

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
ENERGY FACILITIES SITING BOARD**

PREFILED TESTIMONY OF CHRIS RODSTROM

1 **Q. Please state your name and business address.**

2 A. My name is Chris Rodstrom. I am a Lead Scientist in Epsilon's Energy Services Practice.
3 My business address is 3 Mill & Main Place, Suite 250, Maynard, MA 01754.

4 **Q. Please provide an overview of Epsilon Associates, Inc.**

5 A. Epsilon is an engineering and environmental consulting firm that provides strategic
6 regulatory planning and environmental permitting services to public sector, real estate,
7 energy, industrial, and institutional clients.

8 **Q. On behalf of what company are you offering your testimony in this docket?**

9 A. I am testifying on behalf of Hillman Energy Center, LLC which is requesting approval to
10 construct a 125MW/500 MWh standalone Battery Energy Storage System and related
11 electrical infrastructure in Tewksbury, Massachusetts.

12 **Q. What is your educational background and professional expertise?**

13 A. I hold a Bachelor of Arts degree in Environmental Studies from Clark University,
14 Worcester, MA. I received my Master of Science degree in Environmental Management
15 from Yale University. My professional expertise includes over 20 years of experience in
16 energy development, siting, permitting, and real estate strategy across the public and
17 private sectors. My expertise includes managing permitting and regulatory approvals for
18 utility-scale battery storage, solar, and offshore wind projects, including leading state-
19 level filings before the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities and Energy
20 Facilities Siting Board. I have supported the permitting and construction of major electric

1 transmission and substation infrastructure and have extensive experience coordinating
2 environmental reviews, stakeholder outreach, and property negotiations. My background
3 with utilities, developers, and regulatory agencies positions him well to guide complex
4 battery storage projects through siting, permitting, and construction compliance. Attached
5 hereto is a copy of my resume.

6 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

7 A. I am offering testimony on the specifics about the existing environmental features of the
8 Project site, environmental impacts and any mitigation measures that might be necessary
9 with respect to water resources, wetlands, stormwater, visual, traffic, solid and hazardous
10 waste, and cultural resources, as detailed in the Company's petition.

11 **Q. Please identify any regulatory proceedings in which you have previously testified.**

12 A. I have provided expert witness testimony in cases before the Department and the Energy
13 Facilities Siting Board Park City Wind LLC, EFSB 20-01/ D.P.U. 20-56/20-57.

14 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

15 A. Yes.

Chris Rodstrom

LEAD SCIENTIST, ENERGY

EDUCATION

B.A., Environmental Studies, Clark University

M.S., Environmental Management, Yale University

PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATIONS

Massachusetts Real Estate Salesperson (#9526203)

Massachusetts Notary Public

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Chris Rodstrom is a Lead Scientist in Epsilon's Energy Services Practice. He has more than 20 years of experience in energy, real estate, and conservation across the private, public, and non-profit sectors. Dedicated to advancing clean energy initiatives through offshore wind, solar, battery storage, and grid modernization, Chris excels at creating innovative solutions to complex challenges, coordinating technical designs with permitting strategies, securing rights and permits, negotiating real estate transactions, managing intricate projects, and overseeing extensive easement portfolios.

Chris's skills and experience include supporting the development, permitting, and financial close of the 800 MW Vineyard Wind 1 offshore wind project and serving as the permitting lead and witness for Park City Wind applications filed with the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities/Energy Facilities Siting Board (EFSB 20-01) and the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act office. Additionally, he has managed real estate negotiations, due diligence, site assessments, and remediation plans for onshore facilities in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New York, and contributed to nine offshore wind project proposals submitted to New York and New England states.

At Epsilon, his responsibilities include preparing federal, state, and local environmental permit applications and technical reports for a wide range of energy projects, including electric transmission and distribution, battery energy storage, solar, natural gas, and both onshore and offshore wind generation. Recent Eversource project work includes the Line 112 Extension Project (DPU 24-93/24-94), Cape Cod Solutions Phase III, and the Electric Sector Modernization Plan.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Eversource Energy, Westwood, Mass. As Project Manager for Transmission, Mr. Rodstrom managed five electric transmission and substation projects in Greater Boston with a combined budget of \$65 million. Chris oversaw all project stages, including initiating the start of construction of a new 115 kV substation and a 14-mile transmission line, as well as the expansion and conversion of substations. He secured regulatory approvals, maintained project schedules & budgets, and supervised contractors to ensure compliance with specifications. Additionally, he managed the submission of regulatory filings, developed bid documents, and oversaw the required energizing, close-out, and operating plans for new facilities.

Eversource Energy, Westwood Mass. As Senior Right of Way Specialist, Mr. Rodstrom secured permits and licenses for new construction and utility maintenance projects from various local, state, and federal agencies, including MassDOT, MWRA, and US Army Corps of Engineers. He negotiated and secured property rights for the construction of electric transmission lines, distribution infrastructure, and natural gas mains. Additionally, Chris supported numerous transmission projects in the siting process including the Needham to Roxbury DCT Line Separation, Sudbury to Hudson Transmission Line, Mystic to East Eagle Transmission Line, Woburn to Mystic Transmission Line, and Woburn to Wakefield Transmission Line.

Vineyard Offshore, Boston, Mass. As Senior Permitting & Development Manager, Mr. Rodstrom solicited proposals, awarded contracts, and managed consultants for multiple offshore wind projects. He handled real estate negotiations, site assessments, and remediation plans for onshore facilities in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New York. Chris developed and tracked project budgets and schedules, oversaw the development of designs for transmission and interconnection facilities, and supported interconnection applications filed with NYISO and ISO-NE. Additionally, he prepared and submitted federal and state permits for numerous offshore wind projects, supervised new staff, represented the company in stakeholder

meetings, and prepared bid sections for project proposals. Mr. Rodstrom was also a member of the development team for the 1.3 GW Excelsior Wind project.

Vineyard Wind, New Bedford, Mass. As the Technical Design and Permitting Manager, Mr. Rodstrom supported the development, permitting, and financial closure of the 800 MW Vineyard Wind 1 offshore wind project. He advanced technical design and permitting for new offshore wind projects interconnecting to New England and New York, led permitting applications for Park City Wind, and engaged with key stakeholders and regulators. Chris identified and secured property interests, managed environmental site assessments, and contributed to the development of the 800 MW Park City Wind project.

Clean Energy Collective, Worcester, Mass. As Director of Real Estate and Permitting in New England, Mr. Rodstrom managed permitting of multiple community-scale solar plus storage projects. He oversaw the preparation, submission, acquisition of permits & licenses, and supported due diligence for solar project portfolio sales while maintaining communication with permitting agencies, presented projects at public hearings, and led community outreach efforts, including public information sessions and one-on-one meetings.

LandVest, Boston, Mass. As Project Manager, Mr. Rodstrom collaborated with buyers and sellers of real estate holdings, focusing on land planning, permitting strategies, marketing, and sales. He specialized in properties with easement and complex permitting and development challenges.

The Trustees of Reservations, Leominster, Mass. As Director of Operations of Land & Community Conservation, Mr. Rodstrom managed permitting for real estate transactions and land development projects, directed the department's activities, and oversaw the acquisition of ~ 2,000 acres of property interests annually. Chris also managed the Conservation Restriction Program, prepared and administered the annual operating budget, and oversaw \$3.3 million in land conservation funds and a \$2.6 million Conservation Restriction Fund.

Conservation International, Washington, DC. As Director of the Regional Conservation Analysis Program, Mr. Rodstrom managed biodiversity conservation workshops, regional assessments, and park network planning. He managed the GIS lab and supervised a team of four staff members and coordinated projects with international field offices in Asia, Africa, and Central & South America.

Tetra Tech, Fairfax, VA. As Project Manager/Hydrologist, Mr. Rodstrom supported environmental and water resource permitting, monitoring, and policy, for USEPA, USDOE, Prince George's County, Maryland. He served as a project manager on quantitative studies of non-point source water pollution and control systems, including stormwater and watershed modelling, and managed the GIS lab.

AFFIDAVIT OF CHRIS RODSTROM

I, Chris Rodstrom, attest that:

1. I am testifying on behalf of Hillman Energy Center, LLC before the Massachusetts Energy Facilities Siting Board in docket EFSB 25-08.
2. This pre-filed testimony and the sections included in the Petition that I am sponsoring with respect to wetlands and environmental issues were prepared by me or under my supervision and control.
3. I hereby swear or affirm that the information contained in my pre-filed testimony and information provided in as pertains to wetlands and environmental issues are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.


Chris Rodstrom