March 21, 2016

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

In Re: Investigation into the Changing Distribution and the Modernization of Rates in Light of the Changing Distribution System – Docket No. 4600

Dear Luly:

Enclosed for filing are an original and 10 copies of Lieutenant Governor Daniel J. McKee’s Application for Membership on the Stakeholder Committee in this matter.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]
Leah J. Donaldson
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN RE: INVESTIGATION INTO THE CHANGING DISTRIBUTION AND THE MODERNIZATION OF RATES : DOCKET No. 4600
IN LIGHT OF THE CHANGING DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM :

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP ON THE STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE
FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR DANIEL J. MCKEE

Now comes Daniel J. McKee ("McKee"), by his undersigned counsel, and pursuant to the Notice of Commencement of Docket and Invitation for Stakeholder Participation from the Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") dated March 18, 2016, hereby applies for membership on the stakeholder committee in this matter.

1. McKee is the Lieutenant Governor of the State of Rhode Island.

2. As the Lieutenant Governor, McKee serves as the Chairperson of the Small Business Advocacy Council pursuant to R.I.G.L. § 42-91-2(a).

3. As set forth in R.I.G.L. § 42-91-3(a): "The purpose of the council shall be to develop those specific and comprehensive recommendations for executive and legislative action as may be necessary and proper to maintain and encourage the continued viability of small businesses in the state."

4. Small businesses are the backbone of the Rhode Island economy. According to the Small Business Profile for Rhode Island published in February of 2013 by the United States Small Business Administration, Office of Advocacy:

   "Small businesses significantly impact Rhode Island’s economy. They represent 95.9 percent of all employers and employ 55.4 percent of the private-sector labor force. Small businesses are crucial to the fiscal condition of the state and numbered 95,471 in 2010."

5. Unfortunately, however, small businesses are historically under-represented in matters before the Commission. The interests of residential ratepayers are vigorously
represented by the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers and the Attorney General. The industrial and large commercial ratepayers in Rhode Island are often represented by The Energy Council of Rhode Island ("TEC-RI"). However, we are unaware of any specific representation of the interests of small businesses in this docket.

6. McKee, acting in his capacities as the Lieutenant Governor and the Chairperson of the Small Business Advocacy Council, respectfully applies for membership on the stakeholder committee in this docket.

7. If granted membership on the stakeholder committee, McKee intends to actively participate in good faith in the development of recommendations on the issues under consideration in this docket.

8. If granted membership on the stakeholder committee, McKee intends to utilize the expertise of and assistance of John Farley, a utility ratemaking expert, who is the former Executive Director of TEC-RI.

WHEREFORE, Lieutenant Governor Daniel J. McKee respectfully moves for membership on the stakeholder committee in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,
Lieutenant Governor Daniel J. McKee
By his attorneys

Date: March 21, 2016

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