



Public Comments

From: Karina Lutz, advocacy consultant, for People's Power & Light  
To: RI Public Utilities Commission, via Clerk Luly Massaro  
Cc: Larry Chretien  
Date: Nov. 21, 2011  
Re: Docket # 4268 net metering comments clarification

Honorable Commissioners:

People's Power & Light submits these public comments in regards to Docket 4268, to clarify our initial comments and in response to the questions from Commission Counsel Cynthia Wilson-Frias during the Nov. 10 hearing.

The proposed new tariff 2074 sheet 5 section III, refers to "the Company's Net Metering Provision, R.I.P.U.C. No. 2075, as amended and superseded from time to time," along with several other references in this tariff to provisions being "amended and superseded," such as in Schedule A (and like the wording in the Distributed Generation Interconnection proposed tariff in docket 4276) could be interpreted as allowing the utility to unilaterally supersede this PUC tariff, once approved. This language should be clarified to ensure it does not authorize the company to update the policy, as stated in the tariff, without coming back to the PUC for approval, while making it clear to customers that the net metering tariff is subject to change after net metering applications are approved at a certain rate. In times of uncertainty, like last year, questions should come back to the Commission, not the Company alone.

Our inclusion of concern about "the definition of net metering [being] irregular ('a customer' vs. a practice)" was a word processing error and should not have been included in our Nov. 8 comments. I beg the Commission's pardon. In 4268's proposed tariff, the definitions appear to conform with statute.

We also agree with Conservation Law Foundation and Washington County Regional Planning Council's interpretation of legislative intent of the distributed generation and net metering statutes, as filed in response to the Commission's data request to them of Nov. 16.