

PETER V. LACOUTURE

One Financial Plaza, Suite 1430
Providence, RI 02903-2485
Direct (401) 709-3314
Fax (401) 709-3377
placouture@rc.com

Via Hand Delivery

June 30, 2016

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

**Re: The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid
Aquidneck Island Reliability Project
PUC Docket No. 4614**

Dear Ms. Massaro:

I am enclosing for filing on behalf of The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid five (5) copies of prefiled testimony of David M. Campilii in PUC Docket No. 4614.

We are sending electronic copies to the Service List and will provide a hard copy to anyone that requests it. Please acknowledge receipt of this filing on the enclosed copy of this letter and return it with my messenger. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



Peter V. Lacouture

Enclosure

Copy to: Cynthia Wilson-Frias, Esq. (*via hand delivery*)
PUC Docket No. 4614 Service list (*via e-mail*)

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The Narragansett Electric Company
d/b/a National Grid (Aquidneck Island Reliability Project)
RIPUC Dkt. No. 4614

Testimony of
David M. Campilii, P.E.

June 30, 2016

1 Q. Have you testified before the Public Utilities Commission (“PUC”) or Energy Facility
2 Siting Board (the “Siting Board”) in previous cases?

3 A. Yes, I testified before the Siting Board on the Manchester Street Repowering Project, the
4 E-183 Relocation Project, the Southern Rhode Island Transmission Project, the Rhode
5 Island Reliability Project and the New England East-West Solution Interstate Reliability
6 Project. I have testified before the PUC on the E-183 Project and the Southern Rhode
7 Island Transmission Project.

8 Q. Are you familiar with National Grid’s Aquidneck Island Reliability Project (the
9 “Project”)?

10 A. Yes. I was involved in the examination and development of underground transmission
11 alternatives for the Project.

12 Q. What is the scope of your testimony in this proceeding?

13 A. The purpose of my testimony is to describe the underground alternatives which were
14 considered as part of this Project.

15 Q. Are you familiar with National Grid’s Siting Board application, including the
16 Environmental Report (“ER”) prepared by Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. (“VHB”) for
17 the Project?

18 A. Yes, I prepared the analysis of underground alternatives in the ER.

19 UNDERGROUND ALTERNATIVES

20 Q. Please explain the underground technology you considered for this Project.

21 A. As summarized in Section 5.3.4 of the ER, we selected extruded dielectric cable as the
22 preferred underground technology. Extruded dielectric cable consists of a conductor

1 insulated with an extruded synthetic polymer material. At 115 kV, the insulation can be
2 either cross-linked polyethylene or ethylene-propylene rubber. Additional layers
3 consisting of a metallic shield, radial moisture barrier and a jacket are applied over the
4 insulation, and then the individual cables are pulled into individual plastic conduits
5 encased in concrete. Extruded dielectric cable has become the most common type of
6 cable used for new underground transmission cable installations in the United States.

7 Q. Are there operational and maintenance issues related to underground transmission lines
8 compared to overhead lines?

9 A. Yes, there are several as discussed in Section 5.3.4 of the ER.

10 (a) Lengthy Outage Repair Times: When an overhead transmission line experiences
11 an outage, it can typically be repaired within 24 to 48 hours. In the case of a failure of an
12 underground transmission cable, repair times can be in the range of two weeks to a month
13 or more. The extended outage times for underground cables expose the remainder of the
14 transmission system to emergency loadings for longer periods of time. There is also
15 increased exposure to loss of another transmission element, with possible loss of load,
16 during the extended underground outage.

17 (b) Reclosing: Many faults on overhead lines are temporary in nature. Often it is
18 possible to “reclose” (re-energize) an overhead line after a temporary fault, and return the
19 line to service with only a brief interruption, measured in seconds. Faults on underground
20 transmission cables are almost never temporary, and the cable must remain out of service
21 until the problem is diagnosed and repairs can be completed.

22 (c) Line Ratings: It is often difficult to match overhead line ratings with underground

1 cables. It is also much more difficult to upgrade ratings on underground lines should that
2 become necessary in the future.

3 (d) Cable Capacitance: Underground cables have significantly higher capacitance
4 than overhead transmission lines, meaning that it takes reactive power (MVARs) to
5 “charge up” the cable before the cable can transmit real power (MWs). This has several
6 ramifications: (i) Part of the cable’s capacity is used up by the charging current, so larger
7 conductors are needed to transmit an equivalent amount of power. These have been
8 included in the system design described above. (ii) Capacitance can create voltage control
9 problems, meaning that the voltage can get too high when the transmission system is at
10 light load. If the 61 and 62 Lines were constructed underground, there would be
11 approximately 11 MVAR of cable charging per cable, or 22 MVAR for the two circuits.
12 The transmission system may be able to absorb this much capacitance, or it may be
13 necessary to install additional equipment, in the form of shunt reactors, at one or both
14 terminal substations.

15 Cable capacitance causes higher switching transient voltages on the system (voltage
16 “spikes” during switching). This can damage other system components, may trigger the
17 need to replace surge arresters throughout the area, and complicates future system
18 expansions.

19 Q. What underground routes were considered?

20 A. We considered a right of way (ROW) Route and a Public Roadway Route. The ROW
21 Route would follow the existing overhead transmission line ROW from Dexter
22 Substation to the new Jepson Substation. The route is approximately 4.5 miles long, and

1 traverses forested upland, wetland, residential neighborhoods and agricultural fields. The
2 southern portion of the route crosses the Green Valley Golf Course and threads between
3 Saint Mary's Pond and Sisson Pond through a forested ROW and then turns sharply east
4 and crosses the southern portion of Sisson Pond and crosses Jepson Lane where it
5 terminates at the new Jepson Substation. Special construction techniques, such as
6 horizontal directional drilling, would be needed to cross the ponds with an underground
7 route. The ROW Route is shown in ER Figure 5-1.

8 The Public Roadway Route was developed using the existing public roadway network.
9 This route would exit Dexter Substation onto Freeborn Street, proceed west on Freeborn
10 Street to West Dexter Street, then south on West Main Road (Route 114) where it would
11 turn east on to Union Street, then south on Jepson Lane to the Jepson Substation. The
12 route is approximately 5.0 miles long. The representative roadway route is a reasonably
13 direct connection between the two substations, but is not the result of an exhaustive
14 analysis of possible cable routes. It is intended to provide a representative cost, and to
15 address other issues associated with underground transmission lines. Other roadway
16 routes would be expected to be approximately the same length, and have similar costs.
17 For any underground roadway route, typical open trenching techniques would be used.
18 The use of the public roadway network would create significant traffic impacts during
19 construction of the underground duct bank system. The Roadway Route is shown in ER
20 Figure 5-1.

21 Q. What is the estimated cost of the underground alternative?

1 A. Conceptual cost estimates were prepared for both underground route alternatives. The
2 conceptual cost estimates of \$48 Million for the ROW Route and \$67.5 Million for the
3 Public Roadway Route. These costs do not include: modifications to the terminal
4 substations to accept underground transmission cables; Shunt Reactive compensation, if
5 required; property acquisition costs (if required); and rebuilding of the Jepson Substation
6 (a common cost with the Project).

7 Q. What is the most practical underground alternative?

8 A. Any underground alternative would be expected to have significant cost, operational, and
9 schedule disadvantages compared to the proposed Project. At this point, we believe the
10 most practical underground alternative would be one that would use the roadway
11 network, and which would utilize solid dielectric cable construction.

12 Q. You have discussed a number of disadvantages of underground transmission. When
13 would National Grid consider installing underground transmission lines?

14 A. In general, National Grid proposes overhead transmission lines as the preferred
15 technology for most additions to the transmission system. This is primarily for reasons of
16 cost, and for the reliability and operational issues discussed in the ER and in this
17 testimony. However, there are occasions when National Grid may propose or accept
18 underground transmission as the technology for a particular project. The most common
19 situation where National Grid would propose underground transmission is where
20 National Grid had no overhead ROW and no practical means to obtain a ROW (due to
21 cost, availability, timing, or other reasons). The E105 and F106 cables between
22 Manchester Street Substation and Hartford Avenue Substation are an example of this,

1 where it would have been impractical to create a 250 foot wide ROW corridor for
2 overhead lines from downtown Providence to the I-295 - Route 6 area of Johnston.

3 Another situation where National Grid would consider underground transmission would
4 be a situation where an overhead transmission line would affect the operation of an
5 airport. In this case, a short "dip" in the overhead transmission line would be installed,
6 with an overhead to underground transition station at each end of the underground
7 transmission line.

8 National Grid will also consider underground transmission lines at or near existing
9 substations when it is determined that there is not adequate space around or within an
10 existing substation for a proposed expansion. This type of installation will typically take
11 the form of a short underground "getaway" with a transition to an overhead transmission
12 line outside the substation.

13 In cases of long water body crossings, where it is impractical to span the water body from
14 shore line towers, National Grid will consider submarine cables (a form of underground
15 transmission line) for the water crossing.

16 Finally, under some circumstances, National Grid will consider installing an underground
17 transmission line when a customer requests underground supply and pays for the cost of
18 the underground line. For this type of request, National Grid would need to evaluate the
19 effect on the larger transmission system before agreeing to an underground installation.

20 In each of these circumstances, National Grid evaluates the particular issues associated
21 with underground transmission lines (line ratings, longer outage restoration times,
22 different electrical characteristics from overhead lines, etc.) Addressing these issues often

1 results in installing more than one underground transmission cable in situations where a
2 single overhead transmission line would have been adequate. Compensating for
3 underground transmission issues also typically involves installing more equipment at the
4 terminal substations, and sometimes imposing operating restrictions on the system.

5 Q. You referred to a “dip” in the answer to the previous question. Would National Grid
6 consider putting a dip in an overhead transmission line for reasons other than to avoid
7 interfering with airport operations?

8 A. We are occasionally asked to put an underground dip in an overhead transmission line as
9 it passes a particular neighborhood. We have included a discussion of the cost and
10 implications of constructing a short underground segment in an overhead transmission
11 line in Section 5.3.5 of the ER. In addition to the significant cost and operational issues
12 that would result, it would be necessary to build transition stations at each end of the dip.
13 This would be a fenced switching station, approximately 100 feet by 100 feet, and similar
14 in appearance to an electrical substation. Because of the operational complications and
15 cost, unless there is a very strong justification, we would not install a dip in an overhead
16 transmission line.

17 Q. Does this conclude your testimony?

18 A. Yes, it does.