



ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS  
TOWN OF MONTAGUE  
ONE AVENUE A  
TURNERS FALLS, MA 01376

**NOTICE OF DECISION & VOTE**

**Applicant/Owner:** Case No. 15-04 Date: May 11, 2015  
Western Mass. Electric Co., d/b/a Eversource Energy  
By: Robert E. Carberry, Project Manager  
P.O. Box 270  
Hartford, CT 06141

**Premises Affected:**

20 Farren Ave.  
Turners Falls, MA 01376  
Assessors' Map 12 Lots 31 & 43  
F Co. Registry of Deeds: Bk 856 Pg 174  
Assessors' Map 12 Lot 67  
F Co. Registry of Deeds: Bk 935 Pg 446

Special Permit (Public Utility) (X)  
Variance Application (40A) ( )  
Section 6 Ch. 40A - Finding ( )  
Site Plan Review ( )

After a public hearing held on:

Wednesday, April 8, 2015

**The Board of Appeals Finds:**

- Both proposed projects result from growing electrical demand, standard upgrades in existing equipment and mandated safety upgrades.
- The proposed switchyard expansion will result in little or no change to existing conditions in the area.
- The proposed 155 foot height of the river crossing terminal monopoles was expressed as a concern. Proponents' testimony indicated that various issues were evaluated including; pole height and location, ground and building clearances, conductor separation and strength, easement rights. Applicant concluded that 155' was the lowest acceptable height for the preferred option that balanced all design parameters.

**THE BOARD OF APPEALS VOTED:** To grant a Special Permit to allow expansion of the current switch yard by 5,000 sq. ft. into a lot in the NB district, and to allow 2 pairs of 70 foot and 155 foot monopoles to be located in the switchyard lot, to replace two 58 foot towers currently at the Cabot Station, for the crossing the Connecticut River.

**The vote of the Zoning Board of Appeals was as follows:**

1. Ernest L. Brown, Chairman YES      2. John Burek, Vice-Chairman YES  
3. John Reynolds YES      4. Alan Ripingill, Atternate YES  
5. Richard Ruth, Alternate YES

Modification and Approval: Any changes proposed shall be reviewed by the Board of Appeals or its designee. The Chairman or designee may approve changes if in conformance with the intent of the Special Permit or may refer it to the Board. Changes consistent with the purpose of this approval may be allowed by the Board without further hearings. Further hearings shall be at the discretion of the Board. Approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.

**IMPORTANT:** Any appeal from the decision of the Town of Montague Zoning Board of Appeals can be made only to the Court and must be made pursuant to Section 17, Chapter 40A (MGL) as amended, and must be filed in the office of the Town Clerk within twenty (20) days after the date of filing of the decision with the Town Clerk.

Board of Appeals

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Ernest L. Brown, Chairman  
Clerk  
Karen Casey-Chretien,

\*\*\*\*\*

Received for filing by Town Clerk: \_\_\_\_\_  
Time Date  
Twenty day appeal period ends: \_\_\_\_\_  
Time Date

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT NO APPEAL HAS BEEN FILED WITHIN 20 DAYS FROM THE DATE THAT THIS DECISION WAS FILED WITH THE TOWN CLERK:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Montague Town Clerk  
Date

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*Notice to be recorded by Landowner*