

NEC Energy Solutions to Supply Sterling, MA With The Largest Battery Grid Energy Storage Installation in New England

Modernizing Town's Grid Infrastructure Will Deliver Resiliency and Energy Cost Savings

October 12, 2016 – Westborough, MA, USA and Sterling, MA – NEC Energy Solutions (NEC ES), a subsidiary of NEC Corporation, today announced that it is supplying the Sterling Municipal Light Department (SMLD) of Sterling, MA with a 2 MW, 3.9MWh GSS® grid energy storage solution. Once complete in December of this year, it will be the largest battery-based energy storage system installed in New England and the first utility scale project in Massachusetts. It will improve grid resiliency against weather-related power outages, while providing enhanced clean energy usage and cost savings to the town of Sterling. Town, State and NEC ES officials commemorated the project today in an official groundbreaking ceremony.

To reduce Sterling's carbon footprint, SMLD has been installing large amounts of PV solar and is currently ranked seventh in the nation in installed PV per capita. However, SMLD desired greater resiliency and further modernization of its grid. The energy storage system will work in conjunction with the overall installed base of PV solar to provide the needed energy resiliency, particularly to critical town departments such as police, dispatch, and fire service. It will also provide transmission capacity charge savings from reducing peak demand, which will deliver energy cost saving benefits to the community. NEC ES is providing its turn-key GSS® energy storage solution which includes a single 53' container housing 3.9MWh of lithium ion batteries, a 2MW power conversion system, and proprietary NEC ES AEROS® controls software suite. NEC ES will also provide service and maintenance packages to SMLD for the GSS® energy storage installation.

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 (Sandia) under the leadership of Dan Borneo. Additional technical support was provided by Clean Energy States Alliance (CESA) through its Energy Storage Technology Advancement Partnership (ESTAP), and by Clean Energy Group's Resilient Power Project through a generous grant from the Barr Foundation.

“Energy storage technologies, especially when paired with renewable energy, have the potential to be a game changer for Massachusetts, helping to lower the cost of energy to ratepayers while reducing emissions.” said Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources Commissioner Judith Judson. “DOER’s Community Clean Energy Resiliency Initiative, through which this project received funding, is a testament to the Baker-Polito Administration’s commitment to embracing innovative clean energy solutions across the Commonwealth.”

“We’re pleased to have chosen NEC Energy Solutions for this project because they made energy storage easy,” said Sean Hamilton, General Manager, Sterling Municipal Light Department. “Their expertise and knowledge, combined with years of global energy storage experience helped us achieve our combined goals of resiliency and cost savings using the right configuration and amount of energy storage to help strengthen and modernize our electricity system.”

“This project is the largest of its kind in New England and represents our ongoing commitment to deliver comprehensive, safe, and reliable energy storage solutions whether located across the globe, or like this one, in our own backyard,” said Bud Collins, CEO of NEC Energy Solutions. “As a leader in providing energy storage solutions, we stand ready to implement further projects of this type here in the Commonwealth and in proud local support of the DOER energy storage initiatives that could make Massachusetts one of the largest energy storage markets in the world.”

About NEC Energy Solutions

NEC Energy Solutions develops and manufactures smart energy storage solutions for electric grid, backup power and lead-acid replacement applications with system integration expertise focusing on high performance, efficiency, safety and reliability. Products range from massive grid-scale energy storage systems, successfully operating in commercial revenue service since 2009, to commercial and specialty battery solutions to fit the needs of telecom, datacenter, medical and other industrial applications. For more information, please visit www.neces.com.

About The Sterling Municipal Light Department (SMLD)

The SMLD is a progressive public power utility located 10 miles NNE of Worcester, Massachusetts in the Town of Sterling. Serving the town of Sterling for over 100 years,

SMLD has more than 3,700 residential, commercial, municipal and industrial customers. SMLD customers are fed power through approximately 160 miles of distribution lines. The SMLD is a member of ISO New England and a wholesale aggregator of power with power purchases from generation throughout New England and New York. SMLD's mission is to provide smooth, clean, reliable power at a reasonable price while staying abreast of society's technological advances for the benefit of its customers. More information is available at www.energysterling.com.

Press contact(s):

For all inquiries regarding NEC Energy Solutions, please contact: Jill Fallon, JFallon & Company, Inc.; jfallon@jfallonandco.com; 508.954.3383

For all inquiries regarding Sterling Municipal Light Department, please contact: Sean Hamilton, shamilton@energysterling.com; 978.422.8267, ext. 113

NEC is a registered trademark of NEC Corporation. All Rights Reserved. Other product or service marks mentioned herein are the trademarks of their respective owners.

©2016 NEC Corporation

###