

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
ENERGY FACILITY SITING BOARD**

IN RE: THE NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC :
COMPANY d/b/a NATIONAL GRID :
E-183 115 kV TRANSMISSION : **DOCKET NO. SB-2003-01**
LINE RELOCATION PROJECT :

ORDER

Whereas, on October 9, 2003, the Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid (Narragansett or the Company) filed a Notice of Intent Application with the Energy Facility Siting Board (EFSB) for modification of its E-183 115 kV Transmission Line (the E-183 Line), to accommodate the relocation of Route I-195; and

Whereas, the City of Providence (Providence), the City of East Providence (East Providence), and the Rhode Island Attorney General’s Office (Attorney General) were all granted Intervenor status in this proceeding; and

Whereas, on May 25, 2004, Narragansett and the Intervenors presented a Settlement Agreement (Settlement) to the EFSB that provided for four possible sequenced alignment alternatives for the E-183 relocation, which was planned to be conducted in two phases; and

Whereas, the four alignments were: (1) Underground Alignment; (2) Bridge Alignment North; (3) Bridge Alignment South, and (4) Tockwotten Alignment, all as described in the Settlement; and

Whereas, the Settlement provided that if Narragansett determined that construction of any of the alignments was not feasible, it should file either a stipulation signed by all parties or a report presenting justification for the alternative alignment, whereupon the EFSB would conduct a hearing to resolve any outstanding issues and either approve, modify, or reject the stipulation or report; and

Whereas, on October 29, 2004, the EFSB issued an order, No. 54, that approved the Settlement and authorized relocation of the E-183 Line; and

Whereas, EFSB Order No. 54 was not appealed; and further,

Whereas, on October 13, 2016, Narragansett and East Providence filed a Report and Joint Motion asserting that “[b]ecause of the significant cost of the underground alignment and the risks which have been identified both by [Narragansett] and by Power Delivery Consultants, Inc., the engineering firm which was engaged by the other parties to prepare a peer review of the project for them, [Narragansett] and East Providence have determined, pursuant to Section D(1) through D(8) of the Settlement, that the underground alignment is not feasible” and Providence and the Arrotney General supported this conclusion; and

Whereas, Narragansett determined that the Bridge Alignment North “would require either the acquisition of an active metal fabricating business on the east side of the Seekonk River, immediately north of I-195 or the rerouting of the river crossing to a point at the north end of such property” and, pursuant to Section E(1) through E(8) of the Settlement, concluded with agreement from East Providence that the North Bridge Alignment was not feasible; and

Whereas, Narragansett and East Providence determined that the Bridge Alignment South, pursuant to Section F of the Settlement, appeared to be feasible and was preferable to either the underground alignment or the Bridge Alignment North, and requested the EFSB conduct

proceedings pursuant to § II-J of the Settlement and approve the use of the Bridge Alignment South for the E-183 project; and

Whereas, on October 28, 2016, Providence filed an objection to the Joint Motion; and

Whereas, on November 2, 2016, the Attorney General filed a response to the Joint Motion, concurring that the Bridge Alignment South represented the most feasible, cost-effective solution that accomplished the goals was “in accordance with the letter and intent of the Settlement Agreement;” and

Whereas, after several continuances requested by the parties to engage in further studies, on October 18, 2017, the EFSB found the Underground Alignment and the Bridge Alignment North to be not feasible as set forth in Sections D and E of the Settlement; and

Whereas, on October 18, 2017, the EFSB unanimously approved the Joint Report and Motion and the Bridge Alignment South as set forth in Section F of the Settlement; and

Whereas, the EFSB approved Narragansett’s proposed schedule; and

Whereas, the EFSB ordered Narragansett and the Cities of Providence and East Providence to conduct a public meeting in each community.

Accordingly, it is hereby

(123) ORDERED:

1. The Joint Report and Motion filed by Narragansett and the City of East Providence to approve the use of the Bridge Alignment South for the E-183 Seekonk River crossing is approved.
2. Narragansett’s proposed schedule as set forth in substituted Attachment 2 to Narragansett’s October 13, 2016 Report and Joint Motion is approved.

3. Narragansett and the Cities of Providence and East Providence shall conduct a public meeting in each community.

EFFECTIVE AT WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND ON OCTOBER 18, 2017 PURSUANT TO AN OPEN MEETING DECISION. WRITTEN ORDER ISSUED JANUARY 17, 2018.

ENERGY FACILITY SITING BOARD



Margaret E. Curran

Margaret E. Curran, Chairperson

Janet Coit

Janet Coit, Member

Parag Agrawal

Parag Agrawal, Member

NOTICE OF RIGHT OF APPEAL PURSUANT TO R.I. GEN. LAWS SECTION 42-98-12, ANY PERSON AGGRIEVED BY A DECISION OF THE BOARD MAY, WITHIN TEN (10) DAYS OF THE ISSUANCE OF THIS ORDER PETITION THE SUPREME COURT FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO REVIEW THE LEGALITY AND REASONABLENESS OF THIS ORDER.