

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

IN RE: RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING :
THE REVIEW OF A UTILITY SCALE OFFSHORE WIND : **DOCKET NO. 4139**
PROJECT AS DESCRIBED IN R.I.G.L. § 39-26.1-8 :

NOTICE OF RULEMAKING AND PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the provisions of R.I.Gen.Laws §§ 39-1-1 et seq., 39-26.1 et seq. and 42-35-3, the Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) will conduct a public hearing on **Monday, March 1, 2010, at 1:00 p.m.**, in the first-floor hearing room of the Commission’s office located at 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island, for the purpose of adopting and establishing Rules and Regulations Governing the Review of a Utility Scale Offshore Wind Project (“Rules”) pursuant to R.I.G.L § 39-26.1-8.

The proposed Rules are required by R.I.G.L. § 39-26.1-8(d) which states that “The Commission shall promulgate rules and regulations governing the proceedings outlined in this section by April 30, 2010.” The referenced section of the law allows certain renewable energy developers to file an application with the Commission seeking an order requiring the electric distribution company to negotiate a long-term contract with the developer for the purchase of the output of the developer’s project.

The only electric distribution company in Rhode Island subject to this law is Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid. Other affected parties include developer(s) selected by the State of Rhode Island to develop a utility-scale offshore wind farm, the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers, the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resource, the Rhode Island Department of Administration, the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation and the Rhode Island Attorney General. Small businesses will only be affected to the extent that they are ratepayers of National Grid’s electric distribution company.

The proposed rules and regulations are on file at Commission Clerk’s Office at 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island. Copies of the proposed rules and regulations may be obtained in person, by mail by calling 780-2107 or accessed under the Commission’s Docket Menu, Docket No. 4139 at www.ripuc.org.

Interested persons wishing to offer data, views, or arguments on the proposed rules and regulations may do so either orally, on the day of the hearing, or in writing, by submitting an original and nine (9) copies of their comments to the following address not later than 4:00 P.M., March 1, 2010:

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

Reference is also made to R.I.General.Laws Chapters 42-35, 39-1, 39-26.1 et seq., specifically, §§ 42-35-1, 42-35-2, 42-25-3, 42-35-4, 42-35-5, 39-1-15 and 39-26.1-3(e) and 39-26.1-5(e).

The Commission is accessible to the handicapped. Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must notify the Commission's office by calling 780-2107, seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the hearing date.

Luly Massaro
Commission Clerk
January 21, 2010