December 28, 2017

Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE-20)
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue SW.
Washington, DC 20585

To Whom It May Concern,

We write in support of the application by Clean Power Northeast Development Inc. for a Presidential Permit to construct, operate, maintain, and connect an electric transmission line across the United States border with Canada. Clean Power Northeast has demonstrated a commitment to not only delivering affordable, clean energy to Massachusetts but doing so in a way that will provide tangible economic and employment benefits to our community.

We look forward to working with Clean Power Northeast regarding the proposed new subsea transmission cable that would terminate in Plymouth. This clean energy infrastructure project has the potential to create many jobs in the Plymouth area over the coming few years and provide lasting long-term economic benefits to our region.

This new energy connection with Atlantic Canada will deliver clean energy directly to Massachusetts, which will help our state diversify its energy mix as well as reduce greenhouse gas emissions. But importantly for Plymouth, at the local level the construction will support many new jobs and deliver ongoing tax revenue, as negotiated through a PILOT agreement. This agreement represents a commitment to the Plymouth Selectmen to maintain annual payments of $2.5 million over the entire term of the Power Purchase Agreement being proposed in the RFP process.

Clean Power Northeast’s Atlantic Link will create positive economic benefits for Plymouth by landing its proposed subsea cable near the site of Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station, which will be taken out of service in less than two years. Atlantic Link will go a considerable ways to replacing the economic impact that will be lost by the closure of Pilgrim. It will provide not only substantial tax revenue for the town but also supply jobs for our region and utilize the existing infrastructure from the soon to be defunct nuclear generating station.

An independent economic assessment has determined that more than 900 direct full-time-equivalent jobs and more than 550 indirect jobs will be created during construction of the cable
landing facilities, including a converter station and substation on land near the current Pilgrim Nuclear Station site.

We are also pleased that the project will focus its low-income initiative on the host community for Atlantic Link by committing $750,000 a year to a local non-profit organization for energy-related low income programs. Clean Power Northeast’s agreement to make this commitment when the project goes into commercial operation will create several new jobs for program delivery but most important expand programs that serve low-income families in our communities.

We commend Clean Power Northeast’s community engagement and information-sharing activities to date, and share the perspective that ongoing dialogue is essential as the project secures all of its permits and agency approvals.

Thank you for your interest in bringing clean energy, sustainable jobs, and revenue to our community. We look forward to working with you and Clean Power Northeast on the Atlantic Link project. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Vinny deMacedo
Senator, Plymouth and Barnstable

Thomas J. Calter
Rep., 12th Plymouth District

Mathew J. Muratore
Rep., 1st Plymouth District