

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS JULIA MEJIA, GABRIELA COLETTA, RUTHZEE LOUIJEUNE, ARROYO, BOK, BREADON, FERNANDES ANDERSON, FLAHERTY, LARA, FLYNN AND WORRELL



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE EVERSOURCE SUBSTATION ON THE CHELSEA CREEK WATERFRONT IN EAST BOSTON

WHEREAS, Eversource Energy has begun construction of a new transmission substation facility located on the Chelsea Creek waterfront, on Condor Street, in East Boston; *and*

WHEREAS, For nearly nine years the substation has been overwhelmingly opposed by elected officials, residents, and experts as it would result in the concentration of potentially dangerous and unnecessary infrastructure, obstruction of neighborhood access to open space and the waterfront, and an increased risk to neighborhood climate resiliency. The proximity of the proposed substation being 300 feet to residential housing, 60 feet to recreational spaces, and 450 feet to combustible fuel storage tanks, remain a serious concern; *and*

WHEREAS, The neighborhood of East Boston is one of the most racially and ethnically diverse communities in Massachusetts. More than 60% of its population are people of color and more than 50% are foreign born. The state has designated nearly every part of East Boston as an Environmental Justice community; *and*

WHEREAS, In November of 2021 the people of Boston unambiguously let their opinion be known in a non-binding ballot question where nearly 84% of voters opposed the siting of the substation on Condor Street; *and*

WHEREAS, Currently, the permits that Eversource received from the Commonwealth's Energy Facility Siting Board are pending an appeal to be heard in the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council go on record in continued opposition to the Eversource substation and support a full vetting of alternative, more appropriate sites, closer to sources of major electrical demand and growth, in far safer contexts, vis a vis distance from residences, playgrounds and public ways, and in more flood-proofed areas, such as Logan International Airport.

Filed on: March 15, 2023