## STATE OF RHODE ISLANHD AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS ENERGY FACILITY SITING BOARD

IN RE: THE NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC

COMPANY D/B/A NATIONAL GRID

PETITION FOR DECLARATORY ORDER

ALLENS AVENUE MULTI STATION REBUILD

PROJECT

:

:

**DOCKET NO. SB-2018-03** 

ORDER

On May 16, 2018, The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid (National Grid or Company) filed a petition with the Energy Facility Siting Board (Board) asking the Board to issue a declaratory order that a license is not required for the proposed reconfiguration of existing segments of natural gas piping. National Grid asserted that the proposed project does not constitute an alteration of a major energy facility requiring a license from the Board.

As part of the replacement and retirement of seven existing pressure regulating facilities at the major gas interchange, National Grid intends to reconfigure existing segments of an aggregate 2,460 linear feet of natural gas piping. The work is being done to support the safety and reliability of the Company's natural gas distribution system and is part of National Grid's Infrastructure, Safety, and Reliability Plan. The law mandates any alteration of a major energy facility be licensed by the Board. R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-98-4 (Act). The Act and the Board's Rules of Practice and Procedure (Rules) define "alteration" as "a significant modification to a major energy facility, which, as determined by the board, will result in a significant impact on the environment, or the public health, safety, and welfare." R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-98-3(b) and Rule 1.2(d).

At an Open Meeting on June 6, 2018, the Board discussed and deliberated on National Grid's petition. The Board found that the Project as set forth in the filing by National Grid does not constitute an alteration of a major energy facility as defined by the Energy Facility Siting Act, R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-98-3 and Rules 1.2(d). The Board reasoned that the work proposed is akin to

maintenance of the gas distribution system. Moreover, it is confined to a limited area owned in fee by National Grid. The Project does not involve major construction. Neither will it result in a significant impact to either the physical or social environment or public health, safety, and welfare. Because the Project does not constitute an alteration of a major energy facility, it does not require formal investigation or license by the Board.

Accordingly, it is hereby

## (137) **ORDERED**:

The Project does not constitute an alteration and does not require a license.

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY IN WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND PURSUANT TO AN OPEN MEETING DECISION ON JUNE 6, 2018. WRITTEN ORDER ISSUED JUNE 12, 2018

ENERGY FACILITY SITING BOARD

Margaret E. Curran, Chairperson

Janet Coit, Member