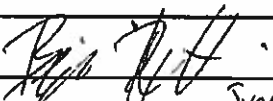


**DISCLOSURE OF APPEARANCE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**  
**AS REQUIRED BY G. L. c. 268A, § 23(b)(3) ETHICS COMMISSION**

|  |   |
|--|---|
|  | <b>PUBLIC EMPLOYEE INFORMATION</b> 2017 JUL 28 AM 11:27   |
| Name of public employee:   | Benjamin Pignatelli   |
| Title or Position:   | Regulatory Economist  |
| Agency/Department:   | Department of Public Utilities  |
| Agency address:  | 1 South Station<br>Boston, MA 02110   |
| Office Phone:  | (617) 305-3673  |
| Office E-mail:   | Benjamin.pignatelli@state.ma.us   |
|  | <p>In my capacity as a state, county or municipal employee, I am expected to take certain actions in the performance of my official duties. Under the circumstances, a reasonable person could conclude that a person or organization could unduly enjoy my favor or improperly influence me when I perform my official duties, or that I am likely to act or fail to act as a result of kinship, rank, position or undue influence of a party or person.</p> <p>I am filing this disclosure to disclose the facts about this relationship or affiliation and to dispel the appearance of a conflict of interest.</p> |
|  | <b>APPEARANCE OF FAVORITISM OR INFLUENCE</b>  |
| Describe the issue that is coming before you for action or decision.   | <p>I am interested in starting a regional grid modernization collective.</p> <p>I am also interested in working in this field, generally, at a future point in time outside my work at the DPU.</p>   |
| What responsibility do you have for taking action or making a decision?                                      | I am a technical staff member at the DPU working on the open grid modernization docket.   |
| Explain your relationship or affiliation to the person or organization.                                      | There is no person or organization as of yet. I am looking into creating one.   |
| How do your official actions or decision matter to the person or organization?                               | They do not.  |
| <b>Optional:</b> Additional facts – e.g., why there is a low risk of undue favoritism or improper influence. | I am a technical staff member and not a manager in charge of taking formal action on any issue.   |
| If you cannot confirm this statement, you should recuse yourself.  | <p><b>WRITE AN X TO CONFIRM THE STATEMENT BELOW.</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Taking into account the facts that I have disclosed above, I feel that I can perform my official duties objectively and fairly.</p>   |
| Employee signature:  |    |
| Date:  | June 7, 2017  |