

March 24, 2016

Chairperson Margaret Curran  
Commissioners Roberti and DeSimone  
Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission  
89 Jefferson Boulevard  
Warwick, RI 02888

Re: Application to participate in stakeholder committee in Docket 4600

Dear Chairperson Curran, Commissioner Roberti, and Commissioner DeSimone:

Thank you for the opportunity to apply to participate in the stakeholder process in Docket 4600, *Investigation into the Changing Distribution System and the Modernization of Rates in Light of the Changing Distribution System*. The Northeast Clean Energy Council (NECEC) applauds your foresight in opening this docket to investigate “rate modernization” and how rates can best incorporate public policy goals, consumer protection, and safe and reliable service.

NECEC is writing in response to the March 18 Notice of Commencement of Docket and Invitation for Stakeholder Participation for Docket 4600. NECEC requests membership on the stakeholder committee. Below we answer the questions laid out in the Notice.

**I. Name of Applicant and description of the interests such person shall represent:**

NECEC respectfully requests that Sue AnderBois (Rhode Island Coordinator) and Janet Gail Besser (VP, Policy and Government Relations) of the Northeast Clean Energy Council be added as participants to this stakeholder committee. Sue AnderBois would be NECEC’s lead participant.

NECEC is the lead voice for hundreds of clean energy companies across the Northeast. NECEC’s mission is to create a world-class clean energy hub in the Northeast delivering global impact with economic, energy and environmental solutions. We are the only organization in the Northeast that covers all of the clean energy market segments, representing the business perspectives of investors and clean energy companies across every stage of development. NECEC members span the broad spectrum of the clean energy industry, including energy efficiency, demand response, renewable energy, combined heat and power, energy storage, fuel cells and advanced and “smart” technologies. Many of our members are operating and investing in Rhode Island, and more are interested in doing so. NECEC has successfully represented its members in stakeholder processes and regulatory proceedings in Rhode Island in the past, including Docket 4568, the National Grid Rate Design proceeding and on the SIRI Steering Committee.

**II. Evidence that the applicant or nominee is authorized to represent parties related to the interests the person proposes to represent:**

As the Rhode Island Coordinator, Sue AnderBois is authorized to represent NECEC in this docket. As the Vice President of Policy and Government Affairs, Janet Gail Besser is authorized to represent NECEC in this docket.

NECEC is a membership-based business association. NECEC staff regularly represents the consensus opinions of our membership in regulatory, policymaking, and legislative forums. We have a well-developed process for consulting with our member companies, both to keep them abreast of the issues being discussed across the region and to tap their hands-on experience and expertise. We are able to bring a wealth of knowledge from not just a single developer or technology, but from a broad range of members spanning a range of technologies, sizes, and organizational structures.

In addition, both Sue and Janet bring a broad and deep knowledge of the industry. Janet is an energy policy and regulatory strategy leader with wide ranging industry experience in the Northeast as a regulator, developer, consultant, utility executive, and consumer advocate. Sue joined the NECEC team after many years working on clean energy policy strategy and grantmaking at the Energy Foundation, based in San Francisco. She also managed programs and policy initiatives at the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources and serves as the Vice Chair of the Distributed Generation Board. Their resumes are attached.

**III. A written commitment that the applicant or nominee shall actively participate in good faith in the development of recommendations on issues under consideration in the docket.**

NECEC will be an active participant in the development of recommendations in this docket. Sue AnderBois will be NECEC's primary representative, and Janet will participate when her expertise and experience would prove valuable. We will also regularly consult our member companies to ensure we are getting their input and representing their views as appropriate.

**IV. The reasons that the interests of the person submitting the application or nomination cannot be adequately represented by other representatives.**

There is no other organization that can represent the clean energy industry broadly, as well as bring the perspectives from similar proceedings in which we are involved in other states. Since we represent over 100 member businesses both in Rhode Island and across the region, no other entity or individual could accurately portray the perspectives of the clean energy industry with the same breadth and depth that we can.

Thank you for your consideration and for your leadership on this important issue. We look forward to participation and are available to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,



Peter Rothstein  
President

cc: Janet Gail Besser, VP Policy and Government Affairs  
Sue AnderBois, Rhode Island State Coordinator

## Sue AnderBois

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### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### **NORTHEAST CLEAN ENERGY COUNCIL**

Boston, MA

##### **Policy Analyst & RI State Coordinator**

April 2015 - present

- Research and data analysis on a wide range of energy-related topics
- Creation of memos, white papers, blogs, written and oral testimony, talking points, and other written materials
- Active participation in regulatory proceedings, legislative hearings, policy development and negotiations
- Regulatory and legislative policy tracking and strategy development across the Northeast
- Management of seven working groups for 100+ member company executives

#### **RHODE ISLAND OFFICE OF ENERGY RESOURCES**

Providence, RI

##### **Energy Policy & Planning Manager**

2014 – 2015

- Helped create and administer strategic planning and implementation process based on State Energy Plan
- Directed communications plan development and implementation, including: creation of consistent materials, drafting and editing press releases and reports, project management, supervision of communications intern
- Managed DOE Sunshot grant (in partnership with CommerceRI) to reduce soft costs of solar energy through policy research and implementation; led stakeholder outreach; and co-directed the Solarize Rhode Island pilot project
- Oversaw residential energy efficiency programs for the State, entailing providing detailed feedback on programs offered by National Grid and facilitation of working groups on specific efficiency-related topics

#### **FARM FRESH RHODE ISLAND**

Pawtucket, RI

##### **Markets Coordinator**

2013-2014

- Oversaw operations of the Pawtucket Wintertime Market, the largest winter farmers market in New England
- Coordinated relationships with vendors, farmers, local government officials, and other community members
- Communicated with Farm Fresh stakeholders via weekly newsletter, press releases, social media

#### **THE NATURE CONSERVANCY**

Sacramento, CA

##### **Summer Conservation Associate**

Summer 2012

- Researched and developed market-based fundraising strategy for large-scale rice farmland preservation
- Created a roadmap for implementing plan recommendations, including coordinating with stakeholders across the national organization

#### **ENERGY FOUNDATION**

San Francisco, CA

##### **Senior Program Associate**

2008-2011

- Helped develop and implement funding strategy for \$4-6 million annual budget, which necessitated evaluating approximately 50 proposals per year for alignment with energy efficiency policy goals
- Wrote, coordinated, and edited reports and proposals for funders and high-level stakeholders
- Discussed funding strategy with current and potential donors and grantees and industry experts

##### **Grants Assistant**

2007

- Prepared and performed due diligence on 300+ applications, totaling more than \$30,000,000 grant awards

#### **TRUST FOR HIDDEN VILLA**

Los Altos Hills, CA

##### **Environmental Educator & Volunteer Coordinator (Volunteer)**

2006 – 2011

- Led approximately 50 tours and classes per year, providing visitors with experiential education on sustainable agriculture and conservation
- Created and administered systems to coordinate outreach, training, and scheduling of weekend volunteers

**OFFICE OF ALICE WATERS, CHEZ PANISSE RESTAURANT**

Berkeley, CA

**Intern to Alice Waters**

2005 – 2006

- Supported Alice in achieving her food systems goals by helping manage her communications & logistics

EDUCATION

**YALE SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT**

New Haven, CT

*Master of Business Administration, foci in Marketing & Social Enterprise Management*

2011- 2013

- Distinction (top 10% of class): Probability & Statistics, Customer (Marketing), Consumer Behavior, Corporate Finance, Managing Social Enterprises, and Behavioral Marketing in Emerging Markets
- Co-Chair, Net Impact: Managed team of 23 student leaders for one of SOM's largest student-run clubs
- Board Fellow, Massaro Community Farm: strategic planning and meeting facilitation

**DARTMOUTH COLLEGE**

Hanover, NH

*Bachelor of Arts (BA), Environmental Studies, cum laude, Honors in Major*

2005

- Dean of the College Award for Service; Dana Meadows Award for Promotion of Sustainability

BOARDS AND SERVICE

- Treasurer & Council Member, Rhode Island Food Policy Council (January 2014 – present)
- Vice Chair, Providence Environmental Sustainability Task Force (January 2015 – present)
- Board Member, Farm Fresh Rhode Island (2016)
- Vice Chair, Rhode Island Distributed Generation Board – appointed by Governor Raimondo Summer 2015
- Board Member, CitySeed (May 2012 – May 2015)

PERSONAL INTERESTS

- Vegan baking and cooking, fitness & weight lifting, hiking, reading, positive psychology, behavioral economics

# JANET GAIL BESSER

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## SUMMARY

Energy policy and regulatory strategy leader with proven track record of influencing debate on framework and rules to advance competition, efficiency, and clean energy and to support needed investment.

- Effective advocate with recognized expertise, credibility, and communications success.
- Broad industry experience as regulator, utility, developer, consultant, and consumer advocate.
- National, regional, and state experience and recognition.
- Particular strength in bringing together diverse groups in pursuit of common goal.

## EXPERIENCE

NEW ENGLAND CLEAN ENERGY COUNCIL, Boston, MA

2012-present

### **Vice President, Policy and Government Affairs**

Lead policy development and advocacy activities of regional non-profit clean energy business and advocacy organization, coordinating across six state jurisdictions and at federal level, representing the business perspectives of investors and clean energy companies across broad spectrum of technologies and every stage of development.

- Led broad stakeholder coalition that resulted in successful enactment of 2012 Massachusetts energy law, expanding legislative and policy support for clean energy; negotiated compromise language and successfully advocated for passage of 2013 comprehensive Connecticut energy law, including new long term contracting provisions for clean energy sources across variety of technologies; successfully negotiated, with utility and environmental advocates, 2014 expansion of Rhode Island renewable energy growth program.
- Brought together and led “clean energy caucus” in groundbreaking Massachusetts regulatory proceeding to advance grid modernization, attracting broad support beyond clean energy community; leveraged Massachusetts experience, expertise and relationships in similar New York proceeding.
- Developed and led implementation of legislative and regulatory policy tracking, reporting and advocacy process for organization’s members.
- Established state coordinators/partnerships, Government Relations Committee and recruited new members, enhancing effectiveness of organization’s advocacy efforts.

NATIONAL GRID USA, Waltham, MA

2004-2011

### **Vice President, Regulatory Strategy and Policy (2007-2011)**

### **Vice President, Transmission Regulation and Commercial Services (2006-2007)**

### **Vice President, Transmission Regulatory Affairs (2004-2005)**

Led development of company regulatory strategy, coordinating policy positions across multiple state and federal jurisdictions to advance business objectives, ensure consistency, and enhance company influence on national, regional, and state energy policy and regulation.

- Developed and led implementation of regulatory outreach process for senior executive contact with key regulators, identifying company priorities leading to improved messaging for utilities across four states.
- Directed regulatory strategy to advance energy efficiency, renewable, clean, and advanced (smart) technology initiatives, achieving policy support and regulatory approvals for leading edge programs.
- Led development of widely disseminated and quoted white papers on role of transmission as a critical link in advancing renewable energy and competitive electricity markets, thereby shaping national debate.
- Effective expert witness on revenue decoupling as prerequisite to aggressive utility pursuit of energy efficiency. Recognized as expert on policy promoting energy efficiency, advising advocates and utilities nationally.
- Led cross-functional team and external consultants to assess benefits, costs, and risks of default service procurement strategy (affecting \$3B+/yr), successfully gaining regulatory approval of preferred approach.

## CONSULTING

*At two firms below (Analysis Group and Lexecon), provided energy policy, regulatory, strategy, economic advice and analysis, business consulting, and litigation support to variety of clients, including generators, developers, utilities, large and small customers, specializing in regulatory framework, incentive regulation, retail/wholesale market structure, renewable and advanced technologies, transmission, energy efficiency, and environmental issues.*

ANALYSIS GROUP, INC., Boston, MA

2003-2004

**Vice President**

- Led economic, technical, and policy analysis for national transmission forum and wrote report demonstrating need for transmission, identifying barriers to investment and options for overcoming them.
- Identified opportunities for existing and future development of renewable energy facilities by analyzing implications of locational marginal pricing.
- Provided analysis and expert witness testimony for several clients on economic and policy foundation for contracts resulting from federal and state law and regulation promoting competitive power generators, and on valuation of power plants post-industry restructuring.

LEXECON INC., Cambridge, MA

2000-2003

**Senior Vice President** (2001-2003)**Vice President** (2000-2001)

- Achieved consensus among diverse group of generators and marketers on framework for New England Regional Transmission Organization, providing technical and analytic support for FERC filings and successfully eliciting support of other key stakeholders.
- Advised generation company on wholesale energy and capacity market design, transmission and ISO issues, federal and state market rules, siting and environmental regulation to enhance participation in regional markets.
- Assisted large customer in negotiations with electric utilities to reduce costs, providing strategic advice, rate analysis, and evaluation of self-generation options.
- Provided support for transmission development to several clients through economic, technical, and policy analysis on planning, need, and siting of transmission, including impacts of non-wires alternatives.

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY

1995-2000

*Formerly and now Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities*

Boston, MA

**Chair** (1998-2000)**Acting Chair** (1997-1998)**Commissioner** (1995-1997)

Gained national recognition for MA, leading regulatory initiatives to restructure electric industry to introduce competitive wholesale generation and retail electricity markets while promoting energy efficiency and renewable energy.

- Initiated coordination with state environmental regulatory agency to align energy and environmental policy; led national effort to promote similar coordination in other states.
- Promoted incentive regulation, including key framework that led to adoption of performance-based rate plans and service quality standards for several electric, gas, and telecommunications companies.
- Established new policy to encourage and oversaw first utility mergers (two electric and three gas) in MA in over 20 years to capture efficiencies and reduce costs for customers.
- Led introduction of competition and unbundling in natural gas and telecommunications industries, improving efficiency and providing benefits to customers.

NATIONAL INDEPENDENT ENERGY PRODUCERS, Washington, DC

1993-1995

**Policy Director**

- Influenced federal and state policy and regulatory framework through regulatory filings and white papers to establish robust competitive generation markets to enhance efficiency and investment opportunities.
- Successfully coordinated and developed consensus among members of national trade association, with varying interests and business models, to advance competitive wholesale and retail markets.

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES, Boston, MA

1992-1993

**Director, Electric Power Division**

- Implemented integrated resource planning rules to promote energy efficiency and power purchase contract policy to ensure cost-effective and adequate supply for utility customers.
- Led state and regional efforts to coordinate energy and environmental policy to reduce emissions and advance clean energy resources while ensuring resource adequacy.

NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, Concord, NH 1988-1992  
**Manager, Energy Planning** (1991-1992)  
**Utility Analyst for Energy Planning** (1988-1991)

- Developed and implemented integrated resource planning process and rules for electric and gas industries, leading to first utility energy efficiency programs in the state.

MASSACHUSETTS EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY RESOURCES, Boston, MA 1985-1988  
**Director, Electricity Planning and Policy Development** (1987-1988)  
**Senior Electricity Economist** (1985-1986)

- Developed and produced State Annual Forecast of Energy Resources, the first systematic and analytically supported forecast of MA energy demand, resources and impacts of energy policy.
- Drafted and played significant role in developing consensus among six New England states to support Plan for Meeting New England's Electricity Needs.

### RELEVANT PRIOR EXPERIENCE

Worked as Assistant to Director of Development for Essex Development Associates, Inc., Concord, NH assessing feasibility and securing regulatory approvals of potential small hydroelectric projects. Began career as advocate for low-income energy customers at Belknap-Merrimack Community Action Programs, Concord, NH.

### EDUCATION

**M.P.P.**, HARVARD UNIVERSITY - JOHN F. KENNEDY SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT, Cambridge, MA

**B.A., Political Science**, *magna cum laude*, WILLIAMS COLLEGE, Williamstown, MA

### RECENT PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Member, Advisory Committee to MITe Utility of Future Study, November 2014-  
 Member, PowerOptions Board of Directors, 2011-present; Chair, Strategic Planning Committee, 2013-present  
 Lecturer, Energy Policies for a Sustainable Future, MIT, 2007, 2009-2011  
 Lecturer, Green Management Consulting, Babson College, 2009, 2011  
 Member, State Energy Efficiency Action Network Utility Motivation Working Group, 2010-2011  
 Member, New York State Climate Action Plan Integration Advisory Panel, 2009-2010  
 Member, Ceres 21<sup>st</sup> Century Utility Futures Group, 2009  
 Member, National Electricity Forum Working Group, 2007-2009  
 Founding Member and officer, WIRES (Working Group for Investment in Reliable and Economic Electric Systems), 2007  
 Chair, Green Buildings Advisory Committee, Massachusetts Renewable Energy Trust, 2002-2005  
 Member, National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) Board of Directors, 1999-2000  
 Member, Ad Hoc Committee on Electric Industry Restructuring, NARUC, 1998-2000  
 Vice Chair, Energy Resources and the Environment Committee, NARUC, 1997-1999; Member, 1995-2000  
 President, New England Conference of Public Utility Commissioners (NECPUC), 1997-1998; Member, 1995-2000  
 Member, The Energy Foundation Utility Futures Group, 1995-2000  
 Member, Harvard Electricity Policy Group, 1995-2003, 2007-2011  
 Member, Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) Advisory Council, 1995-1998  
 Member, New England Chapter, International Association for Energy Economists, 1988-2004

**PUBLICATIONS, REPORTS, AND ARTICLES**

“Leading the Next Era of Electricity Innovation: The Grid Modernization Challenge and Opportunity in the Northeast” (with Peter Rothstein and Jesse Jenkins), NECEC Institute White Paper, August 2014.

“Transmission and Wind Energy: Capturing the Prevailing Winds for the Benefit of Customers,” National Grid Paper, September 2006.

“Transmission: The Critical Link – Delivering the Promise of Industry Restructuring to Customers” (with Joe Rossignoli and Mary Ellen Paravalos), *The Electricity Journal*, Volume 18, Issue 5, 2005.

“Transmission: the Critical Link,” National Grid Paper, June 2005.

“Shining Light on the Blackout” (with Jeffrey Tranen), *The Energy Daily*, September 24, 2003.

“The Political Economy of Long-Term Generation Adequacy: Why an ICAP Mechanism Is Needed as Part of Standard Market Design” (with Susan F. Tierney and John Farr), *The Electricity Journal*, August/September 2002.

“Activating Ontario’s Capacity Market: Design and Implementation Issues” (with Susan F. Tierney and John Farr), prepared for Sithe Energies, Inc., October 24, 2001.

White paper on “Ensuring Sufficient Capacity Reserves in Today's Energy Markets” (with John Farr and Susan F. Tierney), prepared for submission as part of comments filed by Sithe Power Marketing LLC, Sithe New England Holdings, and FPL Energy LLC, in FERC Docket No. EX01-1-000, October 17, 2001.

“The Rationale and Need for Capacity Obligations and a Capacity Market in a Restructured Ontario Electricity Industry” (with Susan F. Tierney and John Farr), prepared for Sithe Energies, Inc., September 27, 2001.

“The Competitive Generation Market Has Been Assumed, Not Proven” (with Stephen Lewis), *The Electricity Journal*, April 1995.

“Is Competition Here? An Evaluation of Defects in the Market for Generation” (with Merribe S. Ayres, Harrison Wellford, and Scott Hempling), National Independent Energy Producers, Washington, DC, January 31, 1995.

“Utility Environmental Impacts: Incentives and Opportunities for Policy Coordination in the New England Region,” US EPA CX817494-01-0, RCEE Core Group, June 1994.

“The State Annual Forecast of Energy Resources 1987-1997: Fueling the Future,” principal author and editor, The Executive Office of Energy Resources, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, December 1987.