

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
ENERGY FACILITY SITING BOARD

In re: The Narragansett Electric Company :  
(E-183 115 kV Transmission Line : Docket No. SB-2003-01  
Relocation Project – A/C I-195 Relocation) :

Project Status Update

This report is submitted in response to the request from the Energy Facility Siting Board (“EFSB” or “Board”) through Nicholas S. Ucci, its Coordinator, for a status report. Counsel for the City of Providence has suggested that a revised estimate would be helpful to the parties.

Revised Estimate

National Grid prepared its most recent study grade (+/- 25%) estimate for the underground project in January, 2007. The estimate at that time was \$19 million, exclusive of land acquisition costs. In order to prepare a new, more precise, construction grade estimate, National Grid would have to complete preliminary engineering, including field work, for the project at a cost of approximately \$900,000. It is anticipated that this effort would take 9 to 12 months, once authorized.

However National Grid can update the 2007 estimate by applying an escalation factor to that estimate. National Grid has been using a 3% escalation figure for estimating costs of recent projects. Applying this factor to the 2007 estimate results in a revised cost figure of approximately \$22.7 million, exclusive of land acquisition costs.

Land Acquisition

There are several critical parcels of real estate that are needed for the project. The first is the “Revens Property” which is located adjacent to and immediately south of the Al Forno parking lot on the east side of the Providence River. The parties had preliminary discussions with the property owners and their counsel several years ago. The owners were not willing to sell their property so it would be necessary for the City of Providence to condemn the property. (The City of Providence informally estimated the value of this property several years ago to be in the range of \$1 million.)<sup>1</sup>

The second property is a portion of the Tockwotton property in East Providence. National Grid must acquire fee ownership of a parcel for the overhead to underground transition station and needs easements for the underground cable and relocated overhead line. National Grid will be able to release existing overhead line easements after the underground project is completed. National Grid anticipates that this transaction will take the form of a land swap with Tockwotton

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<sup>1</sup> Providence does not have funds available to support this condemnation. As a result, National Grid would have to advance the funds to Providence, with appropriate security.

although provisions of the amended siting act make this more complicated by mandating the involvement of the City of East Providence.

National Grid will also need an easement from the City of Providence (through its parks department) for the underground cable through India Point Park and will need utility permits from RIDOT and both cities to install the underground cable within state roads and city streets.

Project Funds and Funding Agreement

The parties have identified funds totaling approximately \$17.2 million to support the project (including accrued interest on the Docket 3617 refund of approximately \$2.3 million through December, 2012). The cost of the project in excess of this amount is to be paid by a surcharge on the bills of electric customers in Providence and East Providence (R.I. Gen. Laws §42-98-1.1(d)). The parties have discussed but have not reached agreement on a funding/settlement agreement defining the funding priorities for the project and responsibilities of the parties for the matters discussed above.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC COMPANY  
d/b/a NATIONAL GRID

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

5th I hereby certify that a true copy of the within was sent by e-mail to the following this the day of April, 2013.

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