

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN RE: OFFICE OF ENERGY RESOURCES :  
PROPOSED LIHEAP ENHANCEMENT CHARGE : DOCKET NO. 4290  
FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2013 :

REPORT AND ORDER

WHEREAS, On July 13, 2011, Governor Chafee signed into law R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-1-27.12, the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (“LIHEAP”) Enhancement Plan;<sup>1</sup> and

WHEREAS, On October 11, 2011, the Office of Energy Resources (“OER”) filed with the Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) its recommended LIHEAP Enhancement Charge for calendar year 2012 proposing a charge of eighty-three cents (\$0.8333) per month for each customer; and

WHEREAS, The recommended rate, if made effective January 1, 2012, would generate total revenues between \$6.5 million and \$7.5 million; and

WHEREAS, After a hearing and investigation, the Commission approved OER’s proposed LIHEAP Enhancement Charge and The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid’s proposed electric and natural gas Tariffs designed to implement the LIHEAP Enhancement Charge; and

WHEREAS, On October 15, 2012, OER filed its proposed LIHEAP Enhancement Charge for 2013 recommending that the LIHEAP Enhancement Charge shall be eighty-three cents [\$0.83] per month for each customer for the calendar year 2013, with the term ‘customer’ defined as any person taking service from a[n] electric or gas distribution company at a single

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<sup>1</sup> The purpose of the LIHEAP Enhancement Plan was to create a separate fund through the creation of a new surcharge on all electric and gas customers’ bills in order to provide additional funding to supplement the federal LIHEAP funding that the State receives to assist low income customers in paying their energy bills. The statute currently only applies to National Grid.

point of electricity or gas delivery or electric or gas meter, with the maximum total annual LIHEAP Enhancement Charge to any 'customer' capped at ten dollars (\$10); and

WHEREAS, In its response to Commission Data Request 1-4, National Grid projected the LIHEAP Enhancement Charge would result in revenues of \$7,408,762 in 2013 and pursuant to the Procedural Schedule, National Grid filed its Enhancement Plan Reconciliation in which it projected that the LIHEAP Enhancement Charge would result in revenues of \$7,262,363 in 2012; and

WHEREAS, There were no proposals to change the administration of the program; and

WHEREAS, On November 30, 2012, the Division filed its comments regarding the 2013 LIHEAP Enhancement Charge recommending Commission approval of OER's proposed rate and National Grid's reconciliation as filed.

Accordingly, it is hereby

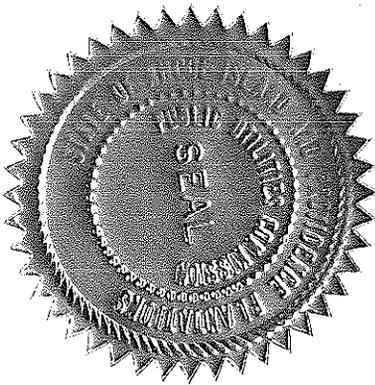
(20920) ORDERED:

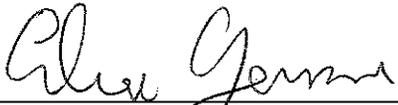
1. The LIHEAP Enhancement Charge shall be eighty-three cents (\$0.83) per month for each customer for the calendar year 2013, with the term 'customer' defined as any person taking service from a[n] electric or gas distribution company at a single point of electricity or gas delivery or electric or gas meter, with the maximum total annual LIHEAP Enhancement Charge to any 'customer' capped at ten dollars (\$10) is hereby approved on bills rendered on and after January 1, 2013.
2. The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid shall include an explanatory statement on customers' bills regarding the LIHEAP Enhancement Charge.
3. The Office of Energy Resources shall file with the Commission the LIHEAP Enhancement Credit amount at the time it is determined.

4. The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid shall file a reconciliation of the LIHEAP Enhancement Fund within two weeks of OER's filing to recommend the 2014 LIHEAP Enhancement Charge.
5. Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid shall comply with all other instructions contained in this Order.

EFFECTIVE AT WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND ON JANUARY 1, 2013 PURSUANT TO AN OPEN MEETING DECISION ON DECEMBER 20, 2012. WRITTEN ORDER ISSUED JANUARY 7, 2013.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION



  
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Elia Germani, Chairman

  
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Mary E. Bray, Commissioner

  
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Paul J. Roberti, Commissioner

**NOTICE OF RIGHT OF APPEAL PURSUANT TO R.I.G.L. SECTION 39-5-1, ANY PERSON AGGRIEVED BY A DECISION OR ORDER OF THE COMMISSION MAY, WITHIN SEVEN DAYS (7) DAYS FROM THE DATE OF THE ORDER, PETITION THE SUPREME COURT FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO REVIEW THE LEGALITY AND REASONABLENESS OF THE DECISION OR ORDER.**