts Regulations 1.05. Any person interested in submitting written comments should file such comments with the Presiding Officer on or before **5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 12, 2008**. A copy of any written petition or written comments must be sent also to the Company's Counsel, David S. Rosenzweig, Esq., Keegan Werlin LLP, 265 Franklin Street, Boston, MA 02110.

Any person desiring further information regarding this Notice, including information regarding

intervention or participating in the adjudicatory proceeding, may contact the Presiding Officer at the address or telephone number below:

Selma Urman
Energy Facilities Siting Board
One South Station
Boston, MA 02110
(617) 305-3525