## STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN RE: NATIONAL GRID

APPLICATION TO CHANGE :

ELECTRIC RATE SCHEDULES

DOCKET NO. 4065

## **ORDER**

WHEREAS, on June 9, 2009, the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers ("Division") filed a Motion to Amend the schedule established by the Commission for the above-captioned matter; and

WHEREAS, the Division's motion asserted that it needed additional time to review the material, conduct discovery and provide the Commission with a thorough presentation of the cost of capital; and

WHEREAS, the Division requested that its direct testimony be due on or after October 1, 2009, that it have at least fourteen working days to provide surrebuttal testimony and that it have thirty days to submit post-hearing briefs; and

WHEREAS, the Division represented that National Grid had no objection to waiving the statutory maximum six month suspension period for up to an additional two months provided that it was afforded an adjustment mechanism consistent with that approved by the Commission in Docket No. 3943; and

WHEREAS, National Grid filed a response to the Division's motion noting that it had no objection to that motion if the Commission would approve the following mechanism:

- 1. The Commission would render a final decision on the Division's proposal to extend this proceeding for a 60-day period as soon as possible; and
- 2. If no appeal from that decision was taken within the sevenday time period allowed by R.I. Gen. Laws §39-5-1, the Commission would have until February 28, 2010 to render a final decision on matters involved in this case; and
- 3. The Commission's decision allowing the 60-day extension as requested by the Division would recite the Company's concession that the proposed rate tariffs on file with the Commission would be effective March 1, 2010, rather than January 1, 2010, as originally proposed by National Grid; and
- 4. Following the Commission's decision on the rate-case matters, National Grid would submit a compliance filing at the earliest possible date implementing the Commission's ratemaking decisions; and
- 5. Upon the Commission's approval of the compliance filing, National Grid would be authorized to charge the new approved rates to usage occurring on and after March 1, 2010, which is fully consistent with the process routinely followed by the Commission in rate-case proceedings; and
- 6. In addition, after the Commission's decision on the rate case is rendered, National Grid would be allowed to calculate the incremental revenue that National Grid would have received from customers had the approved rates been in effect for consumption on and after January 1, 2010 through February 28, 2010; and
- 7. To achieve this recovery, National Grid would make a supplemental compliance filing no later than March 15, 2010, setting forth a lost revenue adjustment factor based on kWh consumption ("Lost Revenue Adjustment"). This Lost Revenue Adjustment would be designed to allow National Grid to recover the lost incremental revenue for

the period January 1, through February 28, 2010 from all customers over 12 months, with interest at the same rate applied to the GCR deferred gas cost account balance (the Bank of America prime rate minus 200 basis points). After review by the Commission for accuracy and approval, the lost Revenue Adjustment would become effective for consumption on and after April 1, 2009.

WHEREAS, at an Open Meeting on July 1, 2009, the Commission considered the Division's motion and approved that motion to the extent that the Division will be allowed until September 15, 2009 to file Direct Testimony, fourteen working days within which to file Surrebuttal Testimony and thirty days within which to file its post hearing brief. Counsel for the Commission will establish the hearing schedule.

WHEREAS, the Commission approved the proposed adjustment mechanism as set forth above.

Accordingly, it is

## (19711) ORDERED:

- 1. The Division's Motion to Amend is approved to the extent that the Division shall have until September 15, 2009 to file Direct Testimony, fourteen working days after National Grid files its Rebuttal Testimony within which to file Surrebuttal Testimony and thirty days after the conclusion of the hearings within which to file its post hearing brief.
- 2. National Grid shall be allowed the adjustment mechanism set forth above.

EFFECTIVE AT WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND ON JULY 1, 2009
PURSUANT TO AN OPEN MEETING DECISION. WRITTEN ORDER ISSUED
JULY 16, 2009.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Elia Germani Chairman

Mary E. Bray, Commissioner

Paul J. Roberti, Commissioner