

June 7, 2013

VIA HAND DELIVERY & ELECTRONIC MAIL

Luly E. Massaro, Commission Clerk
Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission
89 Jefferson Boulevard
Warwick, RI 02888

**RE: Docket 2509- Storm Contingency Fund
 March 7, 2013 Summary Report**

Dear Ms. Massaro:

In accordance with Order No. 15360 (August 19, 1997) in Docket 2509 and paragraph 4(b) of the Settlement approved by the Commission in that docket, I have enclosed one original and ten (10) copies of National Grid's¹ summary report on the planning and restoration activities associated with the March 7, 2013 snow storm ("March 2013 Storm" or the "storm"), which will likely qualify for inclusion in the Company's Storm Contingency Fund. Paragraph 4(b) of the Settlement requires the Company to file with the Commission within 90 days after the storm a report providing a description of the storm along with a summary of the extent of the damage to the Company's system, including the number of outages and length of the outages.

A supplemental report detailing the incremental restoration costs caused by the February 23, 2013 Storm will be submitted to the Commission once the total costs have been accumulated by the Company, and final accounting of storm costs has been completed.

Thank you for your attention to this transmittal. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (401) 784-7288.

Very truly yours,



Jennifer Brooks Hutchinson

Enclosures

cc: Docket 2509 Service List
 Leo Wold, Esq.
 Steve Scialabba, Division

¹ The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid ("the Company").

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a copy of the cover letter and/or any materials accompanying this certificate were electronically transmitted and sent via U.S. Mail to the individuals listed below. Copies of this filing were hand delivered to the RI Public Utilities Commission.



June 7, 2013

**Docket No. 2509 – National Grid – Storm Fund
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National Grid

The Narragansett Electric Company

**Report on
March 7, 2013 Snow Event,
Damage Assessment, and
Service Restoration Efforts**

June 7, 2013

Docket No. 2509

Submitted to:
Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission

Submitted by:
The logo for National Grid, featuring the word "national" in a light blue sans-serif font and "grid" in a darker blue sans-serif font.

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**REPORT ON BEHALF OF
THE NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC COMPANY d/b/a NATIONAL GRID
ON THE MARCH 7, 2013 SNOW EVENT PREPAREDNESS, DAMAGE
ASSESSMENT, AND SERVICE RESTORATION EFFORTS**

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid (the “Company”) presents the following report on the planning and preparation associated with the March 7, 2013 snow storm (“March 2013 Storm” or the “storm”). The March 2013 Storm was an ocean storm that affected most of southern New England. The area of low pressure went further north than anticipated, and Rhode Island avoided most of the heavy precipitation. The state received less than six inches of snow, and most of the state experienced maximum wind gusts of 40-50 mph.

This was the second snow event within a month following the February 2013 Nor’easter, in which the forecast predicted significant snow accumulations for Rhode Island. Although Rhode Island ultimately avoided the heaviest part of the storm, the Company, nonetheless, had to anticipate and prepare for this potentially major storm event. The Company began preparing on Tuesday, March 5, holding its first system and regional storm calls. The Company followed its Emergency Response Plan (“ERP”) and mobilized employees and contractors for restoration, based on experience from previous storms. As part of its mobilization efforts, the Company secured additional transmission and distribution contractor crews to ensure the availability of resources with which to respond to this potentially significant storm event. Additional forestry crews were also secured and strategically located in Rhode Island for deployment. The internal crews were split into night (~40%) and day (~60%) shifts to provide 24-hour coverage. The Providence storm room was opened on Wednesday, March 6 at approximately 11:00 p.m., and employees were scheduled to work through the night to respond to police, fire, and wires-down issues. Contractor crews were primarily located in Warwick and Providence. All management employees with storm assignments were instructed to report to their assigned locations at 6:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 7.

Although the Company prepared for a potentially major storm event that included securing the necessary resources, little damage occurred as a result of the storm. Less than 4,200 customers (approximately 1,700 at peak) experienced power interruptions. No significant restoration work was required and demobilization began early in the morning on Friday, March 8.

II. THE STORM AND ITS IMPACT

A. Forecast

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

On Tuesday, March 5, Telvent (Schneider Electric) began to forecast a strong ocean storm affecting southern New England late Wednesday night into early Friday morning. Potential impacts included interior heavy, wet snow (six to twelve inches), damaging winds, including up to 55 mph in Rhode Island, and the potential for coastal flooding. The most significant impacts to Rhode Island included heavy, wet snow and strong winds.

Wednesday, March 6, 2013

On Wednesday, March 6, the forecast continued to suggest a coastal system bringing interior snow, strong to damaging winds, and heavy, wet snow (eight to ten inches) to the Company's entire service area. The latest wind models had not changed, which, for Rhode Island, meant a moderate risk of 55 mph winds with the potential for tree damage and power outages.

Thursday, March 7, 2013

On Thursday, March 7, as light precipitation fell, there was increased confidence on the track of the ocean storm. The forecast called for six to eight inches of heavy, wet snow in northern Rhode Island and less than six inches of snow in southern Rhode Island. The strongest winds were expected to continue Thursday into the early morning on Friday, ranging between 40 to 55 mph for the entire state.

B. Impact

The March 2013 Storm had the potential to be a major event for Rhode Island and all of southern New England, and the second potentially major snow event since the February 2013 Nor'easter. The ocean storm was initially forecasted to bring moderate to heavy, wet snow to most of Rhode Island. There was the potential for some strong wind gusts throughout the state. The impact of the storm was dependent on its ultimate track as it approached.

As the storm progressed, however, the low moved more north than forecasted, bringing most of the heavy snow to Massachusetts, with snow accumulations ranging between 15-25 inches of snow in the central and eastern part of Massachusetts. Rhode Island ultimately avoided the heavy precipitation, receiving less than six inches of snow throughout the state. Maximum wind gusts of approximately 47 mph were recorded in Providence, and in East Greenwich, the maximum recorded wind gusts were approximately 48 mph. Most of the state experienced maximum wind gusts of 40-48 mph.

III. STORM PREPARATION

In anticipation of this potentially major event, the Company began preparing for the March 2013 Storm on Tuesday, March 5, holding its first system and regional storm calls. The Company continued to hold system storm calls at least daily, ending on Thursday, March 7, and regional storm calls twice a day, ending on Friday, March 8. The Company followed its Emergency Response Plan (“ERP”) and mobilized employees and contractors for restoration, based on experience from previous storms. As part of its mobilization efforts, and to ensure the availability of resources, the Company secured additional transmission, distribution contractor, and forestry crews in advance of the storm.

Given the uncertainty of the track and intensity of the storm, internal crews, contractors, and supplies and equipment were strategically located throughout the state to allow deployment with the greatest amount of flexibility. The following is a list of the peak crews¹ who worked during the storm in Rhode Island:

- Distribution Internal Crews: 72
- Distribution Contractor Crews (total located in Rhode Island): 81
- Transmission Crews: 5
- Tree Crews: 55
- Wires Down Crews: 60
- Damage Appraisal Crews: 23
- Substation Crews: 15
- Numerous support and supervision personnel

As discussed above, internal crews were split into night (~40%) and day (~60%) shifts to provide 24-hour coverage and to have the maximum number of crews available in the early morning on Thursday, March 7. The Providence storm room was opened on Wednesday, March 6 at approximately 11:00 p.m. and employees were scheduled to work though the night on Wednesday, March 6 to respond to police, fire, and wires-down issues. All management employees with storm assignments were instructed to report to their assigned locations at approximately 6:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 7.

IV. COMMUNICATIONS AND CUSTOMER

In preparation for the March 2013 Storm, the Company’s Vice President of Government Affairs in Rhode Island initiated communications to the Governor’s Chief of Staff, Rhode Island legislators, and local offices for the Congressional Delegation. The Company informed the Governor’s office, as well as the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission and the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers, of its pre-event preparation and planning.

¹ Crews are typically two or three-person, although there are some one-person crews in damage assessment, wires-down (appraisers) and d-line (troubleshooters). The transmission crews are typically 6-10 people.

A National Grid representative was in contact with the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency (“RIEMA”) on Wednesday, March 6. RIEMA never officially opened an operations center for the March 2013 Storm, but remained in a monitoring mode throughout the storm. The Company stayed in communication with RIEMA directors and posted information through their web-EOC.

The Company communicated its storm preparations and planning to the municipalities on Wednesday, March 6 by e-mail. The Company advised municipalities of its intention to open a municipal room on Thursday, March 7, at 6:00 a.m. in Providence. The Company opened the municipal room to effectively manage and communicate with affected communities. The municipal room was co-located with the Company’s branch operations response personnel. The Company also assigned a community liaison to each municipality. The storm did not create widespread outages; therefore, the liaisons did not report to the municipalities and the municipal room was closed on Thursday, March 7 at 10:00 a.m.

The Company notified life support customers regarding possible outages through its Call Center. On Wednesday, March 6, the Company made outbound calls to all life support customers. The Company increased staffing for its Call Center in order to handle potentially incoming calls from customers affected by the storm.

The Company began media relations activities in support of its restoration efforts on Wednesday, March 6, as it appeared that the storm could cause a significant number of service interruptions.

On Wednesday, March 6, the Company’s Media Relations department issued a news release advising customers of the pending storm and informing them of the Company’s actions to prepare for possible service interruptions. The release also included extensive safety tips and advice on how to prepare for outages.

The Company issued safety-related releases on both March 7 and March 8 to all Rhode Island news media.

Media Relations received less than a half-dozen calls from the Rhode Island news media concerning the impact of the March 2013 storm.

V. RESTORATION WORK

Rhode Island avoided heavy precipitation from the March 2013 Storm, receiving less than six inches of snow throughout most of the state. Maximum wind gusts recorded in Providence were approximately 47 mph, and in East Greenwich, the maximum recorded wind gusts were approximately 48 mph. Most of the state experienced maximum wind gusts of 40-48 mph. Despite these weather conditions, there were few outages. As seen in the reliability statistics chart below, the number of events and the

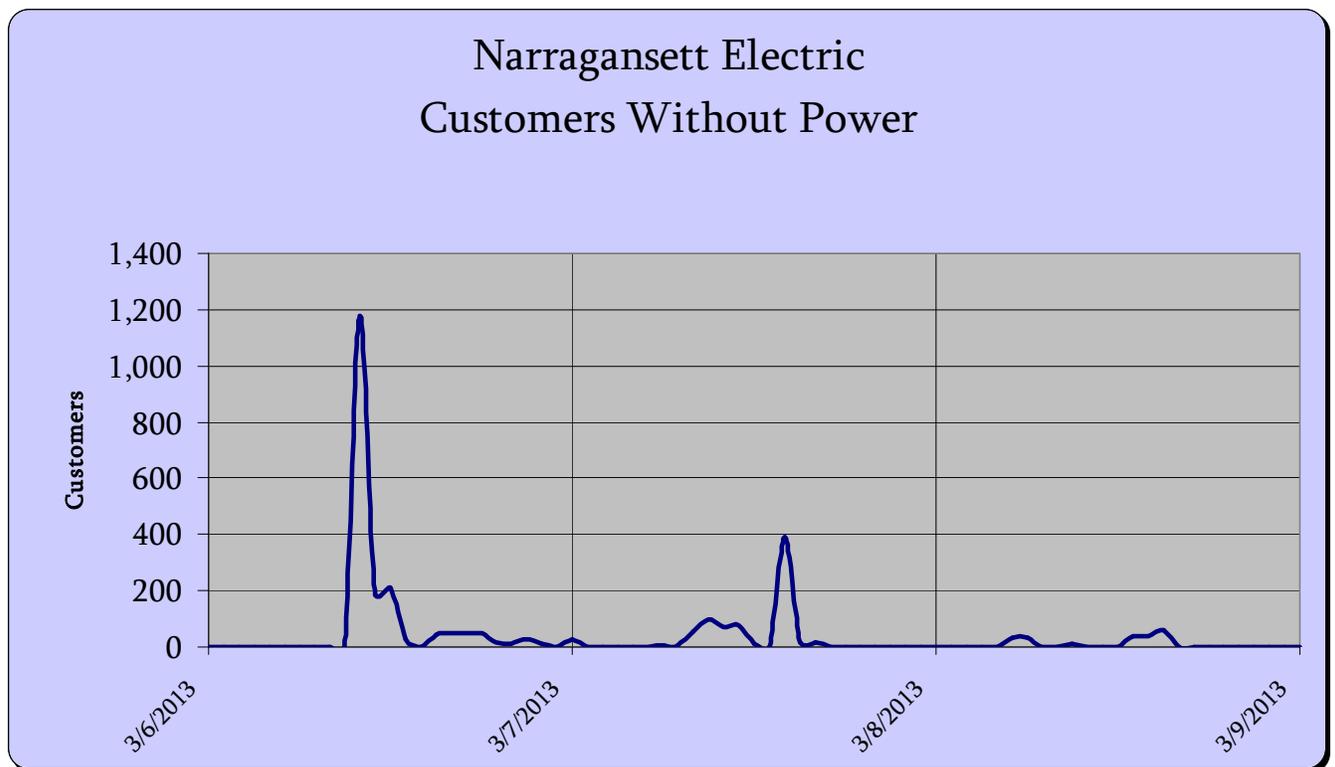
Customers Interrupted (“CI”) were slightly higher than the “Average Day”² in Rhode Island. Customer Minutes Interrupted (CMI) over the storm period was lower than the “Average Day”. Overall, the March 2013 Storm turned into a minor event; there were a few minor interruptions and demobilization began early in the morning on Friday, March 8.

| Company Name | Date | Events | CI | CMI | SAIFI | SAIDI | CAIDI |
|-----------------------|------------|--------|-------|--------|--------|-------|-------|
| Narragansett Electric | 03/06/2013 | 12 | 3,194 | 58,774 | 0.0066 | 0.121 | 18 |
| Narragansett Electric | 03/07/2013 | 10 | 539 | 37,042 | 0.0011 | 0.076 | 69 |
| Narragansett Electric | 03/08/2013 | 5 | 172 | 13,231 | 0.0004 | 0.027 | 77 |
| Narragansett Electric | 03/09/2013 | 2 | 37 | 10,063 | 0.0001 | 0.021 | 272 |

Average Day in 2012

| Company Name | Date | Events | CI | CMI | SAIFI | SAIDI | CAIDI |
|-----------------------|------|--------|-------|--------|--------|-------|-------|
| Narragansett Electric | All | 7 | 1,185 | 87,078 | 0.0025 | 0.18 | 72 |

Concurrent Customers Out of Service



² Regulatory criteria applied, major event days excluded.

VI. CONCLUSION

The Company prepared for the March 2013 Storm with expectations of outages resulting from heavy, wet snow and wind. The Company mobilized consistent with its ERP, and consistent with its communications with state agencies regarding restoration expectations. Storm rooms were opened, supplies and equipment for restoration were prepared, and both internal and contractor crews were deployed in anticipation of a major storm. The Company maintained communications with all stakeholders using a variety of channels throughout the event. Ultimately, the track of the storm changed and its intensity weakened. There was little restoration work required as a result of the March 2013 Storm.