



Church Community Housing Corporation

*Working for decent housing for families of low
And moderate income in Newport County*

December 11, 2008

RI Public Utilities Commission
99 Jefferson Blvd.
Warwick, RI 02888

Re: Docket 3999

Honorable Commissioners:

Church Community Housing Corporation appreciates the opportunity to participate in the discussion regarding Docket 3999, regarding the changes in the net metering tariff.

We have a comment regarding the National Grid filing and the Division responses.

Regarding Rhode Island General Law subsection 39-26-2 (19), we ask that the language stating "the net metering allowed will benefit low income residential electric customers only." be revised to allow the net metering to benefit the affordable housing development as defined by Rhode Island General Law subsection 42-55-3, not restricting the benefits to low income residential customers only. The reason for this request is energy efficiency and renewable energy production result in lower operating expenses for an affordable housing development and thereby may make a development financially viable that was not otherwise. This has the potential to increase the number of affordable housing units in existence, thereby providing a general benefit to low income persons in need of housing. Additionally, lower operating expenses mean that an affordable housing development owner has a greater ability to keep rents down, thus maintaining the affordability of those units for persons of low income.

We look forward to the discussion at the technical session.

Sincerely,

Stephen P. Ostiguy
Executive Director