

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

IN RE: SEASTREAK, LLC :
TARIFF FILING : **DOCKET NO. 4621**

ORDER

On April 10, 2019, SeaStreak, LLC (SeaStreak), together with the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (DOT), filed a tariff with the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to increase adult rates (each way) by \$1.00 and child rates by \$0.50 for ferry transportation between the City of Providence and the City of Newport commencing with the 2019 season. Seastreak also included, for the first time, rates for service between Providence, the Town of Bristol, and City of Newport.^{1,2} Seastreak offered that its fuel costs necessitated the increase. On April 15, 2019, after a review of SeaStreak's filing, Joel Munoz, Rate Analyst of the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (Division), filed a memorandum with the PUC recommending approval of the proposed increase.³

¹ 2019 Tariff Advice Filing; <http://www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/docket/4621-SeaStreak-ProposedTariff-2019.pdf>. The 2019 season will run from May 24, 2019 through October 8, 2019. The project is subsidized through a grant to the State of Rhode Island under the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act/Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) Program. The project is operated under a contract with DOT. 2016 Tariff Filing; http://www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/docket/4621-SeaStreak-Tariff_6-9-16.pdf. The passenger fares for the ferry service will be: Adults--\$11.00 one way, \$22.00 round trip; Senior Citizens, Disabled Individuals and children Ages 12 and under - \$5.50 one way, \$10.50 round trip.

² On May 10, 2019, the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers approved a modification to Seastreak's Certificate of Convenience and Public Necessity, authorizing the new service. Division Order No. 23580, In re: Application by Seastreak, LLC to Amend Water Carrier CPCN W-1178, Docket No. 19-MC-134 (May 10, 2019).

³ Munoz Mem.; <http://www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/docket/4621-Division%20Memo.pdf>.

On April 30, 2019, the PUC considered the matter at an Open Meeting and approved the proposed increase. Based upon the fact that the services proposed by the applicant do not constitute lifeline ferry services to an isolated ratepayer population, the PUC further found good cause existed, under R.I. Gen. Laws. § 39-3-12, to waive further investigation, further notice, and public hearing.

Accordingly, it is hereby

(23591) ORDERED:

The April 10, 2019 tariff filing made by SeaStreak, LLC and DOT, seeking approval to set new rates for ferry transportation between the City of Providence, the Town of Bristol, and the City of Newport commencing with the 2019 season, is hereby approved.

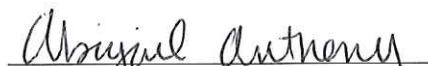
EFFECTIVE AT WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND ON MAY 24, 2019
PURSUANT TO AN OPEN MEETING DECISION ON APRIL 30, 2019. WRITTEN
ORDER ISSUED ON MAY 22, 2019.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION



Margaret E. Curran, Chairman

Marion S. Gold, Commissioner



Abigail Anthony, Commissioner

Notice of Right of Appeal: Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-5-1, any person aggrieved by a decision or order of the PUC may, within 7 days from the date of the Order, petition the Supreme Court for a Writ of Certiorari to review the legality and reasonableness of the decision or Order.