

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
ENERGY FACILITIES SITING BOARD**

**PREFILED TESTIMONY OF  
RYAN CALLAHAN**

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

2   A.     My name is Ryan Callahan. I am an Associate with Epsilon Associates, Inc. My  
3         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  
6         strategic regulatory planning and environmental permitting services to public  
7         sector, real estate, 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 125 MW/500 MWh standalone Battery Energy Storage System and  
11        related electrical infrastructure in Tewksbury, Massachusetts.

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

13   A.     I hold a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Northeastern University. I  
14         have over 19 years of experience as a noise consultant in acoustic modeling and sound  
15         level modeling on large projects, including utility-scale battery storage facilities. Attached  
16         hereto is a copy of my resume.

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

18   A.     I have prepared the Sound Level Assessment Report for this project and am offering  
19         testimony on the sound level assessment.

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

21   A.     Most pertinent to this proceeding, I have previously testified before the Siting Board on  
22         sound issues pertaining to *Medway Grid, LLC*, D.P.U. 22-18/D.P.U. 22-19.

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

2    **A.**     Yes.



**Ryan Callahan, INCE**  
ASSOCIATE, ACOUSTICS

#### EDUCATION

B.S., Civil Engineering, Northeastern University

#### PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Institute of Noise Control Engineering (INCE)

#### PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Mr. Callahan is an Associate and acoustic engineer with 19 years of experience as a noise consultant in acoustic modeling and sound level monitoring. He is an expert in the application of the CadnaA acoustic model (ISO 9613.2) to battery storage facilities, wind farms, solar facilities, construction noise, industrial facilities, commercial developments, and power plants.

Mr. Callahan designs and implements field sound monitoring programs for permitting purposes and for demonstrating compliance with local and state noise regulations. He has extensive experience with the TNM (Traffic Noise Model) for federal highway development projects.

He has successfully completed sound monitoring and modeling for over 300 different projects, ranging from small commercial developments to a large 420-megawatt (MW) wind farm, and has presented noise studies before town and county planning boards. Mr. Callahan has also been an expert witness before state agencies and regulators.

#### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Medway Grid Battery Energy Storage Project, Medway, Mass.** Mr. Callahan led the noise studies for a new 250 megawatt / 500 megawatt-hour standalone battery energy storage system in Medway, Massachusetts. Mr. Callahan provided expert witness testimony at the EFSB/DPU evidentiary hearings for the Project. The project obtained all permits and approvals and is currently in construction.

**Streamfield Battery Energy Storage Project, Westfield, Mass.** Mr. Callahan led the noise studies for a proposed new 200 megawatt / 800 megawatt-hour standalone energy storage system located in Westfield, Massachusetts. Mr. Callahan will serve as an expert witness on noise matters during the evidentiary hearings.

**National Grid, Lowell Area Gas Modernization Project, Lowell, Mass.** Mr. Callahan performed acoustic modeling and monitoring in support of the National Grid Tewksbury Gas Transmission Project. The objective was to model noise impacts resulting from horizontal directional drilling and other construction activities required for the Project.

**Medical Area Total Energy Plant (MATEP), Boston, Mass.** Performed compliance sound level measurement programs for the plant following the installation of two combustion turbines, gas compressors, and cooling towers. These programs included background sound level measurements, compliance operational sound level measurements, and evaluations of noise mitigation.

**Veolia Kendall Station, Cambridge, Mass.** Managed a sound level measurement program for the natural gas power generation facility in support of a new air-cooled condenser unit (ACHX) with multiple fans, and fin-fan coolers on the station rooftop. Results were presented to demonstrate compliance with the City of Cambridge sound level limits.

**East Point Solar Project, Schoharie County, N.Y.** Performed a sound modeling analysis of a proposed 50 MW solar project in the Town of Sharon, NY to evaluate potential impacts from the project on the surrounding community in support of the Article 10/94-c permitting process.

**High River Solar Project, Montgomery County, N.Y.** Performed a sound modeling analysis of a proposed 90 MW solar project in the Town of Florida, NY to evaluate potential impacts from the project on the surrounding community in support of the Article 10/94-c permitting process.

**Braintree Transfer Station, Massachusetts.** Mr. Callahan performed noise monitoring and acoustic modeling for the Braintree Transfer Station. This study documented reduction in noise at the facility boundary lines from new building enclosures and confirmed compliance with the MassDEP Noise Policy.

**MassCEC CAD Monitoring, New Bedford/Fairhaven, Mass.** Prior to joining Epsilon, Mr. Callahan maintained a continuous unattended sound monitoring station at a residential property near the dredging and confined-aquatic-disposal (CAD) cell operations along the Fairhaven/New Bedford waterfront over a two-month period. The objective was to provide MassCEC twice-weekly reports of measured sound levels (tables and graphs) to determine compliance with the MassDEP Noise Policy.

**Golden West Wind Energy Center, El Paso County, Colo.** Performed an attended sound monitoring program at several locations at the operational 250 MW wind facility in Colorado in order to evaluate potential impacts and adhere to their operating permit conditions.

**Walleye Wind Project, Rock County, Minn.** Performed a sound modeling analysis of a proposed 40 wind turbine project in Minnesota.

**Gratiot Farms Wind Project, Gratiot County, Mich.** Assisted with a sound modeling analysis and shadow flicker modeling of a proposed 69 wind turbine project in the Towns of North Shade and New Haven, Michigan. Attended public meetings on behalf of the project team.

**Watkins Glen Solar Project, Schuyler County, N.Y.** Performed a sound modeling analysis of a proposed 50 MW solar project in the Town of Dix, NY to evaluate potential impacts from the project on the surrounding community in support of the Article 10/94-c permitting process.

**Flint Mine Solar Project, Schoharie County, N.Y.** Performed a sound modeling analysis of a proposed 100 MW solar project in the Towns of Coxsackie and Athens, NY to evaluate potential impacts from the project on the surrounding community in support of the Article 10 permitting process.

**Bluestone Wind Project, Broome County, N.Y.** Performed a sound modeling analysis of a proposed 124 MW wind project in the Towns of Windsor and Sanford, NY to evaluate potential impacts from the project on the surrounding community in support of the Article 10 permitting process.

**TLA Holbrook Transfer Station, Mass.** Prior to joining Epsilon, Mr. Callahan completed both sound monitoring and acoustic modeling for a proposed new solid waste transfer station in Holbrook, MA to assess potential impacts a nearby residential neighborhood as part of a site assessment process. Mr. Callahan performed background sound level measurements in order to compare future predicted sound levels to MassDEP Noise Policy sound level limits.

**Parallel Products Municipal Waste Facility, New Bedford, Mass.** Mr. Callahan completed both sound monitoring and acoustic modeling for a proposed new biosolid and solid waste processing and transfer station in New Bedford, MA to assess potential impacts a nearby residential neighborhood as part of a site assessment process.

**Gowanus Repowering Project, Brooklyn, N.Y.** Managed a sound level measurement program and performed sound modeling for the Astoria Generating Company's 600 MW natural gas power generation facility to evaluate potential impacts from the project on the surrounding community in support of the Article 10 permitting process.


**Exelon Power West Medway Generating Station, Medway, Mass.** Managed a sound level measurement program for the natural gas power generation facility in support of the new 200 MW expansion, in support of the required EFSB filings.

**Northeast Energy Center, Charlton, Mass.** Mr. Callahan performed acoustic modeling in support of the Northeast Energy Center LNG Facility in order to demonstrate the project's ability to meet the MassDEP Noise Policy limits.

### **AFFIDAVIT OF RYAN CALLAHAN**

I, Ryan Callahan, attest that:

1. I am testifying on behalf of Hillman Energy Center, LLC before the Massachusetts Energy Facilities Siting Board in Docket Nos. EFSB 25-08.
2. This pre-filed testimony and the sections included in the Petition that I am sponsoring 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 the Petition and supporting documentation as pertains to sound levels and sound assessments, are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

  
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Ryan Callahan