

NORTHEAST UTILITIES  
Form DEFA14A  
September 20, 2012

**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**Washington, D.C. 20549**

**SCHEDULE 14A**

**Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the  
Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

**(Amendment No. \_\_)**

Filed by the Registrant  Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

Preliminary Proxy Statement

**Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only** (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

**Northeast Utilities**

**(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)**

**(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)**

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

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x No fee required.

.. Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

(1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

(2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

(5) Total fee paid:

.. Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

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(1) Amount Previously Paid:

(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:



**Vote by Internet**

Go to [www.envisionreports.com/NU](http://www.envisionreports.com/NU)

Or scan the QR code with your smartphone

Follow the steps outlined on the secure website

**Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the  
Northeast Utilities Shareholder Meeting to be Held on October 31, 2012**

Under Securities and Exchange Commission rules, you are receiving this notice that the proxy materials for the annual shareholders' meeting are available on the Internet. Follow the instructions below to view the materials and vote online or request a copy. The items to be voted on and location of the annual meeting are on the reverse side. Your vote is important!

**This communication presents only an overview of the more complete proxy materials that are available to you on the Internet. We encourage you to access and review all of the important information contained in the proxy materials before voting. The proxy statement and annual report to shareholders are available at:**

**Easy Online Access – A Convenient Way to View Proxy Materials and Vote**

**When you go online to view materials, you can also vote your shares.**

**Step 1:** Go to [www.envisionreports.com/NU](http://www.envisionreports.com/NU) to view the materials.

**Step 2:** Click on **Cast Your Vote or Request Materials**.

**Step 3:** Follow the instructions on the screen to log in.

**Step 4:** Make your selection as instructed on each screen to select delivery preferences and vote.

When you go online, you can also help the environment by consenting to receive electronic delivery of future materials.

**Obtaining a Copy of the Proxy Materials** If you want to receive a copy of these documents, you must request one. There is no charge to you for requesting a copy. Please make your request for a copy as instructed on the reverse side on or before October 21, 2012 to facilitate timely delivery.

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**Northeast Utilities Annual Meeting of Shareholders will be held on October 31, 2012 at the Sheraton Springfield Monarch Place Hotel, One Monarch Place, Springfield, Massachusetts, 01144 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time.**

Proposals to be voted on at the meeting are listed below along with the Board of Trustees' recommendations.

The Board of Trustees recommends a vote **FOR** all nominees and **FOR** Proposals 2, 3 and 4:

1. To elect fourteen nominees as Trustees, the names of whom are set forth in the Company's Proxy Statement, for the ensuing year.
2. To consider and approve the following advisory (non-binding) proposal:

RESOLVED, that the compensation paid to the Company's named executive officers, as disclosed pursuant to the compensation disclosure rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission, including the compensation discussion and analysis, the compensation tables and any related material disclosed in this Proxy Statement, is hereby APPROVED.

3. To re-approve the material terms of performance goals under the 2009 Northeast Utilities Incentive Plan as required by Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code.
4. To ratify the selection of Deloitte & Touche LLP as independent registered public accountants for 2012.

**PLEASE NOTE YOU CANNOT VOTE BY RETURNING THIS NOTICE. To vote your shares you must vote online or request a paper copy of the proxy materials to receive a proxy card. If you wish to attend and vote at the meeting, please bring this notice with you.**

**Here's how to order a copy of the proxy materials and select a future delivery preference:**

**Paper copies:** Current and future paper delivery requests can be submitted via the telephone, Internet or email options below.

**Email copies:** Current and future email delivery requests must be submitted via the Internet following the instructions below. If you request an email copy of current materials you will receive an email with a link to the materials.

**PLEASE NOTE:** You must use the number in the shaded bar on the reverse side when requesting a set of proxy materials.

**Internet** Go to [www.envisionreports.com/NU](http://www.envisionreports.com/NU). Click Cast Your Vote or Request Materials. Follow the instructions to log in and order a copy of the current meeting materials and submit your preference for email or paper delivery of future meeting materials.

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g **Telephone** Call us free of charge at **1-866-641-4276** and follow the instructions to log in and order a paper copy of the materials by mail for the current meeting. You can also submit a preference to receive a paper copy for future meetings.

g **Email** Send email to [investorvote@computershare.com](mailto:investorvote@computershare.com) with Proxy Materials Northeast Utilities in the subject line. Include in the message your full name and address, plus the number located in the shaded bar on the reverse, and state in the email that you want a paper copy of current meeting materials. You can also state your preference to receive a paper copy for future meetings.

To facilitate timely delivery, all requests for a paper copy of the proxy materials must be received by October 21, 2012.

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