STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN RE: BLOCK ISLAND POWER COMPANY : DOCKET NO. 4606

WAIVER REQUEST UNDER TO R.I.G.L. § 39-1-27(g)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §39-1, the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) will conduct a hearing on **Thursday**, **July 14**, **2016** @ **10:00 A.M.** in Hearing Room A at the PUC's office located at 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island on the above subject matter.

The PUC exempted the Block Island Power Company from the Utility Restructuring Act of 1996 (URA) and that the exemption remain in effect until six (6) months after an undersea cable connecting Block Island to the mainland electric grid was installed and operational. An undersea electric cable is expected to be operational on or about December 31, 2016. In this docket, the PUC will examine the propriety of Block Island Power Company's petition for a waiver from certain requirements of the URA under R.I.G.L. §39-1-27(g), specifically for exemption (1) from the requirement to transfer ownership of generation facilities to an affiliated company, (2) from the prohibition against selling electricity at retail and (3) from certain standards of conduct. If the waiver is granted, BIPCo maintains that it will continue to own its generation facilities and use them to provide backup and safety in the case of any discontinuance or loss of power from the mainland. BIPCo also maintains that rates, tolls and charges will remain reasonable. The PUC may rule immediately at the conclusion of the hearing.

The petition is available for examination at the PUC's office. The docket can also be accessed at www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/docket/4606page.html. Reference is made to Chapters 39-1, 39-3 and 42-35 of the Rhode Island General Laws.

The PUC is accessible to the handicapped. Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must notify the Commission Clerk's office at 780-2107, seventy-two hours in advance of hearing date.

Luly E. Massaro, Commission Clerk April 29, 2016