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Via Hand Delivery

June 18, 2015

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

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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

**Re: The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid
V148N 115kV Transmission Line Reconductoring Project**

Dear Patti:

I am enclosing for filing an original and five (5) copies of a Notice of Intent Application and supporting Environmental Report on behalf of The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid for the V148N 115kV Transmission Line Reconductoring Project. This Project involves the reconductoring of approximately 4.2 miles of the V148N Transmission Line from the Woonsocket Substation in North Smithfield to the Washington Substation in Lincoln, Rhode Island.

Because the project involves the modification (reconductoring) of an existing transmission line of more than 1,000 feet, the Notice of Intent is filed under 1.6(f) of the EFSB Regulations. Section 1.6(g) requires that the Board hold a hearing in one or more of the cities or towns affected by an application under this section.

If you have any questions or would like additional copies of the filing, please give me a call. Please acknowledge receipt of this filing on the enclosed copy of this letter and application and return them with my messenger.

Sincerely,



Peter V. Lacouture

PVL/blv

Enclosures

Robinson+Cole

Todd Bianco
June 18, 2015
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Copy to: Margaret Curran, Esq., Chairperson
Kevin M. Flynn
Janet Coit
Patricia S. Lucarelli, Esq.
Leo Wold, Esq.
John J. Spirito, Esq.
North Smithfield Town Clerk
Lincoln Town Clerk

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
ENERGY FACILITY SITING BOARD

In re: The Narragansett Electric Company :
d/b/a National Grid :
(V148N 115kV Transmission Line : Docket No. SB-2015-
Reconductoring Project North Smithfield :
and Lincoln, Rhode Island) :

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Notice of Intent Application of
The Narragansett Electric Company
d/b/a National Grid

Counsel:

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June 18, 2015

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capable of carrying more power. This portion of the V148N Line is approximately 4.2 miles long and is located in North Smithfield and Lincoln. In this Application, TNEC requests the Board's approval of the reconductoring the V148N Line (the "Project").

TNEC is filing herewith and incorporates herein an Environmental Report on the Project entitled "V148N 115kV Transmission Line Reconductoring Project; North Smithfield and Lincoln, Rhode Island (April, 2015)" (the "ER"). This application follows the organization of §1.6(f) of the EFSB Rules and identifies the sections of the ER where the issues identified in the EFSB Rules are discussed.

1. Identification of the owner(s) of the facility.²

a. The owner of the facility is The Narragansett Electric Company, a Rhode Island chartered public utility, with its principal place of business at:

280 Melrose Street
Providence, RI 02907

b. The affiliates of The Narragansett Electric Company include its parent, National Grid USA and the National Grid (US) Holdings Ltd companies. The corporate relationships among the National Grid (US) Holdings Ltd companies are shown on Exhibit 1, attached. A listing of non-US affiliates is available upon request.

2. Detailed description of the proposed facility.³

The V148N Line extends a distance of approximately 4.2 miles originating at the Woonsocket Substation in North Smithfield and terminating at the Washington Substation in Lincoln. The V148N Line is supported by a combination of wood H-frame structures, wood

² Rule 1.6(f)(1) requires the Applicant to provide identification of the owner(s) of the facility, including identification of all affiliates of the proposed owners, as such term is defined in R.I.G.L. §39-3-27.

³ Rule 1.6(f)(2) requires the Applicant to provide a detailed description of the proposed facility, including its length, route, function and operating characteristics, and complete plans as to all structures associated with the proposed facilities.

terminal structures and double-circuit steel lattice tower structures. The route of the line is shown on Figures 1-1, 3-1 and 3-3 of the ER. The Project includes:

- replacing the existing conductors with new, larger conductors;
- removing 7 of the wood structures;
- installing 5 steel H-frame structures;
- installing 1 steel 3-pole dead end pull off structure; and
- reinforcing 31 of the existing double-circuit steel lattice tower structures.

All of the replacement structures will be in approximately the same location and will be installed using direct embed methods or concrete caisson foundations. The structure replacements and reinforcements are necessary for strength and ground clearance for the new larger conductor.

The Project is described in more detail in Section 3.0 of the ER.

3. Detailed description and analysis of the impact of the Project on the physical and social environment.⁴

The environmental characteristics of the Project area are described in Section 5.0 of the ER and the affected social environment is discussed in Section 6.0 of the ER. The impact of the Project on the natural and social environments is described in Section 7.0 of the ER. A review of current independent scientific research pertaining to electric and magnetic fields is contained in the report in Appendix A of the ER. The studies relied upon for analyses of the impact of EMF on human health are listed in Section 10 (References) of Appendix A of the ER. The existing

⁴ Rule 1.6(f)(3) requires: “[d]etailed description and analysis of the impact of the Project on the physical and social environment. The Applicant shall also provide a review of the current independent scientific research pertaining to electromagnetic fields (EMF) and shall provide data on the anticipated levels of EMF exposure and potential health risks associated with this exposure. To the extent the proposed Project will have only negligible impact on any particular resource in the natural and social environment (e.g., geology, air quality or population) the Applicant may so state and need not provide a detailed analysis of the baseline conditions for that resource.”

and projected levels of electric and magnetic fields at the edges of the ROW are provided in §§6.6 and 7.14 of the ER.

4. All studies and forecasts which demonstrate the need for the proposed facility.⁵

The need for the Project is described in Section 2 of the ER. TNEC filed its 2015 master construction plan which included the Project with the EFSB on November 25, 2014.

5. The reasons that the Project does not constitute the alteration of a major energy facility.

Transmission lines of 69 kV and above are included in the definition of “major energy facilities” in Rule 1.2(p) of the EFSB Rules. However, Rule 1.2(d) states that

the modification⁶ or relocation of an existing power line shall not be an alteration unless the Board determines that the project may result in a significant impact on the environment or the public health, safety and welfare. [Emphasis supplied.]

Thus the Project would constitute the alteration of a major energy facility and be subject to the full EFSB permitting process only if the Board determines that the relocation “may result in a significant impact on the environment or the public health, safety and welfare.” As explained in the ER, the Project involves reconductoring the existing V148N Line, replacing 6 existing structures, reinforcing 31 existing structures, and removing 1 existing structure within the right-of-way. (See Section 3.0 of the ER.)

The impacts of the Project are discussed in Section 7.0 of the ER and summarized in Section 9 as follows: “[b]ased on the analysis presented herein, there are no significant long-term impacts associated with the Project.” Consequently, because the Project does not significantly impact the environment or the public health, safety and welfare, the Board should determine that

⁵ Rule 1.6(f)(4) requires the Applicant to provide all studies and forecasts which demonstrate the need for the proposed facility under the statewide master construction plan submitted annually.

⁶ Per Rule 1.2(d), modification “includes reconductoring and rebuilding an existing power line.”

the Project does not constitute an alteration and is not subject to the full EFSB permitting process.

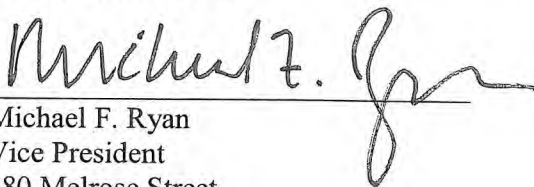
CONCLUSION

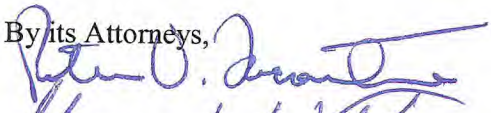
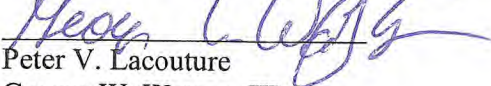
This Application, the ER which is filed herewith and incorporated herein, and the other supporting material clearly demonstrate that the reconductoring of the existing V148N 115 kV Transmission Line will not result in significant impact on the environment or the public health, safety and welfare.

For the reasons stated herein, The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid requests that the Energy Facility Siting Board approve the Project as described herein pursuant to Rule 1.6(f).

Respectfully submitted,

THE NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC COMPANY
d/b/a NATIONAL GRID

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EXHIBIT 1

