

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

IN RE: NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC :
d/b/a NATIONAL GRID : **DOCKET NO. 4514**
TARIFF ADVICE :

ORDER

On November 7, 2014, The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid (National Grid or Company) filed a Tariff Advice with the Public Utilities Commission (PUC or Commission) to amend certain terms of its gas tariff. Specifically, National Grid seeks to amend RIPUC NG-GAS No. 101: (i) Non-Firm Sales (NFS) Service Rate 60, Section 5, Schedule G, Fifth Revision; (ii) Non-Firm Transportation (NFT) Service Rate 61, Section 6, Schedule A, Sixth Revision; and (iii) Transportation Terms and Conditions, Section 6, Schedule C, Seventh Revision.¹ A supplemental filing was made on November 21, 2014 to address an administrative change to correct the inadvertent inclusion of language regarding the peaking calculation in the definition of the Pipeline Commodity Charge instead of in the cost of Peaking supplies.

Under the Company's existing tariff, a customer who uses gas during a period of curtailment, without authorization by the Company for an exemption, is charged for gas usage at a penalty of five times the Daily Index plus either a non-firm service customer charge or a non-firm transportation service customer charge. Those customers who are authorized to use gas during the curtailment for a limited period are charged the highest cost gas required to meet demand during the applicable curtailment period. In either

¹ National Grid Distribution Adjustment Charge Tariff Advice Filing (Nov. 7, 2014). Material filed is generally available at the PUC offices located at 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island or at www.ripuc.org/eventsactions.html, organized by docket number. This tariff advice filing specifically is available at [http://www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/docket/4514-NGrid-TariffAdvice\(11-6-14\).pdf](http://www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/docket/4514-NGrid-TariffAdvice(11-6-14).pdf).

instance, whether authorized or unauthorized, customers who use gas during a period of curtailment have not been required to pay either distribution charges or energy efficiency charges.²

Prior to the PUC hearing on the Company's annual Distribution Adjustment Charge in this same docket, Bruce Oliver, a Division of Public Utilities and Carriers' (Division) consultant, raised concern regarding the Company's calculation of unauthorized gas usage charges. Specifically, Mr. Oliver questioned why non-firm customers who used gas during periods of curtailment were subject to neither distribution charges nor energy efficiency program charges.³

In addition to amending the tariff to required non-firm customers using gas during a period of curtailment to be subject to distribution charges and an energy efficiency program charges, the Company included language identifying the minimum charge as the customer charge per month. It also included language that when the Company, in its sole discretion, determines curtailment or interruption in service is necessary to continue to supply gas requirements to firm customers, the Company will provide non-firm customers with three working days' notice except in an emergency, when at least one hour's notice shall be given. Regarding the administrative change, the Company requested authority to move the language regarding the peaking calculation from the definition of the Pipeline Commodity Charge in Section 2, Schedule A, Sheet 3 and

² National Grid Distribution Adjustment Charge Supplemental Tariff Advice Filing (Nov. 21, 2014); [http://www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/docket/4514-NGrid-Supplement-Tariff-Advice\(11-21-14\).pdf](http://www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/docket/4514-NGrid-Supplement-Tariff-Advice(11-21-14).pdf).

³ Oliver Direct at 3,10,13 (Oct. 6, 2014); http://www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/docket/4514-DPU-Oliver_10-6-14.pdf.

Section 6, Schedule C, Sheet 22 to Section 6, Schedule C, Sheet 22 and into the cost of Peaking supplies. The Company requested the changes be effective January 1, 2015.⁴

At its December 11, 2014 Open Meeting, the Commission voted unanimously to approve National Grid's request to modify its gas tariff. The PUC noted that the Company represented that the Division concurred with the proposed revisions; the PUC received no objection from the Division. The Commission finds the revisions reasonable and necessary to ensure that all customers, firm and non-firm, are paying for use of the system whether they are authorized or unauthorized to use it. Although a non-firm customer who uses gas during periods of curtailment and is not authorized by the Company to do so is penalized, that penalty amount does not negate the fact that the customer used the distribution system. That customer should be required, as all other customers are, to pay for such usage. The Commission finds the modification necessary and in the best interests of all of National Grid's customers.

ACCORDINGLY, it is

(21856) ORDERED:

1. National Grid's request to amend certain terms of its gas tariff, specifically RIPUC NG-GAS No. 101: (i) Non-Firm Sales (NFS) Service Rate 60, Section 5, Schedule G, Fifth Revision; (ii) Non-Firm Transportation (NFT) Service Rate 61, Section 6, Schedule A, Sixth Revision; and (iii) Transportation Terms and Conditions, Section 6, Schedule C, Seventh Revision, is approved.
2. National Grid's request to move the language regarding the peaking calculation from the definition of the Pipeline Commodity Charge in Section

⁴ National Grid Distribution Adjustment Charge Supplemental Tariff Advice Filing (Nov. 21, 2014).

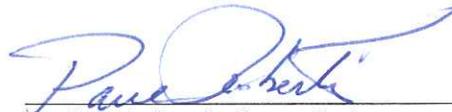
2, Schedule A, Sheet 3 and Section 6, Schedule C, Sheet 22 to Section 6, Schedule C, Sheet 22 in the cost of Peaking supplies is approved.

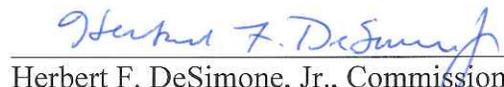
EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2015 IN WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND
PURSUANT TO AN OPEN MEETING DECISION ON DECEMBER 11, 2014.
WRITTEN ORDER ISSUED MARCH 18, 2015.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION




Margaret E. Curran, Chairperson


Paul J. Roberti, Commissioner


Herbert F. DeSimone, Jr., Commissioner

NOTICE OF RIGHT OF APPEAL: Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §39-5-1, any person aggrieved by a decision or order of the PUC may, within seven (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.