

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

**Statement of Edward M. Kennedy and Massachusetts Delegation to NSTAR Utility
Workers' Rally at Prudential Center**

May 23, 2005

Our Massachusetts delegation in Congress stands in solidarity with the utility workers of NSTAR and the many fellow union members who have come here in strong support of their battle for safety and fairness in the workplace.

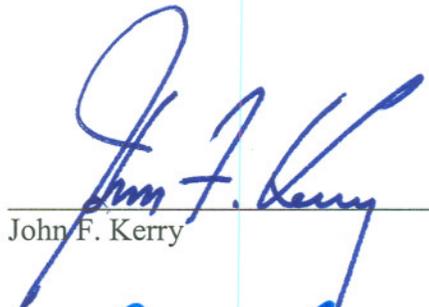
These hard-working men and women supply us with the electric and gas energy we rely on in our everyday lives. Yet they are often required to work in conditions of great danger. And in an indefensible move, NSTAR has now also cut off health benefits for workers, putting the health of these workers and their families at risk.

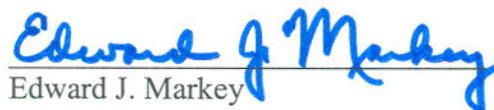
The workers deserve safe conditions on the job, and the public should be demanding their safety too. One of the most serious dangers is forced overtime, which often leads to dangerous overexhaustion and an unjust burden on both workers and their families.

NSTAR is a profitable company, and we're proud of that success. But the workers who make that success possible deserve to share in it as well. They deserve fair wages and fair benefits for a fair day's work, and they should be able to count on the retirement health and pension benefits they have worked so hard to earn.

We call on the company to negotiate the fair contract these employees so obviously deserve.


Edward M. Kennedy


John F. Kerry


Edward J. Markey


Barney Frank


John W. Olver

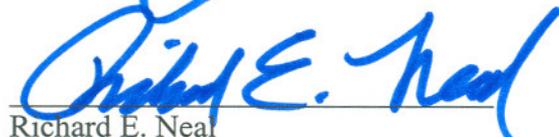

William D. Delahunt

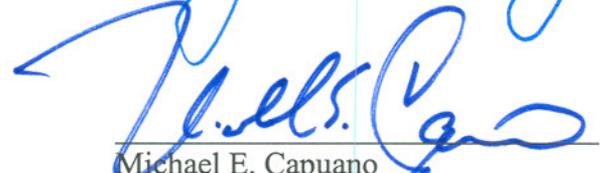

Stephen F. Lynch


James P. McGovern


Martin T. Meehan


John Tierney


Richard E. Neal


Michael E. Capuano