

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN RE: AMENDMENTS TO THE COMMISSION'S :
RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING :
TERMINATION OF RESIDENTIAL : Docket No. 3976
ELECTRIC, GAS AND WATER :
UTILITY SERVICE :

REPORT

WHEREAS, On July 7, 2008, Public Law Chapter 08-445 was enacted to amend R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-1.1-2.1 to extend protected status to any residence in which there is domiciled a person under the age of two years and the customer's electric or gas service has not been previously shut off for nonpayment before the birth of the child; provided, that the customer cannot afford to pay any overdue bill because of financial hardship ("infant protection"); and

WHEREAS, The Public Utility Commission's ("Commission") Rules and Regulations Governing Termination of Residential Electric, Gas and Water Utility Service ("Termination Rules") as amended in March 1, 2008 extended the infant protection to residences in which there was domiciled a person under the age of twelve months; and

WHEREAS, On August 7, 2008, the Commission issued proposed Amendments to the Termination Rules through a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking published in the Providence Journal to extend the infant protection in accordance with the change in law and to update the low income guidelines in Appendix A of the Termination Rules; and

WHEREAS, The deadline to comment on the proposed amendments was September 8, 2008; and

WHEREAS, The only comment received was from Providence Water Supply Board noting that it is not subject to the legislation; and

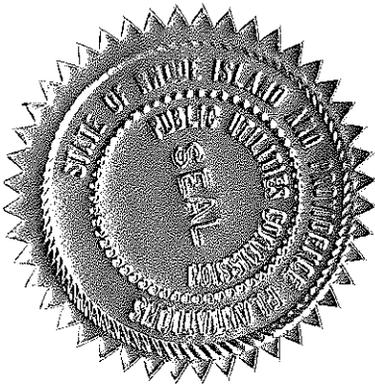
WHEREAS, No member of the public requested a hearing; and

WHEREAS, At an open meeting held on September 17, 2008, the Commission adopted the Rules as noticed.

(19423)

EFFECTIVE AT WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND, ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2008 PURSUANT TO AN OPEN MEETING DECISION. A COPY OF THE FINAL RULES WERE FILED WITH THE RHODE ISLAND SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2008 WITH AN EFFECTIVE DATE OF OCTOBER 19, 2008. WRITTEN ORDER ISSUED ON SEPTEMBER 22, 2008.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION



Elia Germani, Chairman

Robert B. Holbrook, Commissioner

Mary E. Bray, Commissioner