WHAT?
The Woburn to Wakefield Line Project is a proposed new 345-kilovolt underground transmission line that will connect the Woburn Substation in Woburn, MA to National Grid’s Wakefield Junction Substation in Wakefield, MA.

WHY?
A strong electrical transmission grid is vital to the safety, security and economic growth of the region. The transmission system serves a critical role to ensure that electricity flows with a high degree of reliability to where power is needed. In a recent study, ISO-New England, the independent system operator for New England, identified inadequate transmission resources to serve the Greater Boston and New Hampshire area electricity needs. Selected by ISO-NE as the “preferred solution,” the Woburn to Wakefield Line Project will meet customer electricity demands and maintain system reliability.

WHERE?
The new line will extend approximately 8.5 miles through Woburn, Winchester, Stoneham, and Wakefield, MA. The proposed Project also includes improvements within the existing fence line of the Woburn and Wakefield Junction Substations.

WHEN?
The Project required approval from the Massachusetts Energy Facilities Siting Board (EFSB). The EFSB siting process included both public and evidentiary hearings. The public and other interested stakeholders are given the opportunity to participate in the siting process through the EFSB-sponsored public hearings. The regulatory approval process also required approval from federal, state, and local permitting agencies, including environmental agencies. Pending remaining regulatory approvals, cable construction is expected to begin in the latter half of fall 2020, and the Project is expected to be in service in 2021.

WHO?
Eversource and National Grid have teamed up to construct the new transmission line. We have undertaken extensive community outreach to inform and elicit feedback from Project neighbors, public officials, and other stakeholders. We are committed to keeping local officials, residents, businesses, and community groups informed and engaged in the Project process.

PROJECT SCHEDULE:
- MBTA ROW Preparation Complete: Fall 2018
- Wakefield Substation Construction Start: June 2018
- Wakefield Substation Construction Complete: May 2019
- Underground Cable Construction Start: late-Fall 2019
- Underground Cable Construction Complete: May 2021

* Subject to change
Proposed Project Route:
The map below outlines the Preferred and Noticed Alternative routes, and route variations, for the proposed transmission line.