



# **ANALYSIS OF JOB CREATION from 2014 Expenditures for Energy Efficiency in Rhode Island by National Grid**

Prepared for National Grid

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## Executive Summary

In 2014, National Grid spent a total of \$101,683,507 on electric and gas energy efficiency programs and services in Rhode Island. These programs aimed at reducing energy use, saving money for customers, improving the environment, and improving the health, comfort, and safety of homes and businesses. Delivering the 2014 energy efficiency programs required the active involvement of a broad range of workers across a wide array of businesses, including not-for-profits, contractors, plumbers, rebate processors, state agencies, engineering firms, marketing firms, and others.

In order to quantify the number of direct workers involved, National Grid commissioned Peregrine Energy Group, Inc. (“Peregrine”) to conduct a study of the job impacts of National Grid’s energy efficiency programs delivered to Rhode Island electricity and natural gas customers in 2014. Peregrine had conducted a like study for National Grid in Rhode Island in 2013.

Peregrine determined that 639.4 full-time equivalent (FTE) workers were employed in 2014 as a result of investments by National Grid in energy efficiency programs provided to its Rhode Island electricity and natural gas customers. Most of the jobs created as a result of energy efficiency investments were local because they were tied to installation of equipment and other materials.

The 2014 FTE total was 17 percent greater than the 544.7 FTE workers that Peregrine had attributed to National Grid’s Rhode Island energy efficiency program investments in 2013. Total energy efficiency program spending rose from \$80,297,958 in 2013 to \$101,683,507 in 2014. During this period, electric savings from energy efficiency programs increased from 2.1% to 3.6% of 2009 sales, while natural gas savings from energy efficiency programs increased from 0.86% to 1.1% of 2009 sales. While National Grid’s programs and delivery strategies were not substantively different in these years, increased customer participation and demand for the energy efficiency services resulted in the involvement of a higher number of FTE workers.

The study identified 899 companies and agencies involved in National Grid’s Rhode Island programs, 77% of which were located in Rhode Island. The companies identified include those whose employees are counted in the FTE analysis, as well as additional companies who assisted customers to secure equipment rebates, for example through New Construction or High Efficiency HVAC programs. A full list of companies involved in the 2014 Rhode Island energy efficiency programs is included at the end of this report.

These findings confirm that job creation is an additional significant benefit that National Grid’s investment in energy efficiency has contributed to Rhode Island’s economy and to business owners and their employees that participate in and deliver these programs and services. One FTE equals 1,760 work hours, or the total of one person working 8 hours a day for 220 work days in an average year. Because a “full-time equivalent” employee often represents the labors of



more than one person over the course of a year, the number of individual workers employed as result of Rhode Island energy efficiency programs funded by National Grid is far larger than the total of FTEs.

Employers whose workers were supported by these program included organizations across a broad range of companies involved in energy program design, management and delivery. These include National Grid itself, program design consultants, energy program management specialists, marketing and advertising specialists, equipment manufacturers and suppliers, equipment and appliance retailers, architectural firms and developers, engineers and energy analysts, installation companies and independent contractors, quality assurance inspection companies, utility rebate processing houses, waste material recyclers, and program evaluators. In addition, Community Action Program agencies under contract to the state Department of Human Services delivered low-income energy efficiency services for the federal Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP).

