BARNSTABLE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES

In the Year Nineteen Hundred and Ninety-Four

Resolution 94-2

To reply to briefs submitted by limited intervenors and urge that the Department of Public Utilities require Nantucket Electric Company to furnish information not yet provided and ensure that the public hearing and permit process in Harwich be protected.

WHEREAS, the Nantucket Electric Company proposes to install an electric power transmission cable from Harwich to Nantucket Island;

WHEREAS, this cable is proposed to run along the streets and highways of the Town of Harwich, directly past the homes of more than fifty families, a church, a parochial school, and a public bathing beach;

WHEREAS, the long term loss of economic values to property owners abutting this project if it is constructed is significant;

WHEREAS, there is considerable concern on the part of clergy, Selectmen and residents of the Town regarding the potential, harmful effects of the electromagnetic radiation engendered by such a facility;

WHEREAS, the potential effects of such radiation have not been fully quantified, however many epidemiological studies carried-out over the past decade have raised concerns over harmful effects;

WHEREAS, there may be several alternative routes available which do not impact the residents and facilities listed; and

WHEREAS, it makes good sense to follow the doctrine of "prudent avoidance" when installing facilities of this nature and magnitude.

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates:

1) Supports the briefs submitted by Mary Jo Keenan and Kenneth J. Keenan and the Holy Trinity Church, Limited Intervenors, Nantucket Electric Company, D.P.U. 93-137, insofar as described within this resolution;

2) Urges the Commonwealth Department of Public Utilities to require that Nantucket Electric Company study and report on the feasibility and possible impacts (social, health and economic) of locating a transmission cable along alternative routes in Harwich;

3) Urge that the Commonwealth Department of Public Utilities require that transmission cable be shielded or configured in such manner as will reduce or eliminate the possible harmful effects of the electromagnetic radiation; and

4) Urge that the Commonwealth Department of Public Utilities ensure that the public hearing and permit process in Harwich be protected on this issue of grave importance to the residents within Barnstable County.
The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates by a majority vote with Delegates representing 90.66% of the population of Barnstable County present and voting at a meeting held on March 16, 1994.

Attested by:

Diane C. Thompson, Clerk
Assembly of Delegates