# **Robinson+Cole**

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Via Hand Delivery

October 12, 2016

Todd Bianco Siting Board Coordinator Energy Facility Siting Board 89 Jefferson Boulevard Warwick, RI 02888

Re: Docket No. SB-2003-1 In re: The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid (E-183 115kV Transmission Line Relocation)

Dear Todd:

I am enclosing an original and five (5) copies of the Joint Report and Motion of The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid and City of East Providence in the above referenced matter. National Grid and East Providence are filing this joint Report and Motion in lieu of our October 15 report to the EFSB.

Please acknowledge receipt of this filing on the enclosed copy of this letter and the report and return them to me. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Peter V. Lacouture

PVL/blv

Enclosure

Copy to: Patricia S. Lucarelli, Esq. (via hand delivery) W. Mark Russo, Esq. (via hand delivery) Service List (via electronic mail)

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

In re: The Narragansett Electric Company : (E-183 115 kV Transmission Line : Relocation Project – A/C I-195 Relocation) :

Docket No. SB-2003-01

# JOINT REPORT AND MOTION OF THE NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC COMPANY d/b/a NATIONAL GRID AND CITY OF EAST PROVIDENCE

The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid ("National Grid") and the City of East Providence hereby file this report and move that the Energy Facility Siting Board ("EFSB" or "Board") approve the use of the overhead Bridge Alignment South for the E-183 Line Seekonk River crossing between Providence and East Providence.

# **INTRODUCTION**

In the May 25, 2004 Settlement Agreement (the "Settlement Agreement") among The Narragansett Electric Company, the City of East Providence, the City of Providence, and the Attorney General (the "Parties"), the Parties agreed to a two phase relocation of the E-183 Line between the Franklin Square Substation in Providence and the Phillipsdale Tap Point in East Providence. Phase I, which was necessary to accommodate the I-195 Relocation Project, involved the overhead relocation and reconstruction of the E-183 Line between the west bank of the Providence River and the east bank of the Seekonk River. This construction was completed in 2005. Phase II of the project involved the reconstruction of the line between Franklin Square and the Phillipsdale Tap Point underground, subject to the terms and conditions of the Settlement Agreement, including the identification of sufficient funding for this alignment.

As the Siting Board knows, the Parties have spent considerable time studying and discussing the underground alignment and variations thereof in an attempt to minimize the risks and costs of the underground project including avoiding impacts to developable property on the east side of the Providence River.

# REPORT

Because of the significant cost of the underground alignment and the risks which have been identified both by National Grid 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, National Grid and East Providence have determined that the underground alignment is not feasible. Following this determination, the Parties have examined several overhead alternatives including the Bridge Alignment North (Settlement Agreement, §II-E) and the Bridge Alignment South (Settlement Agreement, §II-F). In examining the feasibility of the Bridge Alignment North, National Grid has determined that the implementation of this alignment 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. National Grid and East Providence have agreed that this alignment is not feasible and have, therefore, reviewed the Bridge Alignment South (shown on <u>Attachment 1</u>).

National Grid and East Providence have determined that the Bridge Alignment South appears to be feasible and preferable to either the underground alignment or the Bridge Alignment North. Therefore, they are filing this report pursuant to §II-J of the Settlement Agreement and propose the schedule which is attached hereto as <u>Attachment 2</u>.

The Bridge Alignment South will produce many of the benefits that would have been accomplished with the underground alignment. These benefits include the following:

- 1. Move the overhead transmission line out of India Point Park and off of the India Point Park soccer field;
- 2. Eliminate the tall lattice towers on the banks of the Seekonk River and potentially lower the height of the E-183 Transmission Line crossing over the Seekonk River;
- 3. Free up portions of existing easements for possible future development.
- 4. Allow the relocation of the Phillipsdale Tap Line to improve the development potential of the Tockwotton property at the corner of Mauran Avenue and Waterfront Drive in East Providence;
- 5. Minimize the risks of the project (the horizontal directional drills were characterized by both National Grid and PDC engineers as very high risk operations which could result in significantly increased project costs and/or failure of the project);
- 6. May provide for increased funding from ISO-NE; and
- 7. Control the project costs and impacts on Providence and East Providence electric customers.

Finally, the overhead alignment will yield the following benefits that the underground alternative would not:

- 8. Eliminate the proposed transition station along Mauran Avenue on the Tockwotton property, further increasing the development potential of that property;
- 9. Preserve the Singh property on the east side of the Providence River for commercial development and maintain the property (and future development thereon) on the Providence city tax rolls; and

10. Would not introduce the reliability complications of a mixed overhead/underground transmission system.

### **MOTION**

Based on the report above, National Grid and East Providence move that, after receiving position statements from the City of Providence and the Attorney General, the EFSB conduct such proceedings as it deems appropriate pursuant to §II-J of the Settlement Agreement and approve (i) the use of the Bridge Alignment South for the E-183 Seekonk River crossing as proposed herein and (ii) the schedule attached hereto as <u>Attachment 2</u>.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC COMPANY d/b/a NATIONAL GRID

By its Attorneys,

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## CITY OF EAST PROVIDENCE

By its Attorney,

NAC

W. Mark Russo Ferrucci Russo P.C. 55 Pine Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Providence, RI 02903 401-455-1000 401-455-7778 (facsimile) <u>mrusso@frlawri.com</u>

# CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the within was sent by e-mail to the following this the <u>12th</u> day of October, 2016.

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/s/ Brenda L. Vucci

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

In re: The Narragansett Electric Company : (E-183 115 kV Transmission Line : Relocation Project – A/C I-195 Relocation) :

Docket No. SB-2003-01

# <u>ATTACHMENT 2</u> <u>TO JOINT REPORT AND MOTION OF</u> <u>THE NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC COMPANY d/b/a NATIONAL GRID</u> AND CITY OF EAST PROVIDENCE<sup>1</sup>

# Proposed Schedule for Design and Construction of Bridge Alignment South

1. National Grid to develop a preliminary design (Conceptual Engineering Report - CER) including proposed structure locations and easement widths for the Bridge Alignment South and reconstruction/relocation of the Phillipsdale Tapline from the New Phillipsdale Tap Point to the Phillipsdale Tap Point.

February 1, 2017

# 2. National Grid to start on Technical Scope Document (TSD).

February 1, 2017

3. National Grid to consult with Providence, East Providence, and RIDOT regarding the easements and property rights needed for construction and operation of the Bridge Alignment South and the relocated Phillipsdale Tap Line.

March 1, 2017

4. Parties to consult and identify sources and priority of funding for the Bridge Alignment South.

March 1, 2017

5. Providence and East Providence to provide to National Grid binding commitments, in form and content satisfactory to National Grid, for all such easements and other property rights as have been determined by National Grid to be necessary.

April 15, 2017

6. National Grid to complete TSD and study grades estimate ( $\pm 25\%$ ).

July 15, 2017

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Schedule assumes EFSB approval by November 15, 2016. All capitalized terms have the meanings provided in the May 25, 2004 Settlement Agreement.

- 7. National Grid to file applications for necessary permits and regulatory approvals needed for Bridge Alignment South and relocation of Phillipsdale Tap Line including Army Corps of Engineers, Coastal Resources Management Council, and any local permits. August 15, 2017
- 8. Parties to secure easements and other property rights with conveyance to National Grid subject to permit receipt.

February 15, 2018

9. Permits received.

February 15, 2018

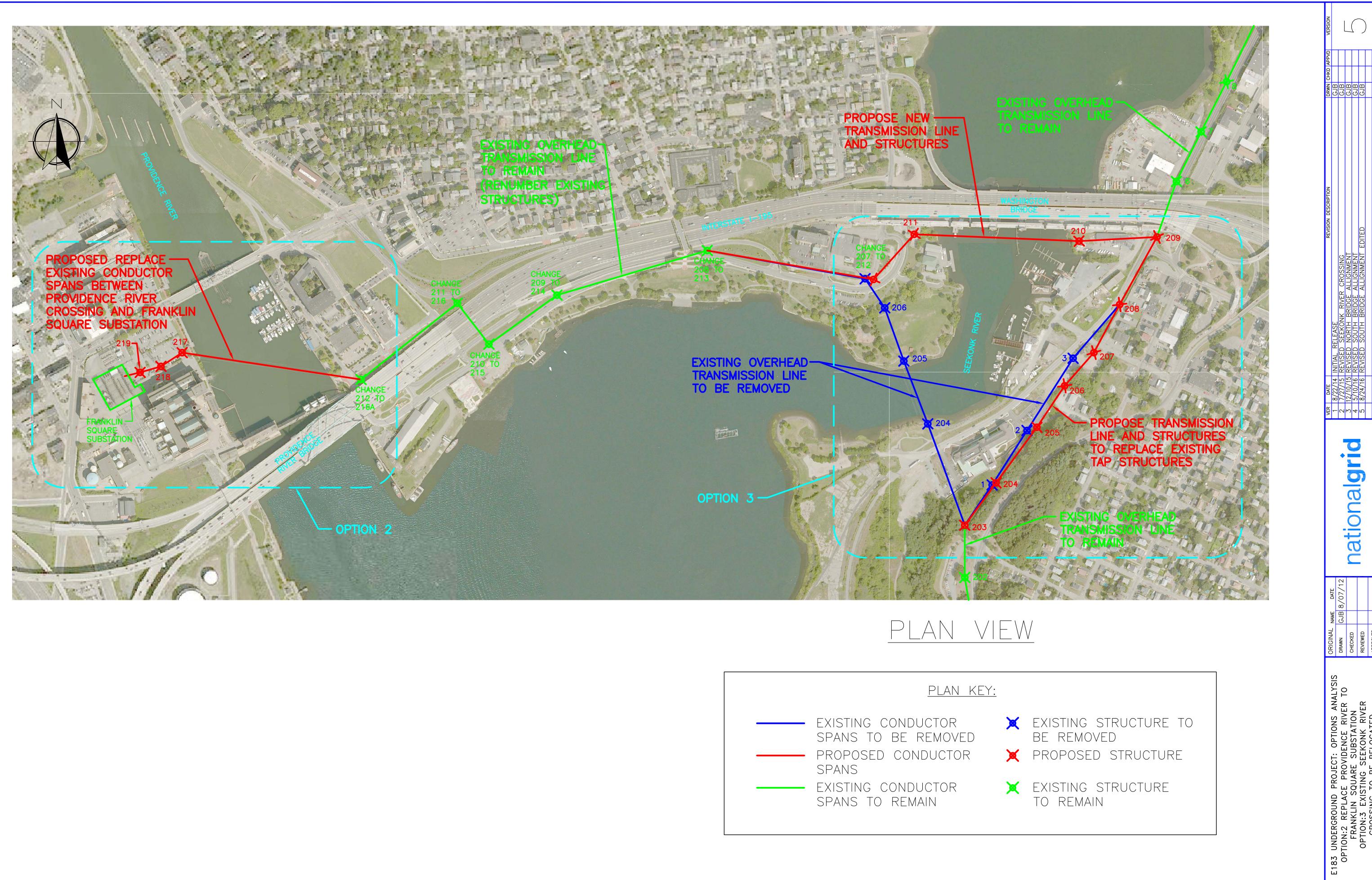
- 10. Parties to convey easements and other property rights to National Grid within thirty (30) days after issuance of final permits for project.
- 11. National Grid to complete final design for Bridge Alignment South and relocation of Phillipsdale Tap Line.<sup>2</sup>

March 15, 2018

12. National Grid to Bid Project, Award Bid and Commence Construction

August 15, 2018

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This and subsequent events are dependent upon receiving favorable rulings on all required permits by February 15, 2018.



400452-C-R-03

<u>Plan key:</u>	
 EXISTING CONDUCTOR SPANS TO BE REMOVED	
 PROPOSED CONDUCTOR SPANS	
 EXISTING CONDUCTOR SPANS TO REMAIN	

INCHES ON ORIGINAL						
INCHES ON ORIGINAL						