



MEDIA ALERT

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Sterling's Community Clean Energy Resiliency Initiative Announces Groundbreaking Event for New Municipal Energy Storage System

The Sterling Municipal Light Department is hosting a groundbreaking photo opp for its two-megawatt energy storage project at the Chocksett Road Substation at 10:30 am on Wednesday, October 12, to be followed by a kick-off ceremony at the Sterling Senior/Community Center at 11 am. ***Members of the media are cordially invited to attend.***

The ceremony's guest speakers will include:

- Sean Hamilton, General Manager, Sterling Municipal Light Department
- Matthew Beaton, Massachusetts Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs
- Judith Judson, Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources
- Dr. Imre Gyuk, Energy Storage Program Manager, U.S. Department of Energy Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability

State and local representatives will also be in attendance. The ceremony will be followed by a lunch reception at 12:30 pm. The full agenda for this event is available online at <http://bit.ly/Sterling-Agenda>.

About this Project

A new clean energy storage project will provide vital resiliency and economic benefits to the town of Sterling, Massachusetts. This 2-megawatt/3.9 megawatt-hour battery storage system will be able to isolate from the main grid in the event of a power outage and provide emergency backup power to the Sterling police station and dispatch center, a critical facility providing first responder services. The Sterling Municipal Light Department expects that the new storage

system will be able to provide twelve days of backup power to these essential public services during a power outage. In addition to these resilient power benefits, the town will also save on energy costs over the project's lifespan due to the grid services the batteries will provide. This project is the first utility-scale energy storage facility in Massachusetts, and will be the largest battery installation of its kind in New England.

[NEC Energy Solutions](#), a locally-based Massachusetts company, has been contracted to supply, install, and commission the batteries energy storage system. The energy storage system is being assembled at NEC Energy Solutions headquarters in Westborough, MA. Site construction will start in the fall of 2016, and the project is expected to be fully operational by the end of 2016.

The project was funded in part by a \$1.46M grant from the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER), under the leadership of Commissioner Judith Judson, with additional financial and technical assistance from the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Electricity (DOE-OE) under the direction of Dr. Imre Gyuk, and Sandia National Laboratories under the leadership of Dan Borneo. Additional technical support was provided by the Clean Energy States Alliance through its Energy Storage Technology Advancement Partnership (ESTAP), and by Clean Energy Group's Resilient Power Project through a generous grant from Barr Foundation.

Additional information about this project is available at: <http://bit.ly/Sterling-Overview>

Event Schedule

10:30 AM

The groundbreaking's photo opportunities will take place at 10:30 am at the Chocksett Road Substation, located at [36 Chocksett Road](#) in Sterling, MA. Members of the media are welcome to attend this portion of the event to take photographs or video of key participants and dignitaries at the location where the energy storage facility is being constructed. Parking is available nearby.

11 AM

The groundbreaking's ceremonial speeches will take place at Sterling's new Senior/Community Center at 11 am. The Center is located at [36 Muddy Pond Road](#) in Sterling. Members of the media are welcome to take photos and videos at this time. Speakers may be available for comments or interviews following the ceremony.

12:30 PM

All event participants are invited to attend a celebratory smoked barbeque lunch at 12:30 pm at the Sterling Community Center.

Read a full agenda and a list of speakers at <http://bit.ly/Sterling-Agenda>

Please RSVP

Interested attendees are asked to RSVP to this event, if possible, so that event coordinators can get a head count. Contact Sean Hamilton (shamilton@energysterling.com) or Nancy Forgione (nforgione@energysterling.com).

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