BRPC
Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

MALCOLM FICK, Chair
JOHN DUVAL, Vice-Chair
SHEILA IRVIN, Clerk
BUCK DONOVAN, Treasurer
THOMAS MATUSZKO, A.I.C.P.
Executive Director

MEETING NOTICE

There will be a meeting of the
BERKSHIRE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
on Thursday, August 1, 2024 at **6:00 p.m.**

This will be a virtual meeting as allowed by Ch. 2 of the Acts of 2023 extending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c.30 sec.20 until March 31, 2025.

To participate virtually join Zoom meeting at
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3926128831?omn=84810976125

Meeting ID: 392 612 8831, Phone: 646.558.8656, 301.715.8592, 312.626.6799

Meeting Materials are posted at www.berkshireplanning.org. Click on the meeting in the Events Calendar to open them.

Agenda

(All times approximate)

I. Opening (6:00-6:05)

a) Call to Order and Open Meeting Law Statement
b) Roll Call of Commission Members Attending the Meeting
c) Vote to Approve Minutes of the May 16, 2024 Full Commission Meeting

II. Comments from Berkshire Regional Planning Commission Delegates and Alternate Delegates (6:05-6:10)

BRPC Delegates and Alternates may offer comments on any item not on the agenda. Any possible discussion or action will be referred to a future meeting.

III. Comments from the Public (6:10-6:15)

Members of the public may offer comments regarding topics on the agenda or other matters they wish to bring to the Commission's attention. Comments are to be directed to the Commission. Commenters must state their names and the city or town they are from. Any possible discussion or action will be referred to a future meeting.

IV. Presentation of Executive Committee Actions (6:15-6:20)

Executive Committee actions taken on the Commission's behalf at its June 6, 2024, June 20, 2024 and July 2, 2024 meetings are presented for discussion. Included in the material are copies of comment letters submitted on the City of North Adams Expanded Environmental Notification for the Mount Williams Reservoir Dam and Notch Reservoir Dam improvements and the U.S. Department of Energy's National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor proposal.

V. Vote to Ratify Appointment of Representatives to Related Groups Not Under the Jurisdiction of the Commission (6:20-6:25)

The BRPC bylaws require the Commission to ratify the appointment to related groups not under the jurisdiction of the Commission made by the Executive Committee.

- *Westfield River Wild and Scenic Advisory Committee - Doug McNally, Windsor*
- *Woodlands Partnership of Northwest Massachusetts - Chris Cozzaglio*
- *MPO Alternate - Sam Haupt*

VI. Update on the BEAD (Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment) Challenge process (6:25 – 6:35)

The BEAD Challenge, which closed July 20th, 2024, allowed residents to test their internet speed and compare it with what their internet service provider indicates is being provided. This test is necessary to potentially be able to access funding to improve internet speed. BRPC Senior Planner Wylie Goodman will present results for Berkshire County.

VII. Presentation on the Berkshire Brownfields Program (6:35 – 6:55)

BRPC Energy and Environmental Program Manager Melissa Provencher will brief the Commission on the highly successful Berkshire Brownfields Program.

VIII. Vote to Submit Feedback Comments on the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER) Straw Proposal for its Solar Massachusetts Renewable Target (SMART) Program (6:55 – 7:10)

The DOER's SMART Program is a long-term sustainable solar incentive program that promotes cost-effective solar development in the Commonwealth. DOER is requesting feedback comments on its Straw Proposal on possible changes.

IX. Update on the Commonwealth's Legislative Session (7:10-7:25)

The Massachusetts Legislature session had many consequential pieces of legislation for its consideration. An update will be provided on some of the items as they directly relate to BRPC's work.

X. Adjournment (7:25)

Other interested citizens and officials are invited to attend.

All times listed are estimates of when specific agenda items may be discussed.

City and Town Clerks: Please post this notice

BRPC has adopted the BRPC website **www.berkshireplanning.org** as its official posting method as allowed by 940 CMR29.00 section 29.03 (3) (b) since November 2010.

The Meeting Notice, Agenda and meeting materials are on BRPC's website: **www.berkshireplanning.org.** Click the calendar of events, then the meeting name, and follow the link to materials.

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DRAFT FULL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
May 16, 2024

This was a virtual meeting as allowed by Ch. 2 of the Acts of 2023 extending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c.30 sec.20 until March 31, 2025.

I. Opening

A. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm.

Chair Malcolm Fick stated that per the open meeting law, BRPC was recording this meeting. Others may record the meeting after informing the meeting Chair. Documents presented must be provided to the Chair at the meeting.

B. Roll Call

The following Commission members were present:

Diana Mott – Becket Alternate
Peter Traub – Cheshire Delegate
Mary McGurn – Egremont, Delegate
Pedro Pachano – Great Barrington Delegate
Malcolm Fick – Great Barrington Alternate
Leanne Yinger – Lanesborough Delegate
Buck Donovan – Lee Delegate, 7:30 arrival
Laura Mensi – Monterey Delegate, left for another meeting at 8 pm
Kyle Hanlon – North Adams, Delegate
Sheila Irvin – Pittsfield, Delegate
Sari Hoy – Sheffield, Delegate
Nancy Socha – Stockbridge Delegate
Amanda Hamilton – Tyringham Delegate
Don Gagnon – Washington, Delegate
Roger Bolton – Williamstown Alternate
Doug McNally – Windsor Delegate

Towns with no Delegate or Alternate present:
Adams, Alford, Clarksburg, Dalton, Florida, Hancock, Hinsdale, Lenox, Mount Washington, New Ashford, New Marlborough, Otis, Peru, Richmond, Sandisfield, Savoy, West Stockbridge

Staff Present:
Thomas Matuszko, Marianne Sniezek, Kate Hill Tapia, Laura Brennan, Clete Kus, Anuja Koirala

Others Present:
Andy PCTV; Brittany Polito, iBerkshires

C. Approval of March 21, 2024 Minutes

Douglas McNally moved to approve the March 21, 2024, draft meeting minutes; Pedro Pachano seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The minutes were approved with a roll call vote with Diana Mott, Peter Traub, Mary McGurn, Pedro Pachano, Leanne Yinger, Laura Mensi, Sari Hoy, Don Gagnon, Roger Bolton, and Doug McNally voting to approve.

Abstained: Kyle Hanlon, Sam Haupt, Sheila Irvin, Nancy Socha

II. Suggestions from Berkshire Regional Planning Commission Delegates and Alternates about Items or Topics for Future Meetings

Diana Mott asked if there is a battery storage facility zoning law template. Tom said yes and will follow up with Diana.

The presentation and discussion about Microtransit will be on the 5th Thursday, May 30, from 4-6 pm at Mazzeo's. Please register by the end of Monday, May 20.

Doug McNally recommended we continue to look into income inequality and increase in self-employment as reported in the Berkshire County data update and explore the relationship to an influx of second homeowners during the pandemic.

III. Comments from the Public

None

IV. Presentation of Executive Committee Actions

There were no questions or discussion about the Executive Committee actions taken on the Commission's behalf at its April 4 and May 2, 2024, meetings.

V. Presentation on and Discussion of MassDOT's Vision for Passenger Rail Service for the Commonwealth called Compass Rail

MassDOT's West-East Passenger Rail Director Andy Kozoil presented MassDOT's Vison for Passenger Rail Service for the Commonwealth called Compass Rail, which proposes passenger rail service between Boston and Albany, including Pittsfield. Compass Rail is a program of projects that includes West-East Rail.

Andy reviewed maps of existing and future services and projects, including studying, planning, and implementing improvements and expanding the number of routes, stops and travel times, and additional rails in congested sections.

Current state-funded projects include:

- A station in Palmer

- Track reconfiguration in Springfield to improve the intersection of north/south and west/east trains
- Track improvements near Pittsfield.
- New Haven to Boston via Springfield (Inland Route) modeling & design to improve track service; construction begins 2027

Planning extends to a vision for services in 2045 with six daily roundtrips Boston – Springfield and three daily roundtrips Albany to Springfield. Stops include Albany, Pittsfield, Springfield, Worcester, Framingham, Boston Back Bay, and South stations.

The federal government's Corridor ID Program to expand passenger rail is separate but related in that MassDOT's efforts have been accepted into that program and will get funding support.

CSX owns Worcester to Albany and has been a good partner. The travel time between Pittsfield and Boston is not yet known. There was an acknowledgment that the "last mile" is an issue in the Berkshires, referring to how people get to and from trains. Andy is a former BRPC Transportation intern and welcomes questions or input. Andrew.m.koziol@dot.state.ma.us

VI. Vote to Authorize the BRPC Chair to Vote to Approve the FFY 2025-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) at the May 28, 2024 Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Meeting

The Transportation Improvement Program for the Berkshires establishes the projects that will receive the limited federal transportation funds in the region. The Commission's review of the draft TIP document and associated vote guides the Chair on how to vote at the May 28th Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) meeting. See the plan at: berkshireplanning.org

Funding has been kept level, and costs have increased, so fewer projects will happen. Seventy-three projects are slated and were reviewed by Principal Transportation Planner Anuja Koirala. There are four categories of projects: highway improvements, intersections, bicycle/pedestrian trails, and bridges. There is a meeting with DPW Superintendents on June 27th to review the plan and process for submitting projects. Projects funded through the TIP do not need to come from towns' budgets.

Sam Haupt moved to direct the BRPC Chair to vote to approve the updated Transportation Improvement Program for the Berkshires establishing the projects that will receive the limited federal transportation funds in the region at the May 28, 2024 Berkshire Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) meeting.

Doug McNally seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a roll call vote: Diana Mott, Peter Traub, Mary McGurn, Pedro Pachano, Leanne Yinger, Buck Donovan, Sam Haupt, Sheila Irvin, Sari Hoy, Nancy Socha, Amanda Hamilton, Don Gagnon, Roger Bolton, and Doug McNally.

VII. Vote to Authorize the BRPC Chair to Vote to Approve the October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) at the June 25, 2024 Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO Meeting

The Unified Planning Work Program for FFY 2025 establishes the transportation planning work BRPC staff will be involved in for the coming year. The Commission instructs the BRPC Chair how to vote at the May 28 MPO meeting. FFY-25-UPWPDocument-PRELIM-DRAFT.DOC.pdf

Transportation Program Manager Clete Kus reviewed the plan. Key elements are:

- Management and Certification
- Technical support
- Planning studies
- Other Activities
    - Scenic byways
    - Transportation/land use planning

Doug McNally encouraged the exploration of hydrogen for BRTA buses and as a place to channel excess electricity from wind projects. Clete said there is a conversation about a bike path for Sheffield, and there is no plan yet.

Doug McNally moved to instruct the BRPC Chair to vote to approve the draft Unified Planning Work Program for FFY 2025, establishing the transportation planning work BRPC staff will support through September 2025.

Sam Haupt seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a roll call vote: Diana Mott, Peter Traub, Mary McGurn, Pedro Pachano, Leanne Yinger, Buck Donovan, Sam Haupt, Sheila Irvin, Sari Hoy, Nancy Socha, Amanda Hamilton, Don Gagnon, Roger Bolton, and Doug McNally.

VIII. Vote to Submit the 2024 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Performance Report

Laura Brennan, Assistant Director and Economic Development Program Manager, reviewed the 2024 CEDS Performance Report, due by June 30, 2024 which must be submitted annually to the U.S. Economic Development Administration.

Two highlights are that Berkshire County's median household income (MHI) increased 13.4% in 2021-2022 and was the highest compared to neighboring counties. Per capita income also increased. A few projects were removed and new ones were added.

It was discussed that there is a relationship between unemployment and median household income, although overtime unemployment numbers do not account for the lack of participation in the workforce. A lower cost of living in the Berkshires is no longer true

and is not an excuse for lower wages. Certificate programs for CDL drivers and HVAC technicians at Berkshire Community College are favorable developments. It was suggested that these be watched for their impact.

Kyle Hanlon moved to approve the submission of the 2024 CEDS Performance Report and any necessary edits, due by June 30, 2024, to the U.S. Economic Development Administration.

Roger Bolton seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a roll call vote: Diana Mott, Peter Traub, Mary McGurn, Pedro Pachano, Leanne Yinger, Buck Donovan, Sam Haupt, Sheila Irvin, Kyle Hanlon, Nancy Socha, Amanda Hamilton, Don Gagnon, Roger Bolton, and Doug McNally.

IX. Vote to Adopt the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission FY 2025 Budget

Per the BRPC bylaws, BRPC must adopt an annual budget for each fiscal year. The Finance and Executive Committees recommend the FY 2025 budget as presented in the meeting materials.

Marianne Sniezek, Administration Program Manager, said the proposed FY 2025 budget is conservative because it only shows known income and expenses. Numerous grant applications are pending and would change the budget if received. BRPC's budget is different from municipal budgets because it is not a controlling budget. Doug McNally noted that the budget emphasizes the Commission's important role in the county's economic development.

Doug McNally moved to approve the proposed FY 2025 budget as presented and recommended by the Finance Committee.

Pedro Pachano seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a roll call vote: Diana Mott, Peter Traub, Mary McGurn, Pedro Pachano, Leanne Yinger, Buck Donovan, Sam Haupt, Sheila Irvin, Kyle Hanlon, Nancy Socha, Amanda Hamilton, Don Gagnon, Roger Bolton, and Doug McNally.

X. Authorization for Executive Committee to Act on Behalf of the Commission

BRPC bylaws require Commission members to vote annually, confirming the Executive Committee's authorization to act in the name of and on behalf of the Commission. Details on three easy ways to vote are in a memo in the meeting materials and will be sent via email on Friday 5/17: Vote via email, SurveyMonkey poll, respond to the email, or mail a paper form. Prompt votes are needed so the Executive Committee can meet the first week in July.

XI. Executive Director's Report

A. Berkshire Benchmarks Indicator Update

Berkshire Benchmarks released the 2024 State of the County Update. It

highlights notable changes in the regional indicators, including comparisons to comparable counties, when possible. A few positive highlights include a continued increase in self-employed households making over $75,000 and the percentage of conservation framework land protected. The region has seen a decrease in asthma-related emergency department visits and the percentage of people aged 65 and older living alone. Other significant topics Berkshire Benchmarks is watching include housing, population change, and mental health.

B. Housing Listening Session

Tom encouraged people to add comments on the statewide housing plan. The plan and contact information for comments are at mass.gov.
There was a listening session at BCC on May 16, 2024.

XII. Adjournment

Roger Bolton motioned to adjourn, seconded by Pedro Pachano, and approved by roll call vote: Peter Traub, Pedro Pachano, Leanne Yinger, Buck Donovan, Sheila Irvin, Kyle Hanlon, Nancy Socha, Amanda Hamilton, Don Gagnon, Roger Bolton, and Doug McNally.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

BRPC
Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

MALCOLM FICK, Chair
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THOMAS MATUSZKO,
Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Delegates and Alternates, Berkshire Regional Planning Commission
FROM: Thomas Matuszko, Executive Director
DATE: July 26, 2024
SUBJ: Executive Committee Actions for
June 6, June 20, and July 2, 2024 Meetings

Per the BRPC bylaws, actions taken by the Executive Committee on the Commission's behalf are reported and presented for discussion at the next Commission meeting. The Executive Committee took the following actions at the June 6, June 20, and July 2, 2024 Executive Committee meetings.

Executive Committee Actions on June 6, 2024

Approved the minutes of the May 2, 2024, BRPC Executive Committee meeting

Approved the April 26 – May 30, 2024 Expenditures Report

Approved the submission of a grant application to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Section 319 Nonpoint Source Pollution Competitive Grant Program for $63,824 for a rain garden installation at the George B. Crane Memorial Center.

Voted to re-appoint Members to Special or Standing Committees or Commissions, not Under the Jurisdiction of the Commission:
- Westfield River Wild and Scenic, Doug McNally;
- Woodlands Partnership of Northwest Massachusetts, Chris Cozzaglio;
- MPO Alternate, Sam Haupt.

Approved amendments to BRPC's Professional Development Program, expanding eligibility and requiring repayment if Programs are not completed or employees leave before two years after completion.

Approved extending BRPC's Telework Policy for another fiscal year.

Authorized the Environmental Review Committee to submit Comments to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act Office, the City of North Adams Department of Public Services Expanded Environmental Notification Form (EENF) for the Mount Williams Reservoir Dam and Notch Reservoir Dam Improvements Projects.

Approved the first FY 25 meeting date of July 2 for the Executive Committee.

Executive Committee Actions on June 20, 2024

Approved the minutes of the June 6, 2024, BRPC Executive Committee meeting

Voted to delegate the response to the Open Meeting Law Complaint filed by Catherine Foster on June 6, 2024, to the BRPC Executive Director and Counsel.

Authorized the Executive Director to submit the following four grant applications and to sign any resulting contracts and agreements to the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs FY2025 Planning Assistance Grant Program.

1) Town of Great Barrington Open Space and Recreation Plan for $37,500
2) Town of Lee Downtown and Housing Zoning for $41,250
3) City of Pittsfield Open Space and Recreation Plan for $41,250
4) Town of Sheffield Zoning and Housing Advocacy for $33,750

Voted to ratify the comments the Environmental Review Committee prepared for the MEPA Office on the EENF regarding improvements to the aging Mount Williams Reservoir and Notch Reservoir dams and spillway and ancillary dam features in North Adams.

Approved the proposed structure for submitting comments on the US Department of Energy (DOE) process for the "National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor" (NIETC) designation and the proposed designation of the corridor that extends into New York state and traverses Windsor, Peru, Hinsdale, Dalton, Cheshire, Lanesborough, and Hancock in Berkshire County and before crossing into Franklin County, and authorize the Executive Director and BRPC staff to complete and submit the document.

Executive Committee Actions on July 2, 2024

Approved the minutes of the June 20, 2024, BRPC Executive Committee meeting

Approved the May 31, 2024 – June 27, 2024, Expenditures Report

Authorized the Executive Director to submit a grant application and sign any resulting contracts and agreements to the MA EEA Planning Assistance Grant program. The Berkshire County Priority Sites for Redevelopment Strategy will update and expand upon a Sites Strategy created by BRPC in 2014. The total amount requested is $50,000.00. A 25% match is required.

Approved the FY 2025 meeting schedule for the Executive Committee and Full Commission meetings.

BRPC
Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

June 21, 2024

Rebecca Tepper, Secretary
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114

Re: City of North Adams Mount Williams Reservoir Dam and Notch Reservoir Dam Improvements EENF, EEA#16835

Dear Secretary Tepper:

The Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) hereby submits comments on the Expanded ENF (EENF) for the City of North Adams Mount Williams Reservoir Dam and Notch Reservoir Dam Improvements Project (EEA#16835). The Project entails improvements to the Mount Williams Reservoir and Notch Reservoir dams, spillways, and other ancillary dam features. Both Dams are owned and operated by the City of North Adams and function as critical infrastructure for the City's Public Water Supply. The Project has met or exceeded MEPA review thresholds for a Mandatory Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and the proponent has requested a Single EIR.

The Mount Williams and Notch Reservoirs are the primary drinking water supplies for the City of North Adams. The Mount Williams Reservoir Dam was originally constructed in 1914 and has operated as the primary potable water source for the City for over 100 years. The Notch Reservoir Dam was originally constructed in 1895 and is the second principal potable surface water source for the City. Water from the Notch Reservoir directly supplements the Mount Williams Reservoir through the diversion structure via gravity pipe.

The dams are in Poor condition as defined by the Department of Conservation and Recreation's (DCR) Office of Dam Safety. The dams have also been classified as a High Hazard dams per the dam safety standards set forth at 302 CMR 10.00, Dam Safety regulations, meaning they would likely cause loss of life and serious damage to residential or commercial properties or important public utilities in the event of failure. Both dams require replacement of the existing spillways, regrading of the downstream slopes to meet current safety regulations, removal of woody vegetation on the dike and dam embankments, among other improvements.

BRPC supports the request for a Single EIR. This project is of critical importance as the reservoirs serve as public drinking water supply for the City of North Adams. BRPC suggests that the SEIR includes the following:

1. A Wetland Replication Plan which details the methods proposed to achieve indigenous wetland plant revegetation and erosion control in accordance with standard U.S. Soil Conservation Services methods. In addition, the Wetland Replication Plan should clearly establish a minimum duration of monitoring and procedures to ensure that the replicated wetland is established.
2. Provide detail with regard to the methods will be used to minimize the potential for the introduction of invasive species during construction and as the replicated wetland is established.
3. Provide additional information with regard to how the EJ communities will continue to be engaged as the project moves through design, permitting and construction onsite activities occur. As this project will take several years to complete it is important to continue to keep the public informed. In addition, the duration of this project will offer multiple opportunities to keep the public informed and engaged.

The BRPC Executive Committee endorsed these comments at their meeting on June 20, 2024.

Sincerely,

Thomas Matuszko
Executive Director

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Berkshire Regional Planning Commission
Environmental Review Report

June 13, 2024

SUBJECT:	**Mount Williams Reservoir Dam and Notch Reservoir Dam Improvements**
EOEEA#:	**16835**
LOCATION:	**North Adams**
REVIEW TYPE:	**EENF**
PROPONENT:	**City of North Adams, Department of Public Services**
COMMENTS DUE:	**June 21, 2024**

Project Description

The Project entails improvements to the aging Mount Williams Reservoir and Notch Reservoir dams and spillways, as well as other ancillary dam features. Both Dams are owned and operated by the City of North Adams and function as critical infrastructure for the City's Public Water Supply. The Project exceeds review thresholds set forth by the MEPA regulations requiring an ENF and a mandatory Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The proponent has requested that MEPA allow the preparation of a Single EIR in accordance with 301 CMR 11.06(8).

The Mount Williams Reservoir and Notch Reservoir are the primary drinking water supplies for the City of North Adams. The Mount Williams Reservoir Dam was originally constructed in 1914 and has operated as the primary potable water source for the City (Public Water Supply (PWS ID 1209000-04S) for over 100 years. The Notch Reservoir Dam was originally constructed in 1895 and is the second principal potable surface water source for the City (PWS ID 1209000-01). Water from the Notch Reservoir directly supplements the Mount Williams Reservoir through the diversion structure via gravity pipe that discharges into a brook within the Mount Williams Reservoir watershed.

Inspections completed by Tighe & Bond found the dams to be in Poor condition as defined by the Department of Conservation and Recreation's (DCR) Office of Dam Safety current rating guidelines. The dams have also been classified as a High Hazard dams per the dam safety standards set forth at 302 CMR 10.00, Dam Safety regulations, meaning they would likely cause loss of life and serious damage to residential or commercial properties or important public utilities in the event of failure.

<u>Required Permits & MEPA Thresholds</u>

The Project exceeds review thresholds set forth by the MEPA regulations requiring an ENF and mandatory Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Thresholds met or exceeded include the following:

- Greater than two acres of disturbance of designated priority habitat,
- Alteration of 1,000 or more SF of Outstanding Resource Waters (ORW),
- Alteration of ½ or more acres of any other wetlands (e.g., LUW, BLSF, ILSF, Riverfront Area, and
- Alteration of 10 or more acres of any other wetlands.

There are Environmental Justice (EJ) populations within a one (1) mile radius of the Project Sites. Per 301 CMR 11.06(7)(b), an EIR is also required in accordance with MEPA's Environmental Justice Protocols.

State Agency Permits required include Section 401 Water Quality Certification (MassDEP), Dam Safety Permit (DCR Office of Dam Safety), and Conservation and Management Permit (NHESP). Financial assistance includes funding from the Massachusetts Dam and Seawall Repair and Removal fund.

Project Design

At the Mount Williams Reservoir Dam, work will include:

- Replacement of the spillway and discharge channel,
- Regrading of the downstream slope of the dam to meet current safety regulations,
- Removal of woody vegetation on and within 20 feet of the dike and dam embankments,
- Extension of riprap on the upstream slope of the dam to the dam crest for erosion protection,
- Installation of a filter blanket and toe drain along the downstream toe of the slope of the dam,
- Replacement of low-level outlet gate valves, and
- Repair of the gatehouse and associated access bridge.

At the Notch Reservoir Dam, work will include:

- Replacement of the spillway,
- Regrading of the downstream slope of the dam to meet current safety regulations and installation of overtopping protection with articulated concrete blocks,
- Removal of woody vegetation on and within 20 feet of the dam embankment,
- Extension of riprap on the upstream slope of the dam to the dam crest for erosion protection,
- Installation of a filter blanket and toe drain along the downstream tow of the slope of the dam,
- Rehabilitation of the diversion structure,
- Construction of a new gatehouse and associated access bridge, and
- Demolition of the gatehouse, former municipal dog pound, and the vacant H.A. Chase House.

Alternatives Analysis

No Action or Dam Removal: Both the Mount Williams Reservoir Dam and the Notch Reservoir Dam are in Poor condition as defined by DCR's current rating guidelines and considered to have High Hazard Potential meaning they would likely cause loss of life and serious damage to residential or commercial properties, or important public utilities in the event of failure. Repairs are necessary to ensure public safety. Removal of the dams is not an option as they provide the majority of the public drinking water supply to the City of North Adams.

Mount Williams Reservoir Dam – Overtopping Protection: Another approach for increasing hydraulic capacity of the dam is to install overtopping protection in lieu of increasing spillway size. It should be noted that under this scenario, the reconstruction of the existing spillway and discharge channel would still be required due to their deteriorated condition. Articulated concrete blocks would be placed just below the surface of the downstream slope after the slope is regraded to a flatter degree. A 6-inch thick sacrificial layer of loam would be placed over the overtopping protection to establish a healthy stand of grass on the surface. This option could be completed at a lower cost and the spillway could be reconstructed without the need for widening. However, this would still allow flow to overtop the embankment which results in an inherent risk of failure and could cause damage to downstream areas.

Notch Reservoir Dam – Increase Spillway Capacity: The hydraulic capacity of the dam could be increased to meet the required design flow by increasing the length of the spillway weir, raising the embankment crest elevation to provide additional storage and freeboard, or lowering the spillway weir elevation to provide additional storage. These options would reduce the risk of overtopping. However, increasing the length of the spillway or raising the embankment would increase the footprint of the dam. Due to natural site constraints, the spillway can only be increased by ten feet which would not provide enough hydraulic capacity. Raising the dam embankment to provide enough hydraulic capacity would require

extending the downstream toe of the dam 90 feet from the existing toe, which is approximately double the extension that is needed just to regrade the existing downstream slope to meet the safety standards. Lowering the spillway weir to provide additional storage would reduce the available storage in the reservoir that, given this reservoir is a public water supply, is not advantageous to the City. In addition, a lower pool elevation as a result of the lower weir elevation would also reduce the available hydraulic head for transferring water through the diversion structure to the Mount Williams Reservoir where water is drawn from by the treatment plant.

Alternatives to Reservoir Drawdown: Drawdown of both reservoirs is necessary to access areas of the dam that must be modified in order to meet DCR's recommend dam safety standards (302 CMR 10.00). These include the embankments, primary spillway inlets, and the gatehouse installation at Notch Reservoir. Temporary cofferdams will be used around the primary spill inlet at Mount Williams Reservoir and the gatehouse installation area at Notch Reservoir to minimize the depth of drawdown needed to access these areas. It is not feasible to access the needed areas using only temporary cofferdams and dewatering measures without reservoir drawdown. The height of cofferdams that would be required would create unsafe working conditions.

Proposed Dam Repairs [Preferred]: The City's preferred approach is to install a larger spillway at the Mount Williams Reservoir Dam. While increasing the spillway capacity is slightly more costly compared to the overtopping protection alternative, it will allow the storm to flow through the spillway without overtopping the embankment, which limits the risk of a breach due to erosion during an overtopping event.

The recommended alternative for addressing hydraulic capacity at Notch Reservoir Dam is to provide overtopping protection on the embankment combined with a modest widening of the spillway by 10 feet. The downstream slope is recommended to be flattened to meet the required factors of safety. A gatehouse is also recommended on the upstream end of the low-level outlets to remove the consistently pressurized conduits through the embankment and to provide a means for the City to lower water levels in the event of an emergency or for maintenance purposes.

<u>Project Impacts</u>

Rare Species

According to the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) Atlas (15th edition, effective August 1, 2021), and MassGIS online mapping data (August 1, 2021), the Mount Williams Reservoir Dam Project Site is located within the limits of mapped Priority Habitats of Rare Species (PH 2026) and Estimated Habitats of Rare Wildlife (EH 1294). There is no mapped PH or EH at or near Notch Reservoir.

An information request was submitted to NHESP to determine the extent and type of state listed protected species within the Mount Williams Project Site. In a response dated March 1, 2023, NHESP provided a list of state-listed species within PH 2026 and EH 1294. Listed species include the Tule Bluet (*Enallagma carunculatum*), which is a damselfly and a Species of Special Concern and Gattinger's Panic-Grass (*Panicum philadelphicum ssp. Gattingeri*), which is a plant and a Species of Special Concern. Coordination with NHESP is ongoing to determine whether the Project will result in a take of state-listed species and determine avoidance and minimization strategies. A Notice of Intent will be submitted after the filing of this EENF and a copy will be sent to NHESP for a joint review under MESA.

Wetlands

Permanent and temporary impacts to wetland resource areas include permanent impacts to Inland Bank and Land under Water (LUW) for spillway replacement and dredging and permanent impacts to Bordering Vegetated Wetland at Notch Reservoir. Additional impacts to wetland resource areas include temporary impacts to LUW due to reservoir drawdown and both permanent and temporary impacts to Riverfront Area due to spillway replacement in the vicinity of Paull Brook at Mount Williams Reservoir and the installation of overtopping protection in the vicinity of Notch Brook at Notch Reservoir.

Inland Wetlands	Area (square feet) or Length (linear feet)	Temporary or Permanent Impact?
Bank (lf)	300 LF	P
Bordering Vegetated Wetlands	450 sf / 1,800 SF	T / P
Isolated Vegetated Wetlands	N/A	N/A
Land under Water	1,772,892 SF /6,850 SF	T / P
Isolated Land Subject to Flooding	N/A	N/A
Bordering Land Subject to Flooding	N/A	N/A
Riverfront Area	68,850 SF / 25,700 SF	T / P

The proposed work will result in approximately 1,800 sf of permanent impacts in BVW. The Proponent proposes to mitigate for these impacts with construction of an 1,800-sf wetland replication area. The proposed replication area is located within the same wetland system and as close to the lost area as practicable while avoiding ponding close to the toe slope of the dam embankment. The same ground water and surface elevation will be established in the replication area through grading. The replicated wetland will be located along the bank of Notch Brook and will have a direct hydraulic connection to the Brook. A Wetland Replication Plan will be prepared as part of the Single EIR which will detail the methods proposed to achieve indigenous wetland plant revegetation and erosion control in accordance with standard U.S. Soil Conservation Services methods.

Historic and Archaeological Resources

At the Mount Williams Reservoir Dam, work will include repair activities for the existing gatehouse and associated access bridge. At the Notch Reservoir Dam, work will include demolition of the deteriorated gatehouse, former municipal dog pound, and the H.A. Chase House. Separate Project Notification Forms (PNF) were submitted to the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) in February 2023. MHC responded with a determination that the Project will have "no adverse effect" on significant historic or archaeological properties.

BRPC Staff Comments

BRPC supports the request for a Single EIR. This project is of critical importance as the reservoirs serve as public drinking water reservoirs for the City of North Adams. Both dams are considered to be in Poor condition as defined by the Department of Conservation and Recreation's (DCR) Office of Dam Safety and have also been classified as a High Hazard dams per the dam safety standards. BRPC suggests that the SEIR includes the following:

1. A Wetland Replication Plan which details the methods proposed to achieve indigenous wetland plant revegetation and erosion control in accordance with standard U.S. Soil Conservation Services methods. In addition, the Wetland Replication Plan should clearly establish a minimum duration of monitoring and procedures to ensure that the replicated wetland is established.

2. Provide detail with regard to the methods will be used to minimize the potential for the introduction of invasive species during construction and as the replicated wetland is established.
3. Provide additional information with regard to how the EJ communities will continue to be engaged as the project moves through design, permitting and construction onsite activities occur. As this project will take several years to complete it is important to continue to keep the public informed. In addition, the duration of this project will offer multiple opportunities to keep the public informed and engaged.

BRPC
Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

MALCOLM FICK, Chair
JOHN DUVAL, Vice-Chair
SHEILA IRVIN, Clerk
BUCK DONOVAN, Treasurer
THOMAS MATUSZKO
Executive Director

Department of Energy
Grid Deployment Office
Attn: Gretchen Kershaw
VIA EMAIL: nietc@hq.doe.gov

June 24, 2024

RE: National Interest Electric Transmission Corridors (NIETC) Designation
New York-New England potential NIETC

The Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) welcomes the opportunity to submit comments and provide additional information about the potential New York-New England National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor (NIETC) Designation. It is our understanding that the Department of Energy (DOE) has established a goal to facilitate electric transmission development by setting forth a nonbinding process that DOE plans to follow to designate NIETCs pursuant to section 216(a) of the Federal Power Act (FPA), as amended by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). Within Berkshire County, the New York-New England corridor traverses the Towns of Hancock, Lanesborough, Cheshire, Dalton, Hinsdale, Windsor, and Peru.

The information provided within the attached town summaries is intended to assist the DOE in fulfilling its statutory requirements for NIETC designation under the FPA and ensure a well thought out, planned corridor that meets the region's energy goals while minimizing and mitigating impacts. In part, the attached summaries are intended to aid DOE in conducting a study of environmental impacts pursuant to National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other federal statutes, as efficiently and effectively as possible. To the maximum extent practicable, the town summaries are organized consistent with the required resource reports to include the following:

- General description of geographic boundaries,
- Water use and quality,
- Fish, wildlife, and vegetation,
- Cultural resources,
- Socioeconomics,
- Communities of interest,
- Geological resources
- Soils, and
- Land use recreation, and aesthetics.

Within each summary BRPC has highlighted and mapped specific areas that should be avoided to the maximum extent practicable by adjusting the width of the corridor or limiting the corridor to the existing transmission right-of-way. In addition, BRPC also calls to attention notable areas of interest within the corridor which should be given special consideration.

Area of Interest	Municipality	Landowner
Pittsfield State Forest	Hancock and Lanesborough	Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)
Constitution Hill and Farnhams Hill	Lanesborough	Berkshire Natural Resources Council (BNRC)
Farmland	Lanesborough	BNRC / Agricultural Preservation Restrictions (APRs) from the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (DAR)
Chalet Wildlife Management Area	Cheshire, Dalton	MassWildlife
Appalachian Trail	Dalton	National Park Service / DCR
Holiday Brook Farm	Dalton	Crane Family BNRC holds Conservation Restriction (CR), DAR holds APR
Wahconah Falls State Park	Dalton, Windsor	DCR
Dalton Watershed	Hinsdale, Peru	MassWildlife holds CR
Pittsfield Watershed	Hinsdale	City of Pittsfield
Peru Wildlife Management Area	Peru, Windsor	Dalton Water District MassWildlife holds CR
Notchview	Windsor	Trustees of Reservations
Westfield River Access	Windsor	MassWildlife

We appreciate that each NIETC is a geographic area where DOE has identified present or expected transmission capacity constraints or congestion that adversely affects consumers based on its triennial National Transmission Needs Study (Needs Study) or other relevant information. The high cost of electricity is a detriment to the residents and businesses in Berkshire County. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), in Massachusetts the average commercial electricity rate is 17.46 ¢/kWh (36% higher than the national average) while the average residential electricity rate is 23.64 ¢/kWh (41% higher than the national average). The 2023-2027 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Berkshire County approved by the U.S. Economic Development Administration, states "The high cost of utilities, most notably electricity, remains a threat to the growth of our Manufacturing sector" as one of the greatest threats to the Berkshire economy. (2023-2027-Berkshire-County-CEDS.pdf (berkshireplanning.org) As identified by 1Berkshire, the official Regional Economic Development Organization and Regional Tourism Council of Berkshire County in their Berkshire Blueprint 2.0 and Five Year Benchmark report, the cluster of advanced manufacturing and digital enterprise cluster is one of the largest contributors of GDP to the regional economy. This report also stresses the need to reduce energy costs. Blueprint 2.0|The Future of Berkshire County|1Berkshire Current electricity rates have significant impacts to the socioeconomic within Berkshire County. While there is the potential that new transmission would allow load in high-priced markets to draw energy from a larger set of generators and lower electricity costs in high-priced regions, the need to balance the benefits and the impacts should not be lost and it is critical that benefits of any new transmission be realized within Berkshire County.

The Berkshire County economy is heavily dependent upon our natural resources and outdoor recreation. Again, the Berkshire Blueprint Five Year Benchmark report identifies the Outdoor Recreation

sector as a quickly growing and evolving regional driver. Significant public and private investments have been made recently, especially following the pandemic when use of outdoor recreational facilities soared. Reducing electric burdens and increasing reliability has the potential to unlock new economic opportunities but the outdoor economy that Berkshire County currently relies on should not suffer detrimental effects in the process. The Town of Windsor serves as the headwaters of the congressionally designated Wild and Scenic Westfield River. The Appalachian National Scenic Trial is in the towns of Hinsdale, Dalton and Cheshire. Impacts to these two nationally significant outdoor recreational assets must be minimized.

The majority of land within the proposed corridor is forested. The towns of Peru, Windsor and Cheshire are members of the Woodlands Partnership of Northwest Massachusetts, ABOUT MOHAWK TRAIL WOODLANDS PARTNERSHIP (mohawktrailwoodlandspartnership.org). Authorized by the Massachusetts legislature and recognized by the U.S. Forest Service the Woodlands Partnership is a public body that exists to conserve the forests in the region and enhance the region's rural, land based economy. A large largely clear cut corridor would be contrary to those goals. Further, it is important to acknowledge that the Healey-Driscoll Administration recently pursued the *Forests as Climate Solutions Initiative,* Forests as Climate Solutions|Mass.gov, due to the critical role forests play in addressing climate change. Conservation and effective management of forest land, based on the latest science, are an essential element to ensuring crucial carbon storage and advancing climate change resilience and should be given due consideration.

Phase 3 of the NIETC designation process is described as the public engagement phase, which includes refining geographic boundaries of potential NIETCs and conducting community engagement. It will be of the utmost importance that DOE works with each town if the designation advances toward Phase 3. As a Home Rule state, self-governance in Massachusetts is important to take into consideration and each Select Board must be engaged with amble notice as the designation process progresses. When initiating Phase 3, BRPC encourages DOE to engage in a robust public outreach process, including the following:

- In-person meetings with each Select Board
- A minimum of one regional convening
- Extended public comment periods on public review documents(minimum 60-90 days)
- The preparation of a draft NEPA filing for public review and comment
- Press releases and announcements as appropriate
- Individual information mailings to each property owner
- Consultation with the Berkshire Natural Resources Council, MA Division of Fisheries & Wildlife (MassWildlife), MA Department of Conservation and Recreation, MA Department of Agricultural Resources, National Park Service, US Forest Service, Appalachian Trail Conservancy, Trustees of Reservations, and the Berkshire Environmental Action Team (BEAT)

In summary, BRPC recommends that if the New York-New England potential National Interest Energy Transmission Corridor moves to Phase 3 the following items be addressed:

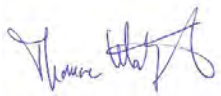
- A clear explanation why the existing Eversource Right of Way corridor is not adequate to accommodate additional transmission capacity
- A clear explanation and rational for expanding the corridor beyond the existing Eversource Right of Way
- If the existing Eversource Right of Way is not deemed adequate and the corridor needs to be expanded the corridor should be narrowed to include the minimum width necessary and not include those areas in the attached maps labeled "Avoidance Areas"

- A clear description of the economic benefits the residents of Berkshire County would realize through an expanded corridor.

Finally, The National Transmission Needs Study – Final 2023.12.1 identifies variable energy resource (VER) generation (solar, wind) as causing unique grid reliability concerns and specifically calls out ISO-NE as being impacted, leading to the initial designation of the New York-New England NIETC. Massachusetts is at the forefront of developing and utilizing VER generation to accomplish ambitious Greenhouse Gas Emission reduction goals. If the corridor needs to be expanded to accommodate additional transmission, that energy should be generated by non-fossil fuel sources.

The BRPC Executive Committee endorsed these comments at their meeting on June 20, 2024.

Sincerely,



Thomas Matuszko
Executive Director

Cc. Congressman Richard Neal
Senator Elizabeth Warren
Senator Edward Markey
Governor Maura Healey
Secretary Rebecca Tepper, Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
Melissa Hoffer, Climate Chief, Massachusetts Office of Climate Innovation and Resilience
Select Boards, Towns of Peru, Windsor, Dalton, Hinsdale, Cheshire, Lanesborough, Hancock

Attachments:
- Town Summaries
- Maps
- Data Tables

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National Interest Electric Transmission Corridors (NIETC) Designation

New York-New England Potential NIETC

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission Summary of Town Resources

It is BRPC's understanding that DOE intends to conduct a study of impacts on resources, as appropriate, as part of DOE's designation of a NIETC. To assist DOE in assessing the impacts of a potential NIETC designation, BRPC provides the following Phase 2 information submission. The intent is to provide descriptions of any known or potential environmental and cumulative effects resulting from a potential NIETC designation, including visual, historic, cultural, economic, social, or health effects thereof. BRPC has organized the information with town-by-town summaries including resources consistent with those described on pages 48-54 of the Guidance on Implementing Section 216(a) of the Federal Power Act to Designate National Interest Electric Transmission Corridors. In addition, BRPC has provided town-by-town maps of suggested avoidance areas where DOE is encouraged to reduce the width of the corridor or limit the corridor to the existing transmission line right-of-way to avoid impacts to natural resources, significant features or densely developed neighborhoods. A detailed series of town maps and supporting data are included as Appendix A.

Town of Cheshire, Massachusetts

The Town of Cheshire is a rural northern Berkshire County community with 3,258 residents. Nestled in the valley of the South Branch Hoosic River, most of the center of Town is built around this river and its tributaries. Mount Greylock rises to the west of town which contains parts of Mount Greylock State Reservation. To the southeast the Appalachian Trail crosses through North Mountain of the Hoosac Range and continues the center of town toward Mount Greylock. The Cobbles, Ashuwillticook Trail, and Appalachian Trail offer scenic hiking and viewing opportunities within the town. Cheshire is one of roughly 40 towns designated as an Appalachian Trail community, with 6 miles of trail running through the town that can take northbound explorers to Mount Greylock's summit. The 418-acre Cheshire Reservoir provides additional outdoor activities.

Resource Report 1—General description of geographic boundaries
The Town of Cheshire has a population of 3,258 based on the 2020 US Census. The total town area is 17,610.64 acres with 957.17 acres located within the proposed 1 mile corridor. While the area is primarily forested there are 64 parcels and 69 buildings located within the proposed corridor.

Resource Report 2—Water use and quality
Within the 1 mile corridor there are 34.04 acres of Interim Wellhead Protection Area / Zone II and two public water supplies.[1] These water supplies should be avoided to the maximum extent practicable reducing the width of the corridor to minimize potential impacts to drinking water supplies.

[1] Source: MassGIS Public Water Supplies (https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massgis-data-public-water-supplies)

Resource Report 3—Fish, wildlife, and vegetation

There are 2.39 miles of cold water fisheries and 16.94 acres of state listed endangered species habitat according to the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program.[2] In addition, over 49% of the corridor is considered BioMap 2 Core Habitat (410.82 acres) and BioMap 2 Critical Natural Landscapes (471.35 acres). Within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, BioMap identifies areas that are most critical for biodiversity conservation at multiple spatial scales. Core Habitats are areas that are critical for the long-term survival of rare species, natural communities, and ecosystems. They include habitats for a variety of species, such as mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, invertebrates, and plants. Core habitats also include high-quality wetlands, vernal pools, aquatic habitats, coastal habitats, and intact forest ecosystems. Critical Natural Landscape identifies large landscape blocks that are minimally impacted by development, as well as buffers to core habitats which enhance connectivity and resilience. Endangered species habitat should be avoided to the maximum extent practicable reducing the width of the corridor to minimize impacts to habitat, including limiting the corridor to the existing transmission line right-of-way where feasible.

Resource Report 7—Communities of interest

As a rural community that could be affected by a NIETC designation, the Town of Cheshire is considered a community of interest.

Resource Report 8—Geological resources

Nearly 36% of the land within the corridor is Carbonite Karst Geology (343.29 acres). Karst landscapes feature caves, underground streams and sinkholes on the surface. Karst terrain poses potential geological hazards and areas of nonroutine geotechnical concern. Karst terrain should be avoided to the maximum extent practicable reducing the width of the corridor to minimize potential hazards, including limiting the corridor to the existing transmission line right-of-way where feasible.

Resource Report 9—Soils[3]

Prime agricultural soils (240.5 acres) and unique soils (29.09 acres) make up 28% of the corridor. Unique soils are defined as soils confined to mucks, peats, and coarse sands.

Resource Report 10—Land use, recreation, and aesthetics

There are 343.88 acres of protected land, which make up nearly 36% of the corridor. The majority of the protected lands are state protected lands (338 acres) with 5.88 acres protected by land trusts. The corridor is primarily forest, however, densely developed areas can be found within the corridor along Brough Road and Route 8.[4] Densely developed areas should be avoided to the maximum extent practicable reducing the width of the corridor to minimize impacts to both residential and commercial areas, including limiting the corridor to the existing transmission line right-of-way.

The Chalet Wildlife Management Area (Chalet WMA) is owned and managed by the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (MassWildlife) and is within the Towns of Cheshire, Dalton,

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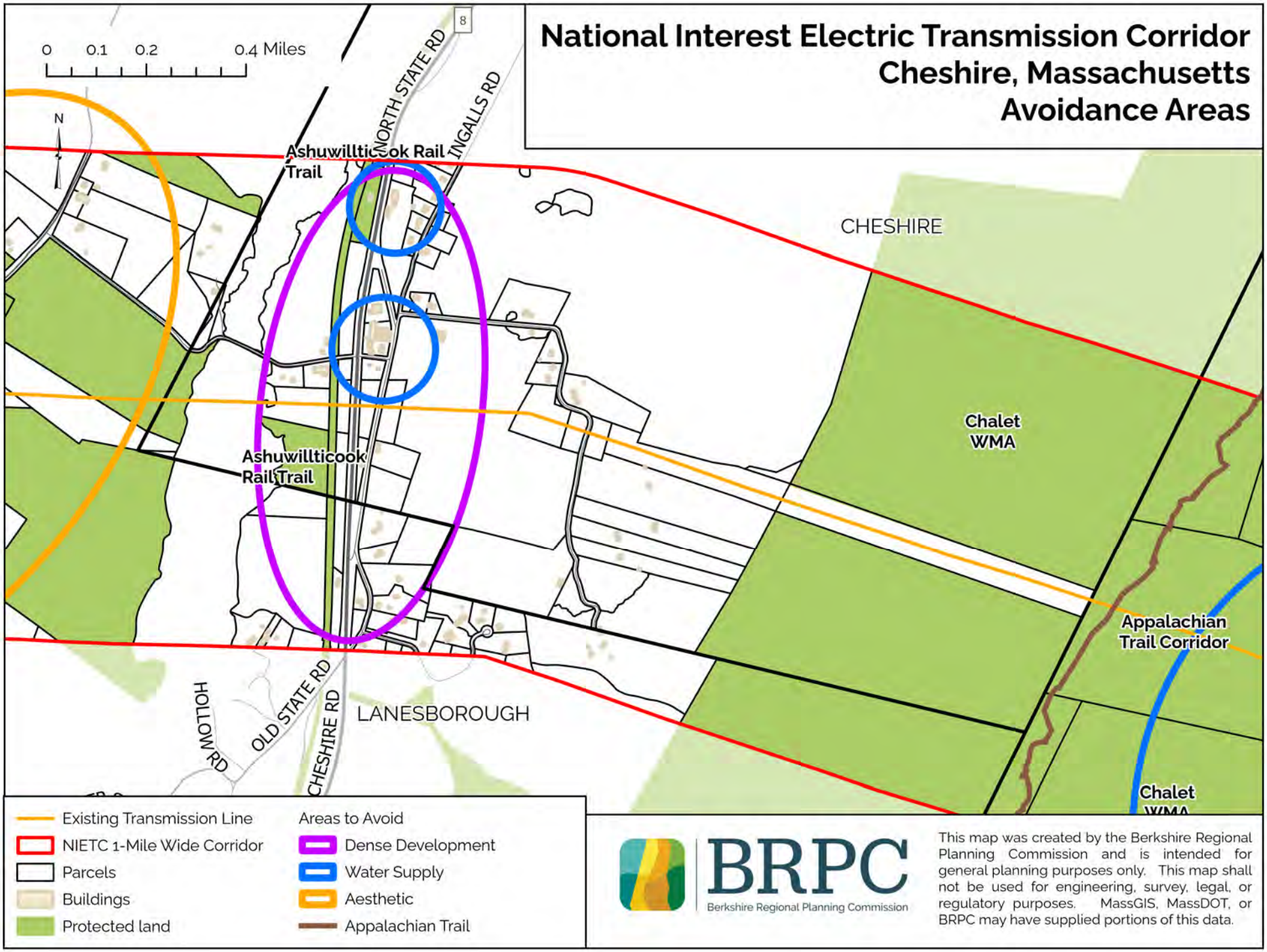
[2] Source: MassGIS NHESP Priority Habitats of Rare Species (https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massgis-data-nhesp-priority-habitats-of-rare-species)

[3] Source: MassGIS Soils SSURGO-Certified NRCS (https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massgis-data-soils-ssurgo-certified-nrcs)

[4] Source: MassGIS 2016 Land Use

Lanesborough, and Windsor. MassWildlife owns and manages over 220,000 acres of land to conserve fish and wildlife habitats and provide access for outdoor recreation. All WMAs are open to hunting, fishing, trapping, and other outdoor recreation activities. WMAs are intentionally wild and while public access is allowed at the Chalet WMA visitors will find natural landscapes rather than maintained trails. Several fields along the northern part of the parcel are managed under license agreement for agricultural use. These fields are kept open through haying to provide habitat for ground-nesting bird species. The Chalet WMA includes a large area of forest which provides a variety of opportunities to see wildlife. Moose inhabit the area. The Appalachian Trail runs through the western part of the management area. At the headwaters of Tyler Brook, on the Dalton/Windsor line, is a red spruce swamp, an uncommon type of forested wetland.


National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor
Cheshire, Massachusetts
Avoidance Areas
0 0.1 0.2 0.4 Miles
N
8
NORTH STATE RD
INGALLS RD
Ashuwillticook Rail Trail
CHESHIRE
Chalet WMA
Ashuwillticook Rail Trail
Appalachian Trail Corridor
HOLLOW RD
OLD STATE RD
CHESHIRE RD
LANESBOROUGH
Chalet WMA
Existing Transmission Line
NIETC 1-Mile Wide Corridor
Parcels
Buildings
Protected land
Areas to Avoid
Dense Development
Water Supply
Aesthetic
Appalachian Trail
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Town of Dalton, Massachusetts

The Town of Dalton is a mill town located in central Berkshire County with a population of approximately 6,330. Due to Dalton's topography and rich milling history, many residents live near the Housatonic River's East Branch. Dalton's mix of urban centers, suburban neighborhoods, and rural surroundings gives the town its identity as a "transition town" between the urban and rural spheres of the Berkshires. This mix is best encapsulated by Dalton's official designation as an Appalachian Trail Town, as the trail bisects Dalton, and hikers take advantage of the town's restaurants, laundry facilities, stores, and other services. Dalton has a diverse natural environment with extensive wetlands and over 5,000 acres of "core habitat," as the town contains watersheds of both the Housatonic and Hoosic Rivers. The Town's wetlands offer extensive ecosystem services to Dalton and neighboring communities, such as servicing Pittsfield's drinking water supply and providing flood storage and control.

Resource Report 1—General description of geographic boundaries
The Town of Dalton has a population of 6,330 based on the 2020 US Census. The total town area is 13,996.15 acres with 2,170.56 acres located within the proposed 1 mile corridor. While the area is primarily forested there are 88 parcels and 122 buildings located within the proposed corridor.

Resource Report 2—Water use and quality
Within the 1 mile corridor there are 828.16 acres of surface water supplies which supply drinking water to the Town of Dalton and the City of Pittsfield.[1] Over 38.2% of the proposed corridor is made up of lands that serve surface water supplies. There are 1,737.75 acres of protected land, which make up 80% of the corridor.[2] The majority of the protected land is state protected lands (1,036.46 acres), with 36.64 acres of federally protected land and 71.18 acres of municipally owned land protected for surface water supplies. An additional 593.47 acres is privately owned, deed restricted protected land. Surface water supply watersheds should be avoided to the maximum extent practicable reducing the width of the corridor to exclude the surface water supply watersheds from the corridor and minimize potential impacts to drinking water supplies. Federally protected lands associated with the Appalachian Trail should be avoided and the corridor narrowed or restricted to the existing transmission right-of-way.

Resource Report 3—Fish, wildlife, and vegetation
There are 4.44 miles of cold water fisheries and 43.18 acres of state listed endangered species habitat according to the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program.[3] In addition, over 64% of the corridor is considered BioMap 2 Core Habitat (1,267.57 acres) and Critical Natural Landscapes (1,398.01 acres).[4] Within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, BioMap identifies areas that are most critical for biodiversity conservation at multiple spatial scales. Core Habitats are areas that are critical for the long-term survival of rare species, natural communities, and ecosystems. They include habitats for a variety of species, such as mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, invertebrates, and plants. Core

[1] Source: MassGIS Public Water Supplies (https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massgis-data-public-water-supplies)
[2] Source: BRPC Open Space GIS layer
[3] Source: MassGIS NHESP Priority Habitats of Rare Species (https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massgis-data-nhesp-priority-habitats-of-rare-species)
[4] Source: https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massgis-biomap2

habitats also include high-quality wetlands, vernal pools, aquatic habitats, coastal habitats, and intact forest ecosystems. Critical Natural Landscape identifies large landscape blocks that are minimally impacted by development, as well as buffers to core habitats which enhance connectivity and resilience. Endangered species habitat should be avoided to the maximum extent practicable reducing the width of the corridor to minimize impacts to habitat, including limiting the corridor to the existing transmission line right-of-way where feasible.

Resource Report 4—Cultural resources
There are 6 historic buildings/sites within the Town. These include the Dalton District #5 Schoolhouse (aka North Street School), Flintstone Farm, Sweet Water, and the Alvan Cleveland House and Farm. Additional sites include 240 Cleveland Rd and 1097-1099 North St. The significance of these sites include agriculture, architecture, community planning, education, and industry. Architectural styles include Greek Revival, Italianate, and Federal.

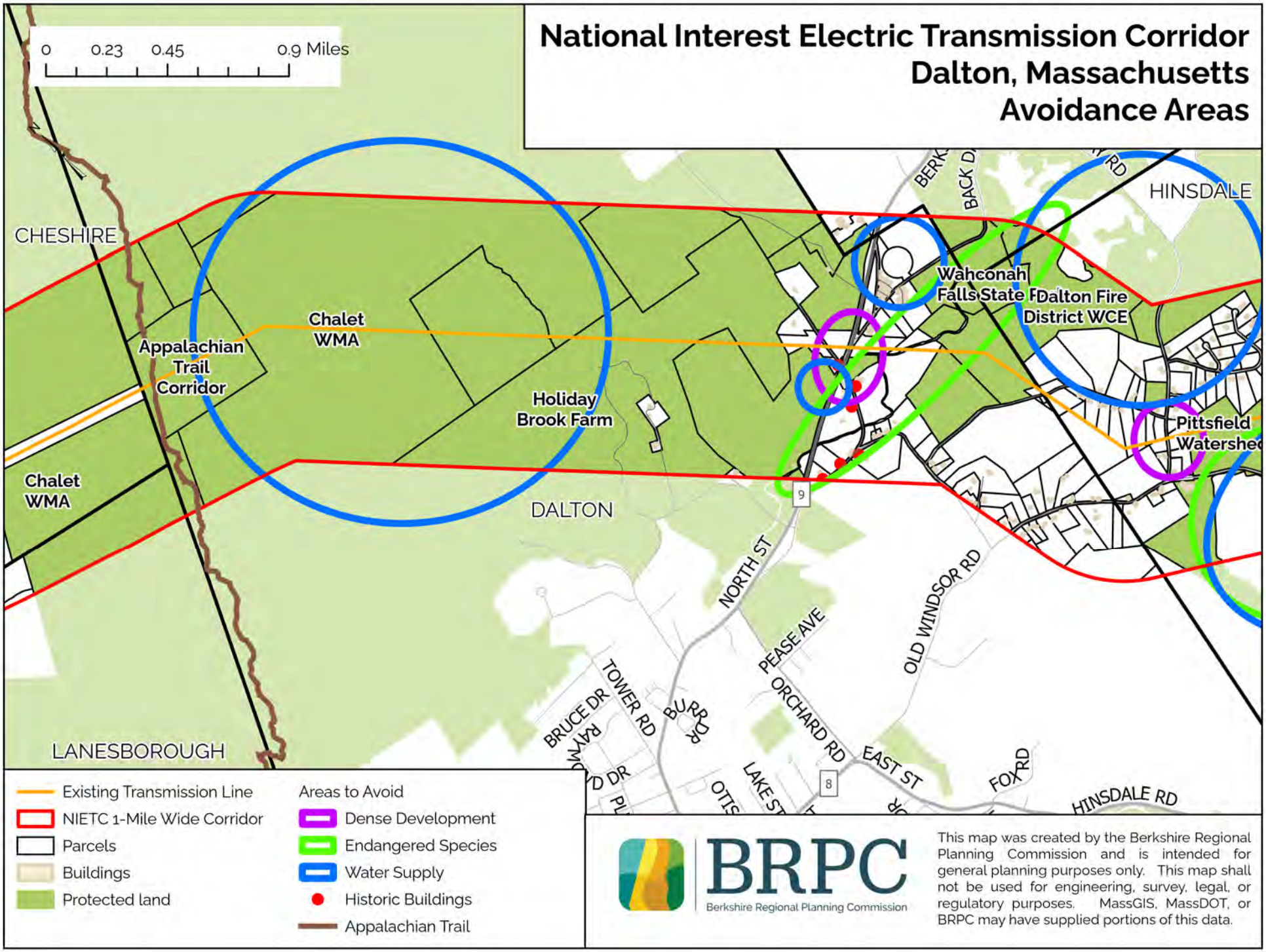
Resource Report 7—Communities of interest
As a rural community that could be affected by a NIETC designation, the Town of Dalton is considered a community of interest. In addition, portions of the Town have been identified as environmental justice areas by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs.

Resource Report 9—Soils[5]
Both prime agricultural soils (242.94) make up 11% of land within the corridor.

Resource Report 10—Land use, recreation, and aesthetics
The corridor is primarily forest, however, densely developed residential areas can be found within the corridor along Mobile Terrace, Johnson Road, and Old Windsor Road.[6] Densely developed residential areas should be avoided to the maximum extent practicable reducing the width of the corridor to minimize impacts to residential areas, including limiting the corridor to the existing transmission line right-of-way.

[5] Source: MassGIS Soils SSURGO-Certified NRCS (https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massgis-data-soils-ssurgo-certified-nrcs)
[6] Source: MassGIS 2016 Land Use

National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor
Dalton, Massachusetts
Avoidance Areas



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Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

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Town of Hancock, Massachusetts

The Town of Hancock is a quiet, peaceful town about twenty miles long and three miles wide, bordered on the east by the famous Berkshire hills, and on the west by the rugged Taconic range. Hancock is the longest and narrowest town in Berkshire County. The northern portion of the town is separated from the southern portion by a mountain. One has to drive through a couple of towns to the east or drive west into New York to get from one end to the other. The town's small population is supplemented by many second-home owners, many of whom are located in and around Jiminy Peak Mountain resort. The ski mountain, Jiminy Peak, is also the most prominent local economic provider, contributing significantly to the town's annual tax income. The second largest economic driver in town is Ioka Valley Farm, a family-run farming business which has diversified to offer both local and tourist attractions year-round. Ioka Valley Farm brings in tourists from across the county for car shoes, pumpkin and berry picking, corn mazes, hay rides, and being a large local producer of maple syrup.

Resource Report 1—General description of geographic boundaries
The Town of Hancock has a population of 757 based on the 2020 US Census. The total town area is 22,873.64 acres with 1,591.84 acres located within the proposed 1 mile corridor. While the area is primarily forested there are 117 parcels and 162 buildings located within the proposed corridor.

Resource Report 2—Water use and quality
Within the 1 mile corridor there is one public water supply and 12.82 acres of Interim Wellhead Protection Area / Zone II.[1] There are 290.05 acres of protected land, all of which are owned by the state.[2] Public water supplies should be avoided to the maximum extent practicable reducing the width of the corridor to exclude the surface water supply watersheds from the corridor and minimize potential impacts to drinking water supplies.

Resource Report 3—Fish, wildlife, and vegetation
Over 70% of the corridor is considered BioMap 2 Core Habitat (373.5 acres) and BioMap 2 Critical Natural Landscapes (1,085.09 acres). Within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, BioMap identifies areas that are most critical for biodiversity conservation at multiple spatial scales. Core Habitats are areas that are critical for the long-term survival of rare species, natural communities, and ecosystems. They include habitats for a variety of species, such as mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, invertebrates, and plants. Core habitats also include high-quality wetlands, vernal pools, aquatic habitats, coastal habitats, and intact forest ecosystems. Critical Natural Landscape identifies large landscape blocks that are minimally impacted by development, as well as buffers to core habitats which enhance connectivity and resilience.

Resource Report 4—Cultural resources
There are 33 historic buildings one historic site (Babcock Barn Museum) within the Town. The significance of these sites include agriculture, architecture, community planning, education, commerce, religion, politics government and industry. Architectural styles include Greek Revival, Italianate, Victorian

[1] Source: MassGIS Public Water Supplies (https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massgis-data-public-water-supplies)
[2] Source: BRPC Open Space GIS layer

Eclectic, Second Empire, Colonial, Shingle Style, Georgian, Craftsman and Federal. A complete list of historic resources can be found in the appendix.

Resource Report 7—Communities of interest
As a rural community that could be affected by a NIETC designation, the Town of Hancock is considered a community of interest.

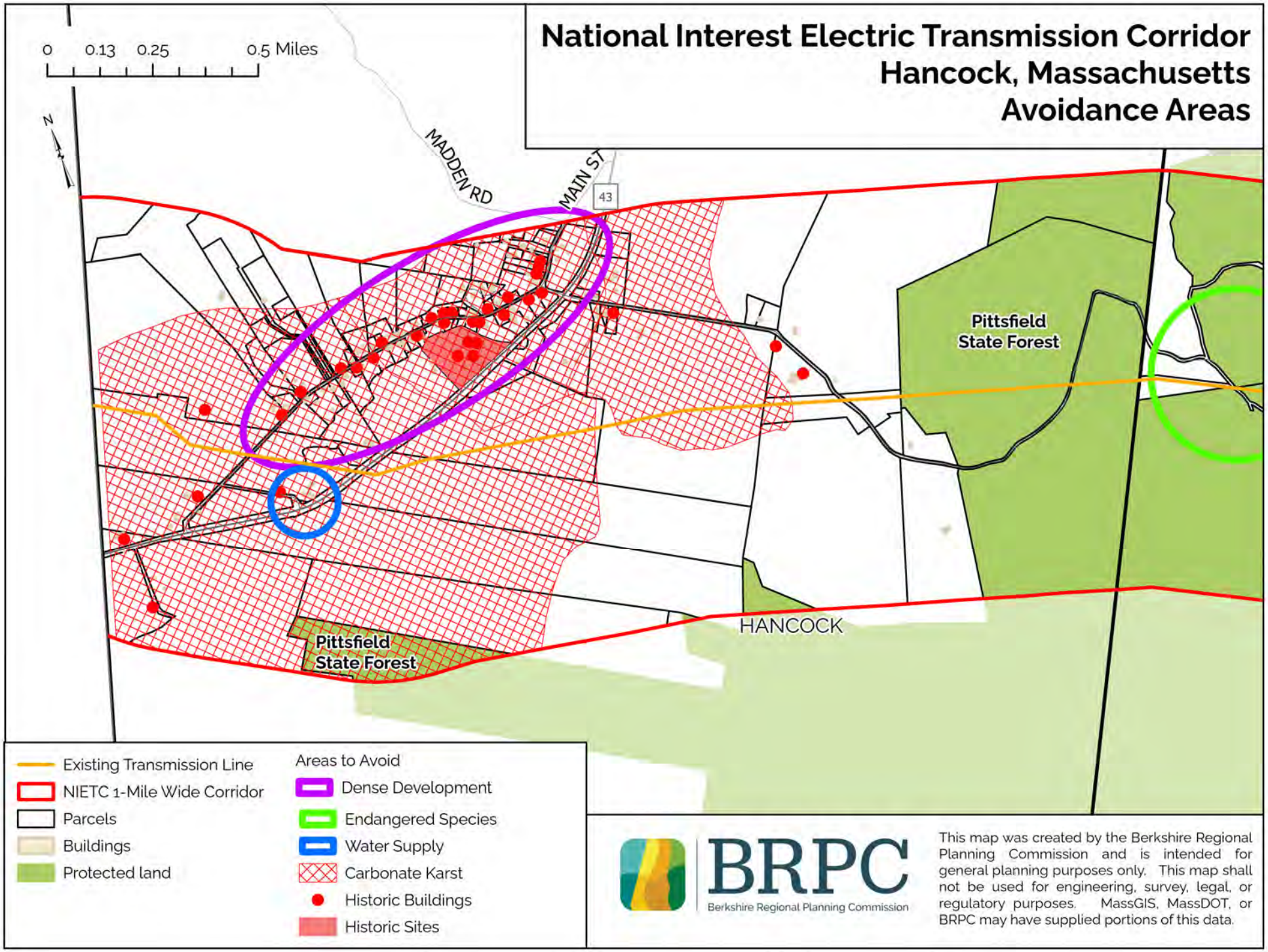
Resource Report 8—Geological resources
Nearly 50% of the land within the corridor is Carbonite Karst Geology (779.25 acres). Karst landscapes feature caves, underground streams and sinkholes on the surface. Karst terrain poses potential geological hazards and areas of nonroutine geotechnical concern. Karst terrain should be avoided to the maximum extent practicable reducing the width of the corridor to minimize potential hazards, including limiting the corridor to the existing transmission line right-of-way where feasible.

Resource Report 9—Soils[3]
Approximately 35% of the corridor is prime agricultural soils (554.95 acres). Over 50% of the corridor is excessively drained and/or highly erodible soils, 795.81 and 250.72 acres respectively. Prime agricultural soils should be avoided to the maximum extent practicable reducing the width of the corridor to minimize impacts to farmland, including limiting the corridor to the existing transmission line right-of-way where feasible.

Resource Report 10—Land use, recreation, and aesthetics
The corridor is primarily forest, however, densely developed residential areas can be found within the corridor along Main Street and Potter Mountain Road.[4] The proposed corridor also runs along the main access to the Taconic crest trail which links Hancock to both the New York portion of the trail and the section crossing through Pittsfield State Forest into Lanesborough. Densely developed residential areas should be avoided to the maximum extent practicable reducing the width of the corridor to minimize impacts to residential areas, including limiting the corridor to the existing transmission line right-of-way.

[3] Source: MassGIS Soils SSURGO-Certified NRCS (https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massgis-data-soils-ssurgo-certified-nrcs)
[4] Source: MassGIS 2016 Land Use

National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor
Hancock, Massachusetts
Avoidance Areas



BRPC
Berkshire Regional Planning Commission

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Town of Hinsdale, Massachusetts

Hinsdale is a rural town tucked away in the "Hilltowns" region of Western Massachusetts. The town prides itself on supporting a robust local economy with many public services that rural towns often lack. Hinsdale is a beacon for outdoor recreation as its numerous recreational assets are carefully stewarded by the town and partner organizations. Many residents are employed in Pittsfield and surrounding towns. Hinsdale is best known for its several summer camps, attracting families from across the northeast and beyond. These camps have transformed Hinsdale into a charming bedroom community with a population that swells in the summer as lakeside homes and woodland cabins are filled by seasonal residents, vacationers, and families seeking a restorative outdoor retreat. Water is one of Hinsdale's greatest assets, as most of the town is within the Hinsdale Flats Watershed ACEC. This watershed provides Hinsdale and nearby communities with clean drinking water and harbors outstanding wildlife diversity and recreational opportunities, as numerous rivers, brooks, and lakes are scattered across town.

Resource Report 1—General description of geographic boundaries
The Town of Hinsdale has a population of 1,919 based on the 2020 US Census. The total town area is 13,883.8 acres with 1,816.42 acres located within the proposed 1 mile corridor. While the area is primarily forested there are 81 parcels and 77 buildings located within the proposed corridor.

Resource Report 2—Water use and quality
Within the 1 mile corridor there are 421.76 acres of surface water supplies which supply drinking water to the Town of Dalton and the City of Pittsfield.[1] Over 23% of the proposed corridor is made up of lands that serve surface water supplies. In addition, there are 251.97 acres of wetlands which make up nearly 14% of the proposed corridor.[2] There are 1,202.03 acres of protected land, which make up over 66% of the corridor.[3] State protected lands include 18.78 acres, while the majority of the protected land is municipally owned land protected for surface water supplies. Surface water supply watersheds should be avoided to the maximum extent practicable reducing the width of the corridor to exclude the surface water supply watersheds from the corridor and minimize potential impacts to drinking water supplies.

Resource Report 3—Fish, wildlife, and vegetation
There are 4.09 miles of cold water fisheries and 221.35 acres of state listed endangered species habitat according to the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program.[4] In addition, over 51% (940.96 acres) of the corridor is considered BioMap 2 Critical Natural Landscapes.[5] Within the Commonwealth of Masssachustts, BioMap identifies areas that are most critical for biodiversity conservation at multiple spatial scales. Critical Natural Landscape identifies large landscape blocks that are minimally impacted by development, as well as buffers to core habitats which enhance connectivity and resilience. Endangered species habitat should be avoided to the maximum extent practicable

[1] Source: MassGIS Public Water Supplies (https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massgis-data-public-water-supplies)
[2] Source: National Wetland Inventory
[3] Source: BRPC Open Space GIS layer
[4] Source: MassGIS NHESP Priority Habitats of Rare Species (https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massgis-data-nhesp-priority-habitats-of-rare-species)
[5] Source: https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massgis-biomap2

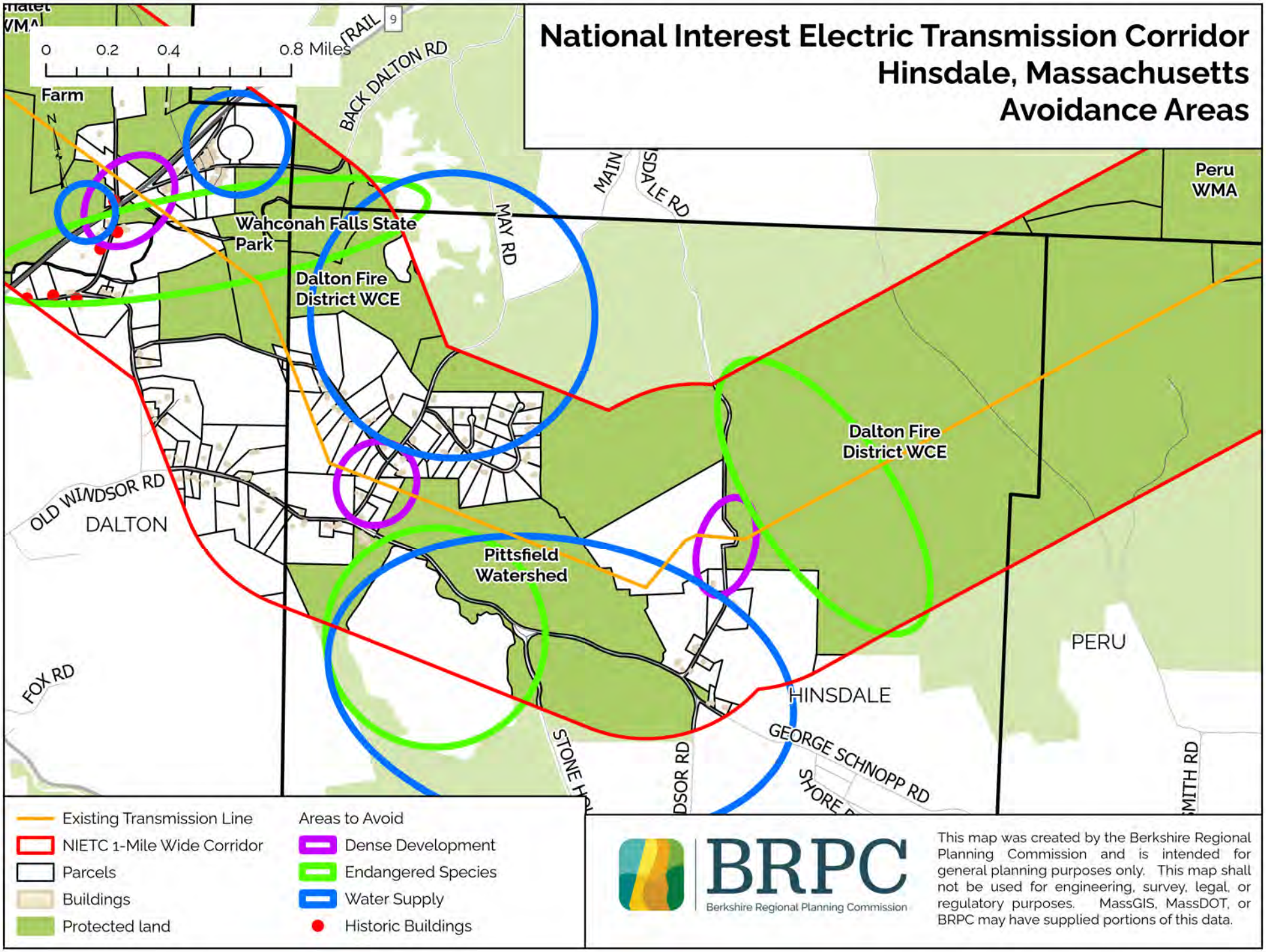
reducing the width of the corridor to minimize impacts to habitat, including limiting the corridor to the existing transmission line right-of-way where feasible.

Resource Report 7—Communities of interest
As a rural community that could be affected by a NIETC designation, the Town of Hinsdale is considered a community of interest. In addition, portions of the Town have been identified as environmental justice areas by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs.

Resource Report 9—Soils[6]
Both prime agricultural soils (21.66 acres) and unique soils (47.19 acres) are located within the corridor. Unique soils are defined as soils confined to mucks, peats, and coarse sands.

Resource Report 10—Land use, recreation, and aesthetics
The corridor is primarily forest, however, densely developed residential areas can be found within the corridor along Forest Hill, Adams Road, and Old Windsor Road.[7] Densely developed residential areas should be avoided to the maximum extent practicable reducing the width of the corridor to minimize impacts to residential areas, including limiting the corridor to the existing transmission line right-of-way.

[6] Source: MassGIS Soils SSURGO-Certified NRCS (https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massgis-data-soils-ssurgo-certified-nrcs)
[7] Source: MassGIS 2016 Land Use


National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor
Hinsdale, Massachusetts
Avoidance Areas
0
0.2
0.4
0.8 Miles
Farm
BACK DALTON RD
MAIN
ISDALE RD
Peru
WMA
Wahconah Falls State
Park
MAY RD
Dalton Fire
District WCE
Dalton Fire
District WCE
OLD WINDSOR RD
DALTON
Pittsfield
Watershed
PERU
FOX RD
HINSDALE
GEORGE SCHINOPP RD
STONE
SHORE
SMITH RD
Existing Transmission Line
NIETC 1-Mile Wide Corridor
Parcels
Buildings
Protected land
Areas to Avoid
Dense Development
Endangered Species
Water Supply
Historic Buildings
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Town of Lanesborough, Massachusetts

The Town of Lanesborough is centrally located in Berkshire County. Rich in history and culture, Berkshire County is home to artist colonies, retirement communities, small cities, and rural towns. Lanesborough is located north of the City of Pittsfield with the Taconic Mountain Range to the west and the Hoosic Mountain Range to the east. These mountains have historically limited development to the flat land of the valley where mill industries arose along the Hoosic River to the northeast and the Housatonic River to the south. The Town of Lanesborough has several outdoor attractions, including the southern entrance to Mount Greylock, which has the highest elevation in Massachusetts. Balance Rock of the Pittsfield State Forest, the Ashuwillticook Rail Trail, and Pontoosuc Lake are also noteworthy sights and spaces to experience. Additionally, over 2.5 miles of the Appalachian Trail run through Lanesborough.

Resource Report 1—General description of geographic boundaries
The Town of Lanesborough has a population of 3,038 based on the 2020 US Census. The total town area is 18,934.19 acres with 3,496.82 acres located within the proposed 1 mile corridor. While the area is primarily forested there are 321 parcels and 323 buildings located within the proposed corridor.

Resource Report 2—Water use and quality
Within the 1 mile corridor there are 218.52 acres of wetlands which make up 6% of the proposed corridor.[1] Within the corridor there is 163.08 acres of Interim Wellhead Protection Area / Zone II and one public water supply. These areas should be should be avoided to the maximum extent practicable reducing the width of the corridor to minimize impacts to drinking water supplies, including limiting the corridor to the existing transmission line right-of-way where feasible.

Resource Report 3—Fish, wildlife, and vegetation
There are 4.14 miles of cold water fisheries and 255.87 acres of state listed endangered species habitat according to the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program.[2] In addition, over 68% of the corridor is considered BioMap 2 Core Habitat (262.84 acres) and BioMap 2 Critical Natural Landscapes (2,126.98 acres).[3] Within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, BioMap identifies areas that are most critical for biodiversity conservation at multiple spatial scales. Core Habitats are areas that are critical for the long-term survival of rare species, natural communities, and ecosystems. They include habitats for a variety of species, such as mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, invertebrates, and plants. Core habitats also include high-quality wetlands, vernal pools, aquatic habitats, coastal habitats, and intact forest ecosystems. Critical Natural Landscape identifies large landscape blocks that are minimally impacted by development, as well as buffers to core habitats which enhance connectivity and resilience. Endangered species habitat should be avoided to the maximum extent practicable reducing the width of the corridor to minimize impacts to habitat, including limiting the corridor to the existing transmission line right-of-way where feasible.

[1] Source: National Wetland Inventory
[2] Source: MassGIS NHESP Priority Habitats of Rare Species (https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massgis-data-nhesp-priority-habitats-of-rare-species)
[3] Source: https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massgis-biomap2

Resource Report 7—Communities of interest

As a rural community that could be affected by a NIETC designation, the Town of Lanesborough is considered a community of interest. In addition, portions of the Town have been identified as environmental justice areas by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs.

Resource Report 8—Geological resources

Nearly 60% of the land within the corridor is Carbonite Karst Geology (2,070.25 acres). Karst landscapes feature caves, underground streams and sinkholes on the surface. Karst terrain poses potential geological hazards and areas of nonroutine geotechnical concern. Karst terrain should be avoided to the maximum extent practicable reducing the width of the corridor to minimize potential hazards, including limiting the corridor to the existing transmission line right-of-way where feasible.

Resource Report 9—Soils[4]

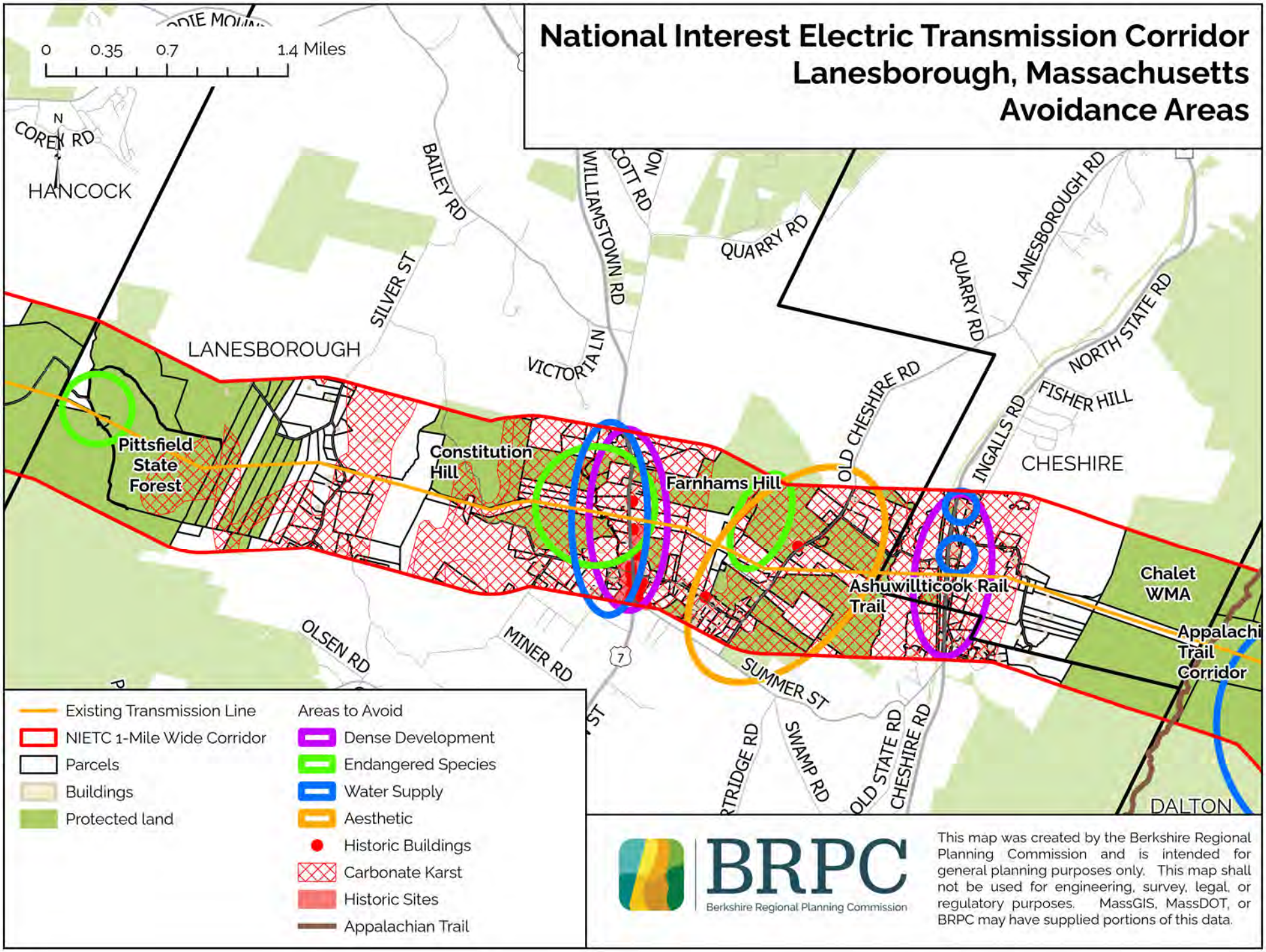
Over 41% of the corridor is prime agricultural soils (1,442.09 acres). Nearly 30% of the corridor is excessively drained and/or highly erodible soils, 849.91 and 159.5 acres respectively. Prime agricultural soils should be avoided to the maximum extent practicable reducing the width of the corridor to minimize impacts to farmland, including limiting the corridor to the existing transmission line right-of-way where feasible.

Resource Report 10—Land use, recreation, and aesthetics

There are 1,419.21 acres of protected land, which make up over 40.6% of the corridor. State protected lands include 666.7 acres with 20.8 acres of municipally owned land protected. However, the majority of the protected lands are protected by land trusts (300.82 acres) and privately protected deed restricted lands (430.91 acres). The corridor is primarily forest, however, densely developed residential areas can be found within the corridor in along portions of Route 7, Prospect Street, and Bridge Street.[5] Densely developed residential areas should be avoided to the maximum extent practicable reducing the width of the corridor to minimize impacts to residential areas, including limiting the corridor to the existing transmission line right-of-way.

The Berkshire Natural Resources Council (BNRC) High Road is a trail system which is being developed that links town centers to trails throughout the Berkshires. This includes linkages between Constitution Hill, Farnhams Hill and an agricultural preservation restriction on Square Roots Farm in Cheshire that will link to the Ashuwillticook Rail Trail. These areas along with several farms in Lanesborough with Agricultural Preservation Restrictions (APR) held by the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR) should be avoided to the maximum extent practicable reducing the width of the corridor to minimize impacts to historic, cultural, recreational, agricultural and scenic lands including limiting the corridor to the existing transmission line right-of-way.

[4] Source: MassGIS Soils SSURGO-Certified NRCS (https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massgis-data-soils-ssurgo-certified-nrcs)
[5] Source: MassGIS 2016 Land Use


National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor
Lanesborough, Massachusetts
Avoidance Areas
0 0.35 0.7 1.4 Miles
N
HANCOCK
COREY RD
BAILEY RD
SILVER ST
WILLIAMSTOWN RD
QUARRY RD
LANESBOROUGH RD
NORTH STATE RD
FISHER HILL
LANESBOROUGH
VICTORIA LN
OLD CHESHIRE RD
INGALLS RD
CHESHIRE
Pittsfield State Forest
Constitution Hill
Farnhams Hill
Ashuwillticook Rail Trail
Chalet WMA
Appalachian Trail Corridor
OLSEN RD
MINER RD
SUMMER ST
SWAMP RD
OLD STATE RD
CHESHIRE RD
DALTON
Existing Transmission Line
NIETC 1-Mile Wide Corridor
Parcels
Buildings
Protected land
Areas to Avoid
Dense Development
Endangered Species
Water Supply
Aesthetic
Historic Buildings
Carbonate Karst
Historic Sites
Appalachian Trail
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Town of Peru, Massachusetts

Peru is a rural bedroom community on the eastern edge of the Berkshires that supports both the Pittsfield and Springfield metropolitan areas. The town has one of the lowest populations and population densities in the commonwealth with 814 residents. The town's minimal development allows it to boast an impressive number of outdoor recreational spaces, as most of Peru consists of forested public land. The town's geography earned it the name "Peru" in reference to the mountainous, high-elevation South American country. Peru is known for having the highest town center in Massachusetts at just over 2,000 feet—it is also the highest in any New England state other than Vermont. Peru is highly forested, with the Peru Wildlife Management Area and Peru State Forest alone taking up almost half of the town's total land area. The town's high elevation means there is very little standing water, though Tracy Pond offers a beautiful setting for warm water fishing or paddling. This pond is part of the greater Hinsdale Flats Watershed ACEC, which rests on Peru's western edge with additional bodies of water consisting of Bilodeau, Kilburn, Tracy, and Tracy Brooks.

Resource Report 1—General description of geographic boundaries
The Town of Peru has a population of 814 based on the 2020 US Census. The total town area is 16,663.08 acres with 592.22 acres located within the proposed 1 mile corridor. The area is primarily forested with 7 parcels and 1 building located within the proposed corridor.

Resource Report 2—Water use and quality
Within the 1 mile corridor there are 83.28 acres of surface water supply in the Town of Peru that serve the Town of Dalton.[1] There are 585.26 acres of protected land, which make up nearly 99% of the corridor.[2] State protected lands include 168.04 acres, while the majority of the protected land (417.22 acres) is municipally owned land protected for surface water supplies. Surface water supply watersheds should be avoided to the maximum extent practicable reducing the width of the corridor to exclude the surface water supply watersheds from the corridor and minimize potential impacts to drinking water supplies.

Resource Report 3—Fish, wildlife, and vegetation
The entirety of the corridor (100%) is considered BioMap 2 Core Habitat (558.19 acres) and BioMap 2 Critical Natural Landscapes (592.23 acres). Within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, BioMap identifies areas that are most critical for biodiversity conservation at multiple spatial scales. Core Habitats are areas that are critical for the long-term survival of rare species, natural communities, and ecosystems. They include habitats for a variety of species, such as mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, invertebrates, and plants. Core habitats also include high-quality wetlands, vernal pools, aquatic habitats, coastal habitats, and intact forest ecosystems. Critical Natural Landscape identifies large landscape blocks that are minimally impacted by development, as well as buffers to core habitats which enhance connectivity and resilience.

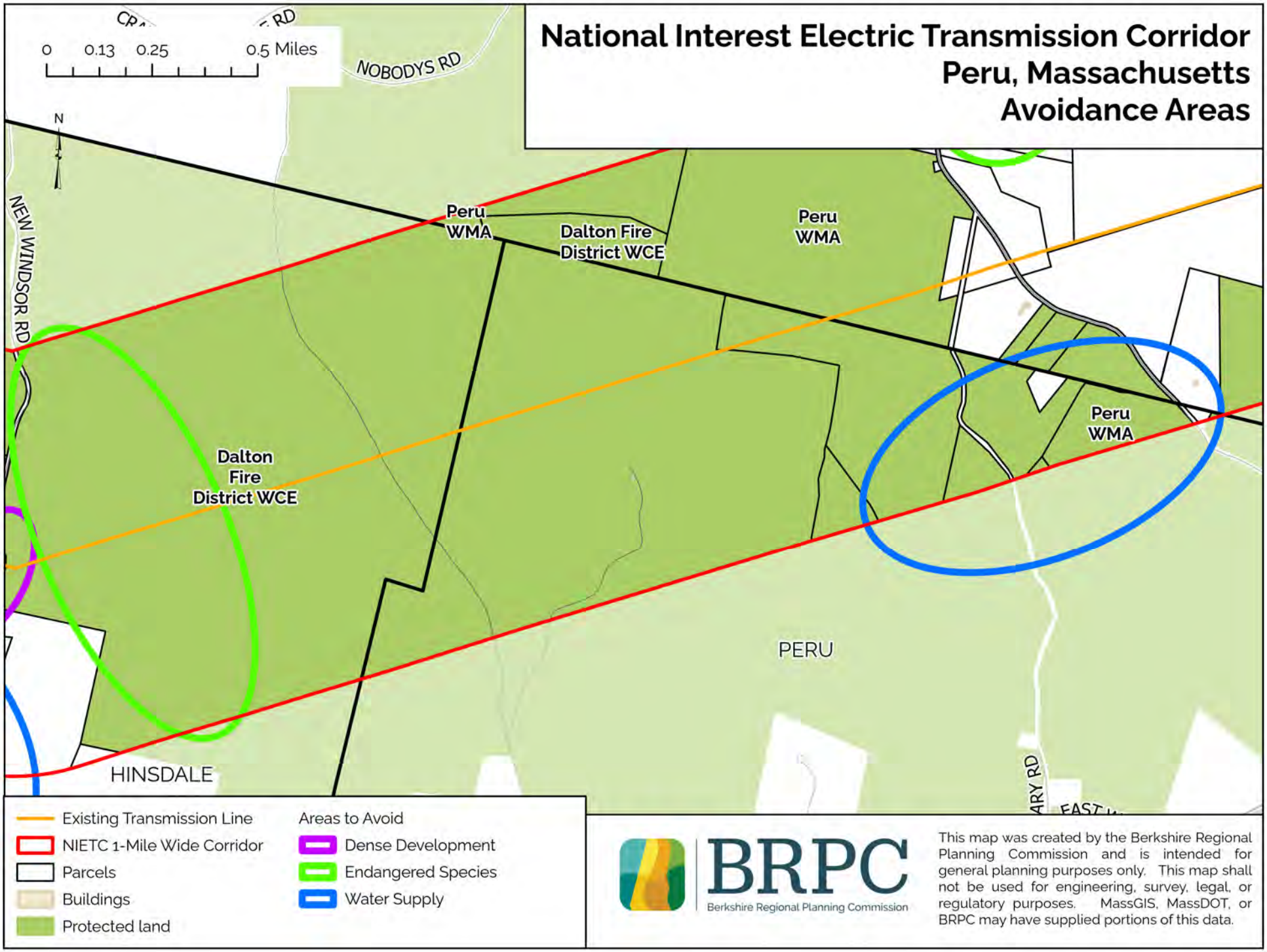
[1] Source: MassGIS Public Water Supplies (https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massgis-data-public-water-supplies)
[2] Source: BRPC Open Space GIS layer

Resource Report 7—Communities of interest

As a rural community that could be affected by a NIETC designation, the Town of Peru is considered a community of interest.

Resource Report 10—Land use, recreation, and aesthetics

The Peru Wildlife Management Area (WMA) is owned and managed by the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (MassWildlife). MassWildlife owns and manages over 220,000 acres of land to conserve fish and wildlife habitats and provide access for outdoor recreation. All WMAs are open to hunting, fishing, trapping, and other outdoor recreation activities. The Peru WMA is a large management area consisting of multiple parcels totaling over 4,800 acres spread across the towns of Windsor and Peru. The property is comprised of northern hardwoods, primarily maples, birches, white ash, black cherry and American beech, along with considerable red spruce, hemlock, and some white pine. Remnants of old apple orchards, beaver ponds, and meadows are scattered throughout the property. Trout Brook and Fuller Brook run through the property. WMAs are intentionally wild and while public access is allowed at the Peru WMA visitors will find natural landscapes rather than maintained trails. Small fields are maintained off of Peru Road in Windsor to create pheasant cover and habitat for ground-nesting birds. Native brook trout can be found in Trout Brook and Fuller Brook. These streams are also stocked with trout by MassWildlife. The large area and varied habitat of this WMA provide excellent wildlife viewing opportunities. Moose can be found on the property as well as various songbird species. It is a great area for snowshoeing in the winter.


National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor
Peru, Massachusetts
Avoidance Areas
0 0.13 0.25 0.5 Miles
N
NOBODYS RD
NEW WINDSOR RD
Peru WMA
Dalton Fire District WCE
Peru WMA
Peru WMA
Dalton Fire District WCE
PERU
HINSDALE
Existing Transmission Line
NIETC 1-Mile Wide Corridor
Parcels
Buildings
Protected land
Areas to Avoid
Dense Development
Endangered Species
Water Supply
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Town of Windsor, Massachusetts

The Town of Windsor is a rural community with a population just over 800, located on Berkshire County's eastern border with Hampshire County. MA Route 9 runs through the heart of Windsor, connecting Berkshire County with the Pioneer Valley and making Windsor a commonly traveled town. The Town's pristine wilderness and rich history attract residents who seek an escape into the country but value a tightly-knit community with opportunities for local events and active participation in the community. The Town is nestled atop an expansive plateau at approximately 2,000 feet, containing multiple wildlife preserves and undeveloped forests that boast impressive biological diversity and offer numerous recreational opportunities. The Town of Windsor serves as the headwaters of the congressionally designated Wild and Scenic Westfield River. Notchview Reservation, a Trustees of Reservations property, is Windsor's most popular recreational asset as it attracts snowsports enthusiasts from across the region for its outstanding cross-country skiing. The Windsor State Forest contains Windsor Jambs, a beautiful waterfall cascading through granite cliffs.

Resource Report 1—General description of geographic boundaries
The Town of Windsor has a population of 831 based on the 2020 US Census. The total town area is 22,503.50 acres with 2,922.20 acres located within the proposed 1 mile corridor. While the area is primarily forested there are 154 parcels and 151 buildings located within the proposed corridor.

Resource Report 2—Water use and quality
Within the 1 mile corridor there are 15.24 acres of surface water supplies which serve as part of the water supply for the City of Springfield.[1] There are 858.23 acres of protected land, which make up 29.4% of the corridor.[2] State protected lands include 599.65 acres, with 34.04 acres of municipal protected lands, 136.01 acres of land trust protected lands, and 88.53 acres of privately owned deed-restricted protected lands. Surface water supply watersheds should be avoided to the maximum extent practicable reducing the width of the corridor to exclude the surface water supply watersheds from the corridor and minimize potential impacts to drinking water supplies.

Resource Report 3—Fish, wildlife, and vegetation
There are 6.77 miles of cold water fisheries and 170.37 acres of state listed endangered species habitat according to the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program.[3] In addition, over 50% of the corridor is considered BioMap 2 Core Habitat (312.83 acres) and Critical Natural Landscapes (1248.75 acres).[4] Within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, BioMap identifies areas that are most critical for biodiversity conservation at multiple spatial scales. Core Habitats are areas that are critical for the long-term survival of rare species, natural communities, and ecosystems. They include habitats for a variety of species, such as mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, invertebrates, and plants. Core habitats also include high-quality wetlands, vernal pools, aquatic habitats, coastal habitats, and intact forest ecosystems. Critical Natural Landscape identifies large landscape blocks that are minimally

[1] Source: MassGIS Public Water Supplies (https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massgis-data-public-water-supplies)
[2] Source: BRPC Open Space GIS layer
[3] Source: MassGIS NHESP Priority Habitats of Rare Species (https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massgis-data-nhesp-priority-habitats-of-rare-species)
[4] Source: https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massgis-biomap2

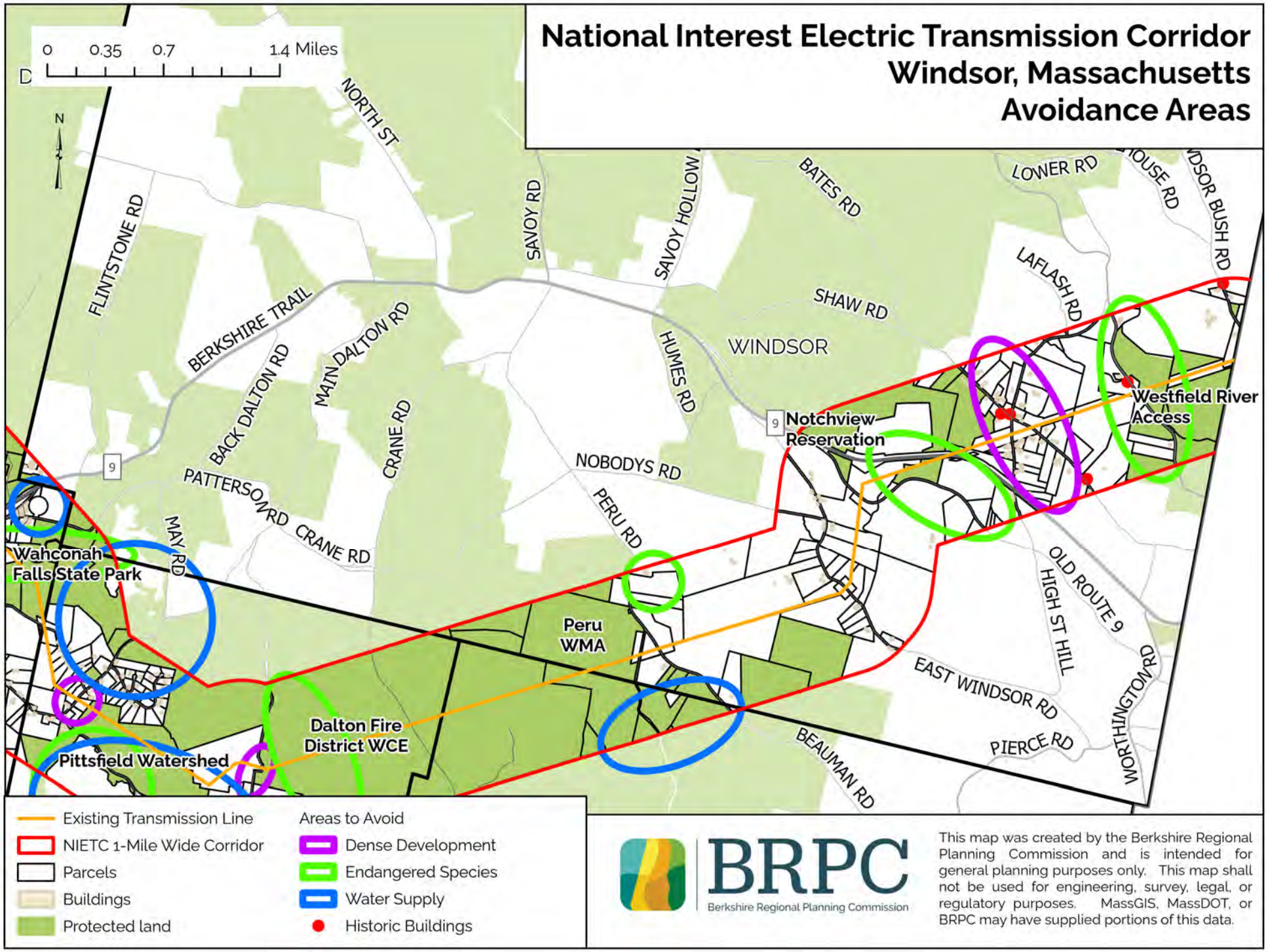
impacted by development, as well as buffers to core habitats which enhance connectivity and resilience. Endangered species habitat should be avoided to the maximum extent practicable reducing the width of the corridor to minimize impacts to habitat, including limiting the corridor to the existing transmission line right-of-way where feasible.

Resource Report 7—Communities of interest
As a rural community that could be affected by a NIETC designation, the Town of Windsor is considered a community of interest.

Resource Report 9—Soils[5]
Prime agricultural soils (91.18 acres) are located within the corridor, along with excessively drained soils (447.57 acres), highly erodible soils (69.08 acres) and hydric soils (421.55 acres).

Resource Report 10—Land use, recreation, and aesthetics
The corridor is primarily forest, however, densely developed residential areas can be found within the corridor along Old Windsor Road, Shaw Road and High Street Hill, and East Windsor Road.[6] Densely developed residential areas should be avoided to the maximum extent practicable reducing the width of the corridor and limiting the corridor to the existing transmission line right-of-way where it intersects with densely developed areas.

[5] Source: MassGIS Soils SSURGO-Certified NRCS (https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massgis-data-soils-ssurgo-certified-nrcs)
[6] Source: MassGIS 2016 Land Use


National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor
Windsor, Massachusetts
Avoidance Areas
0 0.35 0.7 1.4 Miles
N
NORTH ST
FLINTSTONE RD
SAVOY RD
SAVOY HOLLOW
BATES RD
LOWER RD
HOUSE RD
WINDSOR BUSH RD
LAFLASH RD
SHAW RD
WINDSOR
BERKSHIRE TRAIL
BACK DALTON RD
MAIN DALTON RD
CRANE RD
HUMES RD
Westfield River Access
Notchview Reservation
NOBODYS RD
PERU RD
PATTERSON RD
CRANE RD
MAY RD
Wahconah Falls State Park
Peru WMA
Dalton Fire District WCE
Pittsfield Watershed
OLD ROUTE 9
HIGH ST HILL
EAST WINDSOR RD
WORTHINGTON RD
PIERCE RD
BEAUMAN RD
Existing Transmission Line
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Town of Cheshire Massachusetts

General Town Information

2020 Population	3,258
Median Household Income (2018-2022 ACS)	$72,485
Total Land Area (acres)	17,610.64
1-mile Wide NIETC Corridor (acres)	957.17
Number of Parcels within the Corridor	64
Number of Buildings within the Corridor	69

Resources	*Acres/Miles*	*Percent of Corridor*
Aquifers (acres)	6.54	0.7%
Public Water Supplies (count)	2	
Interim Wellhead Protection Area / Zone II (Acres)	34.04	3.6%
Surface Water Supply Watershed (acres)	0	0.0%
BioMap 2 Core Habitat (acres)	410.82	42.9%
BioMap 2 Critical Natural Landscapes (acres)	471.35	49.2%
Certified Vernal Pools (count)	0	0.0%
Cold Water Fisheries (miles)	2.39	0.2%
Endangered Species Habitat (acres)	16.94	1.8%
Living Waters Core Habitat (acres)	48.49	5.1%
Carbonite Karst Geology (acres)	343.29	35.9%
Excessively Drained Soils (acres)	316.03	33.0%
Highly Erodible Soils (acres)	106.04	11.1%
Hydric Soils (acres)	34.16	3.6%
Prime Agricultural Soils (acres)	240.5	25.1%
Unique Soils (acres)	29.09	3.0%
Historic Buildings/Sites (count)	2	
Protected Land (total acres)	343.88	35.9%
Federal Protected Land(acres)	0	0.0%
State Protected Land (acres)	338	35.3%
Municipal Protected Land (acres)	0	0.0%
Land Trust Protected Land (acres)	5.88	0.6%
Private Protected Land (deed restriction) (acres)	0	0.0%
Streams (miles)	4.22	0.4%
Wetlands Total (acres)	98.68	10.3%
Freshwater Emergent Wetland (acres)	8.31	0.9%
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland (acres)	30.74	3.2%
Freshwater Pond (acres)	2.82	0.3%

Lake (acres)	49.34	5.2%
Riverine (acres)	7.47	0.8%

Land Use	*Acres/Miles*	*Percent of Corridor*
Agriculture (acres)	2.53	0.3%
Bare Land (acres)	6.85	0.7%
Commercial (acres)	1.05	0.1%
Cultivated (acres)	41.83	4.4%
Deciduous Forest (acres)	525.72	54.9%
Developed Open Space (acres)	26.60	2.8%
Evergreen Forest (acres)	165.54	17.3%
Forest (acres)	0.00	0.0%
Grassland (acres)	39.64	4.1%
Industrial (acres)	0.09	0.0%
Mixed Use, other (acres)	2.58	0.3%
Mixed Use, Residential (acres)	0.00	0.0%
Open Land (acres)	0.24	0.0%
Palustrine Aquatic Bed (acres)	43.87	4.6%
Palustrine Emergent Wetland (acres)	5.65	0.6%
Palustrine Forested Wetland (acres)	21.47	2.2%
Palustrine Scrub/Shrub Wetland (acres)	3.63	0.4%
Pasture/Hay (acres)	40.72	4.3%
Residential - Multi-family (acres)	0.37	0.0%
Residential - Other (acres)	1.75	0.2%
Residential - single family (acres)	2.35	0.2%
Right-of-way (acres)	10.47	1.1%
Scrub/Shrub (acres)	4.88	0.5%
Tax Exempt (acres)	0.22	0.0%
Unknown (acres)	0.00	0.0%
Water (acres)	9.12	1.0%

Percent of Corridor is the percentage of any item within the 1-mile corridor in the town. Items may overlap, so percentages are not to be combined.

Town of Dalton Massachusetts

General Town Information

2020 Population	6330
Median Household Income (2018-2022 ACS)	$76,198
Total Land Area (acres)	13996.15
1-mile Wide NIETC Corridor (acres)	2170.56
Parcels	88
Buildings	122

Resources	*Acres/Miles*	*Percent of Corridor*
Aquifers (acres)	37.37	1.7%
Public Water Supplies (count)	2	
Interim Wellhead Protection Area / Zone II (Acres)	70.53	3.2%
Surface Water Supply Watershed (acres)	828.16	38.2%
BioMap 2 Core Habitat (acres)	1267.57	58.4%
BioMap 2 Critical Natural Landscapes (acres)	1398.01	64.4%
Certified Vernal Pools (count)	9	0.4%
Cold Water Fisheries (miles)	4.44	0.2%
Endangered Species Habitat (acres)	43.18	2.0%
Living Waters Core Habitat (acres)	1.37	0.1%
Carbonite Karst Geology (acres)	0	0.0%
Excessively Drained Soils (acres)	819.52	37.8%
Highly Erodible Soils (acres)	80.38	3.7%
Hydric Soils (acres)	55.08	2.5%
Prime Agricultural Soils (acres)	242.94	11.2%
Unique Soils (acres)	4.81	0.2%
Historic Buildings/Sites (count)	6	
Protected Land (total acres)	1737.75	80.1%
Federal Protected Land(acres)	36.64	1.7%
State Protected Land (acres)	1036.46	47.8%
Municipal Protected Land (acres)	71.18	3.3%
Land Trust Protected Land (acres)	0	0.0%
Private Protected Land (deed restriction) (acres)	593.47	27.3%
Streams (miles)	14.62	0.7%
Wetlands Total (acres)	73.43	3.4%
Freshwater Emergent Wetland (acres)	12.91	0.6%
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland (acres)	37.27	1.7%
Freshwater Pond (acres)	5.41	0.2%

Lake (acres)	0	0.0%
Riverine (acres)	17.84	0.8%
Land Use	*Acres*	*Percent of Corridor*
Agriculture (acres)	0.05	0.0%
Bare Land (acres)	8.29	0.4%
Commercial (acres)	0.14	0.0%
Cultivated (acres)	0.04	0.0%
Deciduous Forest (acres)	1041.05	48.0%
Developed Open Space (acres)	33.66	1.6%
Evergreen Forest (acres)	754.97	34.8%
Forest (acres)	1.83	0.1%
Grassland (acres)	79.37	3.7%
Industrial (acres)	0.21	0.0%
Mixed Use, other (acres)	0	0.0%
Mixed Use, Residential (acres)	0.01	0.0%
Open Land (acres)	1.38	0.1%
Palustrine Aquatic Bed (acres)	0.01	0.0%
Palustrine Emergent Wetland (acres)	10.26	0.5%
Palustrine Forested Wetland (acres)	36.27	1.7%
Palustrine Scrub/Shrub Wetland (acres)	0.45	0.0%
Pasture/Hay (acres)	154.61	7.1%
Residential - Multi-family (acres)	4.02	0.2%
Residential - Other (acres)	0.33	0.0%
Residential - single family (acres)	4.36	0.2%
Right-of-way (acres)	14.21	0.7%
Scrub/Shrub (acres)	13.01	0.6%
Tax Exempt (acres)	4.34	0.2%
Unknown (acres)	0	0.0%
Water (acres)	7.69	0.4%

Percent of Corridor is the percentage of any item within the 1-mile corridor in the town. Items may

Town of Hancock Massachusetts

General Town Information

2020 Population	757
Median Household Income (2018-2022 ACS)	$88,889
Total Land Area (acres)	22873.64
1-mile Wide NIETC Corridor (acres)	1591.84
Parcels	117
Buildings	162

Resources	*Acres/Miles*	*Percent of Corridor*
Aquifers (acres)	0	0.0%
Public Water Supplies (count)	1	
Interim Wellhead Protection Area / Zone II (Acres)	12.82	0.8%
Surface Water Supply Watershed (acres)	0	0.0%
BioMap 2 Core Habitat (acres)	373.5	23.5%
BioMap 2 Critical Natural Landscapes (acres)	1085.09	68.2%
Certified Vernal Pools (count)	0	0.0%
Cold Water Fisheries (miles)	1.78	0.1%
Endangered Species Habitat (acres)	0	0.0%
Living Waters Core Habitat (acres)	0	0.0%
Carbonite Karst Geology (acres)	779.25	49.0%
Excessively Drained Soils (acres)	795.81	50.0%
Highly Erodible Soils (acres)	250.72	15.8%
Hydric Soils (acres)	29.71	1.9%
Prime Agricultural Soils (acres)	554.95	34.9%
Unique Soils (acres)	0	0.0%
Historic Buildings/Sites (count)	34	
Protected Land (total acres)	290.05	18.2%
Federal Protected Land(acres)	0	0.0%
State Protected Land (acres)	290.05	18.2%
Municipal Protected Land (acres)	0	0.0%
Land Trust Protected Land (acres)	0	0.0%
Private Protected Land (deed restriction) (acres)	0	0.0%
Streams (miles)	10.71	0.7%
Wetlands Total (acres)	39.46	2.5%
Freshwater Emergent Wetland (acres)	9.14	0.6%
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland (acres)	20.35	1.3%
Freshwater Pond (acres)	0	0.0%

Lake (acres)	0	0.0%
Riverine (acres)	9.97	0.6%
Land Use	*Acres/Miles*	*Percent of Corridor*
Agriculture (acres)	0	0.0%
Bare Land (acres)	3.76	0.2%
Commercial (acres)	0	0.0%
Cultivated (acres)	13.69	0.9%
Deciduous Forest (acres)	1138.8	71.5%
Developed Open Space (acres)	34.99	2.2%
Evergreen Forest (acres)	77.66	4.9%
Forest (acres)	0	0.0%
Grassland (acres)	50.59	3.2%
Industrial (acres)	0.39	0.0%
Mixed Use, other (acres)	0	0.0%
Mixed Use, Residential (acres)	0.13	0.0%
Open Land (acres)	0.75	0.0%
Palustrine Aquatic Bed (acres)	0	0.0%
Palustrine Emergent Wetland (acres)	0.86	0.1%
Palustrine Forested Wetland (acres)	5.31	0.3%
Palustrine Scrub/Shrub Wetland (acres)	10.85	0.7%
Pasture/Hay (acres)	193.67	12.2%
Residential - Multi-family (acres)	2.86	0.2%
Residential - Other (acres)	0	0.0%
Residential - single family (acres)	7.54	0.5%
Right-of-way (acres)	16.2	1.0%
Scrub/Shrub (acres)	33.26	2.1%
Tax Exempt (acres)	0.4	0.0%
Unknown (acres)	0.05	0.0%
Water (acres)	0.08	0.0%

Percent of Corridor is the percentage of any item within the 1-mile corridor in the town. Items may overlap, so percentages are not to be combined.

Town of Hinsdale Massachusetts

General Town Information

2020 Population	1919
Median Household Income (2018-2022 ACS)	$70,234
Total Land Area (acres)	13883.89
1-mile Wide NIETC Corridor (acres)	1816.42
Parcels	81
Buildings	77

Resources	*Acres/Miles*	*Percent of Corridor*
Aquifers (acres)	0	0.0%
Public Water Supplies (count)	0	
Interim Wellhead Protection Area / Zone II (Acres)	0	0.0%
Surface Water Supply Watershed (acres)	421.76	23.2%
BioMap 2 Core Habitat (acres)	287.44	15.8%
BioMap 2 Critical Natural Landscapes (acres)	940.96	51.8%
Certified Vernal Pools (count)	6	0.3%
Cold Water Fisheries (miles)	4.09	0.2%
Endangered Species Habitat (acres)	221.35	12.2%
Living Waters Core Habitat (acres)	0	0.0%
Carbonite Karst Geology (acres)	0	0.0%
Excessively Drained Soils (acres)	359.74	19.8%
Highly Erodible Soils (acres)	60.79	3.3%
Hydric Soils (acres)	367.81	20.2%
Prime Agricultural Soils (acres)	21.66	1.2%
Unique Soils (acres)	47.19	2.6%
Historic Buildings/Sites (count)	0	
Protected Land (total acres)	1202.03	66.2%
Federal Protected Land(acres)	0	0.0%
State Protected Land (acres)	18.78	1.0%
Municipal Protected Land (acres)	1183.25	65.1%
Land Trust Protected Land (acres)	0	0.0%
Private Protected Land (deed restriction) (acres)	0	0.0%
Streams (miles)	7.37	0.4%
Wetlands Total (acres)	251.97	13.9%
Freshwater Emergent Wetland (acres)	52.03	2.9%
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland (acres)	111.22	6.1%

Freshwater Pond (acres)	0.58	0.0%
Lake (acres)	85.36	4.7%
Riverine (acres)	2.78	0.2%
Land Use	*Acres/Miles*	*Percent of Corridor*
Agriculture (acres)	0	0.0%
Bare Land (acres)	2.21	0.1%
Commercial (acres)	0	0.0%
Cultivated (acres)	0	0.0%
Deciduous Forest (acres)	785.01	43.2%
Developed Open Space (acres)	33.49	1.8%
Evergreen Forest (acres)	623.54	34.3%
Forest (acres)	0	0.0%
Grassland (acres)	50.46	2.8%
Industrial (acres)	6.87	0.4%
Mixed Use, other (acres)	0.08	0.0%
Mixed Use, Residential (acres)	0.18	0.0%
Open Land (acres)	0.07	0.0%
Palustrine Aquatic Bed (acres)	0.36	0.0%
Palustrine Emergent Wetland (acres)	34.78	1.9%
Palustrine Forested Wetland (acres)	113.31	6.2%
Palustrine Scrub/Shrub Wetland (acres)	17.37	1.0%
Pasture/Hay (acres)	4.22	0.2%
Residential - Multi-family (acres)	0.19	0.0%
Residential - Other (acres)	0	0.0%
Residential - single family (acres)	6.82	0.4%
Right-of-way (acres)	13.73	0.8%
Scrub/Shrub (acres)	15.03	0.8%
Tax Exempt (acres)	11.88	0.7%
Unknown (acres)	0	0.0%
Water (acres)	96.82	5.3%

Percent of Corridor is the percentage of any item within the 1-mile corridor in the town. Items may overlap, so percentages are not to be combined.

Town of Lanesborough Massachusetts

General Town Information

2020 Population	3038
Median Household Income (2018-2022 ACS)	$87,159
Total Land Area (acres)	18934.19
1-mile Wide NIETC Corridor (acres)	3496.82
Parcels	321
Buildings	323

Resources	*Acres/Miles*	*Percent of Corridor*
Aquifers (acres)	102.61	2.9%
Public Water Supplies (count)	1	
Interim Wellhead Protection Area / Zone II (Acres)	163.08	4.7%
Surface Water Supply Watershed (acres)	0	0.0%
BioMap 2 Core Habitat (acres)	262.84	7.5%
BioMap 2 Critical Natural Landscapes (acres)	2126.98	60.8%
Certified Vernal Pools (count)	4	0.1%
Cold Water Fisheries (miles)	4.14	0.1%
Endangered Species Habitat (acres)	255.87	7.3%
Living Waters Core Habitat (acres)	46.5	1.3%
Carbonite Karst Geology (acres)	2070.25	59.2%
Excessively Drained Soils (acres)	849.91	24.3%
Highly Erodible Soils (acres)	159.5	4.6%
Hydric Soils (acres)	270.74	7.7%
Prime Agricultural Soils (acres)	1442.09	41.2%
Unique Soils (acres)	22.74	0.7%
Historic Buildings/Sites (count)	17	
Protected Land (total acres)	1419.21	40.6%
Federal Protected Land(acres)	0	0.0%
State Protected Land (acres)	666.7	19.1%
Municipal Protected Land (acres)	20.78	0.6%
Land Trust Protected Land (acres)	300.82	8.6%
Private Protected Land (deed restriction) (acres)	430.91	12.3%
Streams (miles)	18.05	0.5%
Wetlands Total (acres)	218.52	6.2%
Freshwater Emergent Wetland (acres)	38.54	1.1%
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland (acres)	112.96	3.2%

Freshwater Pond (acres)	1.52	0.0%
Lake (acres)	48.43	1.4%
Riverine (acres)	17.07	0.5%
Land Use	*Acres/Miles*	*Percent of Corridor*
Agriculture (acres)	1.34	0.0%
Bare Land (acres)	90.09	2.6%
Commercial (acres)	2.59	0.1%
Cultivated (acres)	70.24	2.0%
Deciduous Forest (acres)	2175.96	62.2%
Developed Open Space (acres)	121.24	3.5%
Evergreen Forest (acres)	293.75	8.4%
Forest (acres)	0.02	0.0%
Grassland (acres)	126.73	3.6%
Industrial (acres)	0.89	0.0%
Mixed Use, other (acres)	1.69	0.0%
Mixed Use, Residential (acres)	2.58	0.1%
Open Land (acres)	1.18	0.0%
Palustrine Aquatic Bed (acres)	47.69	1.4%
Palustrine Emergent Wetland (acres)	40.53	1.2%
Palustrine Forested Wetland (acres)	64.37	1.8%
Palustrine Scrub/Shrub Wetland (acres)	38.49	1.1%
Pasture/Hay (acres)	299.3	8.6%
Residential - Multi-family (acres)	2.35	0.1%
Residential - Other (acres)	0	0.0%
Residential - single family (acres)	17.14	0.5%
Right-of-way (acres)	25.94	0.7%
Scrub/Shrub (acres)	56.5	1.6%
Tax Exempt (acres)	6.39	0.2%
Unknown (acres)	0.06	0.0%
Water (acres)	9.76	0.3%

Percent of Corridor is the percentage of any item within the 1-mile corridor in the town. Items may overlap, so percentages are not to be combined.

Town of Peru Massachusetts

General Town Information

2020 Population	814
Median Household Income (2018-2022 ACS)	$78,500
Total Land Area (acres)	16663.08
1-mile Wide NIETC Corridor (acres)	592.22
Parcels	7
Buildings	1

Resources	*Acres/Miles*	*Percent of Corridor*
Aquifers (acres)	0	0.0%
Public Water Supplies (count)	0	
Interim Wellhead Protection Area / Zone II (Acres)	0	0.0%
Surface Water Supply Watershed (acres)	83.28	14.1%
BioMap 2 Core Habitat (acres)	558.19	94.3%
BioMap 2 Critical Natural Landscapes (acres)	592.23	100.0%
Certified Vernal Pools (count)	2	0.3%
Cold Water Fisheries (miles)	1.4	0.2%
Endangered Species Habitat (acres)	0	0.0%
Living Waters Core Habitat (acres)	0	0.0%
Carbonite Karst Geology (acres)	0	0.0%
Excessively Drained Soils (acres)	70.7	11.9%
Highly Erodible Soils (acres)	0	0.0%
Hydric Soils (acres)	286.66	48.4%
Prime Agricultural Soils (acres)	0	0.0%
Unique Soils (acres)	0	0.0%
Historic Buildings/Sites (count)	0	
Protected Land (total acres)	585.26	98.8%
Federal Protected Land(acres)	0	0.0%
State Protected Land (acres)	168.04	28.4%
Municipal Protected Land (acres)	417.22	70.5%
Land Trust Protected Land (acres)	0	0.0%
Private Protected Land (deed restriction) (acres)	0	0.0%
Streams (miles)	2.72	0.5%
Wetlands Total (acres)	60.79	10.3%
Freshwater Emergent Wetland (acres)	22.65	3.8%
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland (acres)	37.5	6.3%

Freshwater Pond (acres)	0	0.0%
Lake (acres)	0	0.0%
Riverine (acres)	0.64	0.1%
Land Use	*Acres/Miles*	*Percent of Corridor*
Agriculture (acres)	0.00	0.0%
Bare Land (acres)	0.20	0.0%
Commercial (acres)	0.00	0.0%
Cultivated (acres)	0.00	0.0%
Deciduous Forest (acres)	121.95	20.6%
Developed Open Space (acres)	0.00	0.0%
Evergreen Forest (acres)	378.10	63.8%
Forest (acres)	0.00	0.0%
Grassland (acres)	9.57	1.6%
Industrial (acres)	0.00	0.0%
Mixed Use, other (acres)	0.00	0.0%
Mixed Use, Residential (acres)	0.00	0.0%
Open Land (acres)	0.00	0.0%
Palustrine Aquatic Bed (acres)	0.07	0.0%
Palustrine Emergent Wetland (acres)	26.57	4.5%
Palustrine Forested Wetland (acres)	15.85	2.7%
Palustrine Scrub/Shrub Wetland (acres)	23.40	4.0%
Pasture/Hay (acres)	0.00	0.0%
Residential - Multi-family (acres)	0.00	0.0%
Residential - Other (acres)	0.00	0.0%
Residential - single family (acres)	0.00	0.0%
Right-of-way (acres)	0.14	0.0%
Scrub/Shrub (acres)	13.76	2.3%
Tax Exempt (acres)	0.01	0.0%
Unknown (acres)	0.00	0.0%
Water (acres)	2.60	0.4%

Percent of Corridor is the percentage of any item within the 1-mile corridor in the town. Items may overlap, so percentages are not to be combined.

Town of Windsor Massachusetts

General Town Information

2020 Population	831
Median Household Income (2018-2022 ACS)	$102,639
Total Land Area (acres)	22503.50
1-mile Wide NIETC Corridor (acres)	2922.20
Parcels	154
Buildings	151

Resources	*Acres/Miles*	*Percent of Corridor*
Aquifers (acres)	0	0.0%
Public Water Supplies (count)	0	
Interim Wellhead Protection Area / Zone II (Acres)	3.25	0.1%
Surface Water Supply Watershed (acres)	15.24	0.5%
BioMap 2 Core Habitat (acres)	312.83	10.7%
BioMap 2 Critical Natural Landscapes (acres)	1248.75	42.7%
Certified Vernal Pools (count)	0	0.0%
Cold Water Fisheries (miles)	6.77	0.2%
Endangered Species Habitat (acres)	170.37	5.8%
Living Waters Core Habitat (acres)	25.7	0.9%
Carbonite Karst Geology (acres)	0	0.0%
Excessively Drained Soils (acres)	447.57	15.3%
Highly Erodible Soils (acres)	69.08	2.4%
Hydric Soils (acres)	421.55	14.4%
Prime Agricultural Soils (acres)	91.18	3.1%
Unique Soils (acres)	0	0.0%
Historic Buildings/Sites (count)	5	
Protected Land (total acres)	858.23	29.4%
Federal Protected Land(acres)	0	0.0%
State Protected Land (acres)	599.65	20.5%
Municipal Protected Land (acres)	34.04	1.2%
Land Trust Protected Land (acres)	136.01	4.7%
Private Protected Land (deed restriction) (acres)	88.53	3.0%
Streams (miles)	16.79	0.6%
Wetlands Total (acres)	117.26	4.0%
Freshwater Emergent Wetland (acres)	24.02	0.8%
Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland (acres)	69.06	2.4%
Freshwater Pond (acres)	1.27	0.0%

Lake (acres)	0	0.0%
Riverine (acres)	22.91	0.8%
Land Use	*Acres/Miles*	*Percent of Corridor*
Agriculture (acres)	0.09	0.0%
Bare Land (acres)	33.94	1.2%
Commercial (acres)	0.44	0.0%
Cultivated (acres)	54.70	1.9%
Deciduous Forest (acres)	1173.57	40.2%
Developed Open Space (acres)	55.63	1.9%
Evergreen Forest (acres)	1275.37	43.6%
Forest (acres)	0.00	0.0%
Grassland (acres)	141.97	4.9%
Industrial (acres)	0.96	0.0%
Mixed Use, other (acres)	0.00	0.0%
Mixed Use, Residential (acres)	3.13	0.1%
Open Land (acres)	0.16	0.0%
Palustrine Aquatic Bed (acres)	0.04	0.0%
Palustrine Emergent Wetland (acres)	16.52	0.6%
Palustrine Forested Wetland (acres)	49.74	1.7%
Palustrine Scrub/Shrub Wetland (acres)	11.00	0.4%
Pasture/Hay (acres)	95.98	3.3%
Residential - Multi-family (acres)	0.42	0.0%
Residential - Other (acres)	0.00	0.0%
Residential - single family (acres)	7.83	0.3%
Right-of-way (acres)	37.79	1.3%
Scrub/Shrub (acres)	21.16	0.7%
Tax Exempt (acres)	0.20	0.0%
Unknown (acres)	0.52	0.0%
Water (acres)	11.04	0.4%

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