

Rachel Margot Schwartz
171 Power Street
Providence Rhode Island 02906
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To the Energy Facility Siting Board:

National Grid is the primary supplier and controller of electrical power in this community. Due to this prominent and important role it has a unique responsibility to listen to the community regarding issues that have important long-term impact. National Grid's plan to leave power lines above ground on the Providence-East Providence waterfront rather than bury them or remove their visual impact is the example before you.

We are asking now, and have been asking for over 15 years that National Grid bury these power lines and more recently do a thorough feasibility study of running them along the bridges over Providence and Seekonk Rivers. There are numerous examples of National Grid in the United Kingdom, the parent company of National Grid RI undertaking extensive projects to bury power lines due to their negative impact on important landscapes. Newspaper accounts report that National Grid/UK agreed in 2014 to spend \$619M burying power lines in eight national parks and other areas of outstanding natural beauty in the United Kingdom, and last year decided to spend another \$570m to bury power lines in the Lake District.

Locally in RI, National Grid buried power lines that Fidelity Investments executives objected to at its campus in Smithfield, and National Grid is currently burying Deepwater's power lines in Narragansett in response to objections to the proposed overhead lines raised by town officials and citizens. Why has the Providence request largely been ignored? This is not in one small group's front or backyard. The entire city of Providence and East Providence stands to benefit for the next 100 years.

Sincerely,



Rachel Schwartz

Member Friends of India Point Park Steering Committee