

December 15, 2016

VIA HAND DELIVERY & ELECTRONIC MAIL

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

**RE: Docket No. 4290 - LIHEAP Enhancement Plan Provision
Tariffs – RIPUC No. 2170 and RIPUC NG-GAS No. 101B
Compliance Filing**

Dear Ms. Massaro:

In accordance with the Public Utilities Commission's (PUC) decision at the November 29, 2016 Open Meeting in the above-referenced docket, enclosed please find clean and marked copies of National Grid's¹ updated LIHEAP Enhancement Plan Provision for its electric tariff (RIPUC No. 2170) and gas tariff (RIPUC NG-GAS No. 101B).

At the November 29 Open Meeting, the PUC approved National Grid's tariff advice filing in the above-referenced docket, but directed that National Grid make a compliance filing for the tariffs by no later than December 16, 2016 to include the modified LIHEAP Enhancement Charge (LIHEAP Charge) of \$0.81 for calendar year 2017. Accordingly, National Grid has revised its electric and gas tariffs to change the LIHEAP Charge from \$0.73 to \$0.81. The electric and gas tariffs are also revised to reflect an effective date of January 1, 2017.

In the marked version of the enclosed electric tariff, the updated LIHEAP Charge of \$0.81 and the effective date of January 1, 2017 are marked in blue, while the previous changes that were approved at the November 29 Open Meeting are marked in red.

The revisions to the gas tariff are contained in the LIHEAP Enhancement Plan provision at Sheets 3 and 4 of the enclosed Section 7, Schedule C of the gas tariff. In the marked version of the gas tariff, the updated LIHEAP Charge of \$0.81, the effective date of January 1, 2017, and the new revision number of the gas tariff are marked in red, while the previous changes that were approved at the November 29 Open Meeting are marked in blue.

¹ The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid.

Luly E. Massaro, Commission Clerk
Docket 4290 – LIHEAP Enhancement Plan Provision Compliance Filing
December 15, 2016
Page 2 of 2

Thank you for your attention to this filing. If you have any questions, please contact me at 401-784-7415.

Very truly yours,



Robert J. Humm

Enclosure

cc: Docket 4290 Service List
Steve Scialabba
Leo Wold, Esq.

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a copy of the cover letter and any materials accompanying this certificate was electronically transmitted to the individuals listed below.

The paper copies of this filing are being hand delivered to the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission and to the Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities and Carriers.

Joanne M. Scanlon

December 15, 2016

Date

**Docket No. 4290 – Office of Energy Resources – LIHEAP Enhancement
Charge Filing Service List updated 12/14/16**

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THE NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC COMPANY
LIHEAP ENHANCEMENT PLAN PROVISION

In accordance with R.I.G.L. § 39-1-27.12, the Company shall bill monthly to all customers a Low Income Home Energy Assistance Enhancement Plan charge (“LIHEAP Charge”) approved by the Commission, provided however that the annual charge shall not exceed \$10 per customer, per year. For purposes of this provision a “customer” is defined as any person taking service at a single point of electric service delivery or electric service meter.

The monthly rate for the LIHEAP Charge is \$0.81 per customer and shall appear as a separate line item on a customer’s bill.

The Company shall establish a LIHEAP Enhancement Plan fund that shall be used to account for the combined funds collected through the LIHEAP Charge from both gas and electric service customers. The Rhode Island Department of Human Services (“DHS”) shall designate to the Company the qualifying customer accounts and the amounts to be credited from the LIHEAP Enhancement Plan fund. The cumulative amount of credits applied to customer bills will be limited to an amount no greater than the cumulative aggregate projected LIHEAP Charges billed through the end of the current calendar year. Once the aggregate credits applied to customer bills equals the aggregate projected LIHEAP Charges billed through the end of the current calendar year, including interest as defined below, the application of the LIHEAP Enhancement Plan credits would cease. Any difference in aggregate cumulative actual LIHEAP Charges billed and aggregate cumulative credits applied to customer bills will accrue interest at the customer deposit interest rate.

The projected annual revenue in the LIHEAP Enhancement Plan fund collected through the gas and electric service LIHEAP Enhancement Plan charges shall not exceed seven million five hundred thousand dollars (\$7,500,000) and shall not be less than six million five hundred thousand dollars (\$6,500,000).

Beginning on September 1, 2016 and monthly thereafter between April 15 and September 30 of each year, the Company will set aside a minimum of 5 percent of the funds collected through the LIHEAP Enhancement Plan, to be allocated to provide assistance to customers seeking LIHEAP certification for the sole purpose of entering into the Arrearage Management Program (“AMP”) as defined in R.I.G.L. § 39-2-1(d)(2). This fund is designated for homeless families or individuals who are transitioning from a shelter into housing who provide acceptable documentation to DHS. Remaining funds available after September 30 of each year will be eligible for use in the upcoming winter season.

For purposes of receiving funds from the LIHEAP Enhancement Plan fund, a qualifying LIHEAP eligible customer shall be a household with a combined gross income equal to or less than 60 percent of the state median household income as calculated by the U.S. Bureau of Census and as adjusted for family or group size by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services regulation 45 C.F.R. § 96.85 or its successor regulation.

THE NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC COMPANY
LIHEAP ENHANCEMENT PLAN PROVISION

In accordance with R.I.G.L. § 39-1-27.12, ~~beginning January 1, 2012 and for every month thereafter,~~ the Company shall bill monthly to all customers a Low Income Home Energy Assistance Enhancement Plan charge (“LIHEAP Charge”) approved by the Commission, provided however that the annual charge shall not exceed ~~ten (\$10) dollars~~ per customer, per year. For purposes of this provision a “customer” is defined as any person taking service at a single point of electric service delivery or electric service meter.

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The Company shall establish a LIHEAP Enhancement Plan fund that shall be used to account for the combined funds collected through the LIHEAP Charge from both gas and electric service customers. The ~~State Office of Energy Resource~~Rhode Island Department of Human Services (“DHS”) shall designate to the Company the qualifying customer accounts and the amounts to be credited from the LIHEAP Enhancement Plan fund. The cumulative amount of credits applied to customer bills will be limited to an amount no greater than the cumulative aggregate projected LIHEAP Charges billed through the end of the current calendar year. Once the aggregate credits applied to customer bills equals the aggregate projected LIHEAP Charges billed through the end of the current calendar year, including interest as defined below, the application of the LIHEAP Enhancement Plan credits would cease. Any difference in aggregate cumulative actual LIHEAP Charges billed and aggregate cumulative credits applied to customer bills, will accrue interest at the customer deposit interest rate.

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For purposes of receiving funds from the LIHEAP Enhancement Plan fund, a qualifying LIHEAP eligible customer shall be a household with a combined gross income equal to or less than ~~sixty percent (60 percent%)~~ of the state median household income as calculated by the U.S. Bureau of Census and as adjusted for family or group size by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services regulation 45 C.F.R. ~~§Sec.~~ 96.85 or its successor regulation.

MARKED VERSION

R.I.P.U.C. No. ~~2143~~2170

Sheet 2

Canceling R.I.P.U.C. No. ~~2079~~2143

Effective Date: January 1, ~~2014~~October 1,

~~2016~~2017

OTHER MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES**OPTIONAL CREDIT CARD PAYMENT PROVISION****1.0 AVAILABILITY:**

Customers of National Grid (National Grid or Company) have the option of paying their bills issued by National Grid through the use of a payment-processing agent (Third Party Vendor). Residential and non-residential customers, as determined by the Company's rate schedule designations, have the option to make payments by telephone or web page. The availability of this option will be subject to the Company's ability to arrange for such an option. This payment option is available to all of the Company's customers choosing to make payments to the Company through use of the Third Party Vendor-sponsored telephone or web page system. If there is a conflict between the PUC's Rules Governing the Acceptance of Credit Card Payments (the Rules) and this provision, the Rules shall govern.

2.0 PAYMENT TYPES:

The following payment methods shall be accepted under this provision:

1. Visa;
2. Mastercard;
3. American Express;
4. Discover;
5. Debit Cards issued by a financial institution which include a card association symbol such as Visa or MasterCard; and
6. Electronic Checks

3.0 FEES:

Customers choosing to make payments under this option will be assessed a fee directly by the Third Party Vendor for each payment the customer initiates. The fee to be charged by the Third Party Vendor is based on whether the customer making the payment is a residential customer or a non-residential customer and the number of payment transactions made. The customer must initiate each payment transaction. Initiating one payment transaction does not establish future payment transactions for a customer.

Residential Fees:

The residential fee per payment transaction, up to a maximum transaction amount of \$600 is \$2.25. The Third Party Vendor will assess a fee of \$2.25 per transaction for any additional payment transactions up to \$600 each.

OTHER MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES

OPTIONAL CREDIT CARD PAYMENT PROVISION

Non-Residential Fees:

The non-residential fee per payment transaction, up to a maximum transaction amount of \$1,000, is \$6.95. The Third Party Vendor will assess a fee of \$6.95 per transaction for any additional payment transactions up to \$1,000 each.

4.0 PAYMENT AMOUNT:

Customers who choose to make payments under this provision shall have the ability to make partial payments. Additionally, the Company shall not deny a customer's use of these payment options because the customer's account with the Company is past due.

5.0 COMPANY OBLIGATION:

The payment transaction shall occur between the customer and the Third Party Vendor. The Company shall provide information regarding the Third Party Vendor's payment systems to assist its customers who choose to make payments by telephone or web page. The Company shall assist its customers in the resolution of any disputes between customers and the Third Party Vendor involving the credits posted by the Company to customers' accounts as a result of the processing of customer payments under this provision. The Company has no obligation, however, to participate in any dispute involving matters strictly between the customer and the Third Party Vendor or the customer's bank or card issuer.

6.0 TERMS & CONDITIONS:

The Company's Terms & Conditions, as may be amended from time to time, where not inconsistent with any specific provisions hereof, are a part of this provision.

OTHER MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES**LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ENHANCEMENT PLAN CHARGE****7.0 LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE ENHANCEMENT PLAN (LIHEAP) CHARGE:**

In accordance with R.I.G.L. § 39-1-27.12, the Company shall bill monthly to all customers a Low Income Home Energy Assistance Enhancement Plan charge (“LIHEAP Charge”) approved by the PUC, provided however that the annual charge shall not exceed \$10 per customer, per year. For purposes of this section a “customer” is defined as any person taking service at a single point of gas delivery or gas meter.

The monthly rate for the LIHEAP Charge is \$0.81 per customer and shall appear as a separate line item on a customer’s bill.

7.1 LIHEAP Enhancement Fund:

The Company shall establish a LIHEAP Enhancement Plan fund that shall be used to account for the combined funds collected through the LIHEAP Charge from both gas and electric service customers. The Rhode Island Department of Human Services (“DHS”) shall designate to the Company the qualifying customer accounts and the amounts to be credited from the LIHEAP Enhancement Plan fund. The cumulative amount of credits applied to customer bills will be limited to an amount no greater than the cumulative aggregate projected LIHEAP Charges billed through the end of the current calendar year. Once the aggregate credits applied to customer bills equals the aggregate projected LIHEAP Charges billed through the end of the current calendar year, including interest as defined below, the application of the LIHEAP Enhancement Plan credits would cease. Any difference in aggregate cumulative actual LIHEAP Charges billed and aggregate cumulative credits applied to customer bills, will accrue interest at the customer deposit interest rate.

The projected annual revenue in the LIHEAP Enhancement Plan fund collected through the gas and electric service LIHEAP Enhancement Plan charges shall not exceed seven million five hundred thousand dollars (\$7,500,000) and shall not be less than six million five hundred thousand dollars (\$6,500,000).

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OTHER MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES**LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ENHANCEMENT PLAN
CHARGE**

shelter into housing who provide acceptable documentation to DHS. Remaining funds available after September 30 of each year will be eligible for use in the upcoming winter season.

7.2 LIHEAP Eligible Customer:

For purposes of receiving funds from the LIHEAP Enhancement fund in subpart 7.1 above, a qualifying LIHEAP eligible customer shall be a household with a combined gross income equal to or less than 60 percent of the state median household income as calculated by the U.S. Bureau of Census and as adjusted for family or group size by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services regulation 45 CFR § 96.85 or its successor regulation.

OTHER MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES

PAPERLESS BILL CREDIT

8.0 PAPERLESS BILL CREDIT:

Customers receiving bills may elect to receive their bill electronically. Customers electing to receive their bills electronically will receive a paperless billing credit of \$0.34 each month per account.

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OTHER MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ENHANCEMENT PLAN CHARGE

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OTHER MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES**LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ENHANCEMENT PLAN
CHARGE**

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7.2 LIHEAP Eligible Customer:

For purposes of receiving funds from the LIHEAP Enhancement fund in subpart ~~7.12.0~~ above, a qualifying LIHEAP eligible customer shall be a household with a combined gross income equal to or less than ~~sixty percent~~ (60 percent%) of the state median household income as calculated by the U.S. Bureau of Census and as adjusted for family or group size by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services regulation 45 CFR ~~See:§~~ 96.85 or its successor regulation.

OTHER MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES

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