



One NSTAR Way
Westwood, Massachusetts 02090

January 24, 2012

Mr. Mike Lindeman
Wayland Tree Warden
41 Cochituate Rd.
Wayland, MA 01778
mlindeman@wayland.ma.us

RE: NSTAR Vegetation Management Program, Utility Pruning, Circuit(s) 282-H1

Dear Mr. Lindeman,

NSTAR will be performing vegetation maintenance on the above Circuits in the town of Wayland. As outlined in the material provided for you, tree branches will be pruned for necessary clearance to help maintain the safety and reliability of the electric system and health of the trees impacting the system. NSTAR is working closely with our tree contractors to assist in pruning the circuit(s) to the NSTAR Distribution Tree Pruning Policy specifications.

Due to the storm events of 2011 and subsequent investigations, NSTAR has developed a new vegetation line clearance specification for 2012. This effort is primarily to harden our infrastructure in order to provide reliable electrical service during inclement weather events. It also provides a safer workplace for linemen, arborists and first responders tasked with making areas safe and restoring power during severe storms. This additional clearance will shorten the time of restoration of electrical service to homes and businesses.

Our current minimum specification is 8x8x12 feet of air space from the uppermost and/or outermost primary conductor. This is 8 feet below and to each side with 12 feet of clearance above the conductors. The new specification is 10x10x15 feet. This takes into consideration the ANSI Z133.1-2006 standard 4.2.6 of a minimum of 10 feet electrical approach distance for all non qualified individuals. The 15 foot clearance above enhances clearance 3 more feet over conductors where ice and snow laden branches frequently bend or break into the distribution network.

Once this airspace is opened, subsequent cycle pruning, approximately every four years, will be minimally intrusive. Typically, future work will be of a more routine nature and mainly consist of the pruning off of small four year old water sprouts growing back into the newly available sunlight. Line clearance contractors are obligated to adhere to NSTAR's Electric Distribution Vegetation Management Plan Procedure.

In the event our contractor is unable to adhere to the specifications, NSTAR's arborists will evaluate the site and take proper steps to insure proper clearance. Contractors may return to the circuit at their own expense to achieve clearances if clearance specifications are not met.

Please e-mail or call me at 781-441-3837 to arrange a meeting to review this work and/or discuss this effort.

Respectfully,

Chris Fallon
Senior Arborist
NSTAR