

February 14, 2017

**BY HAND DELIVERY AND ELECTRONIC MAIL**

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

**RE: Docket 4631 - Tariff Advice Filing to Amend Net Metering Provision  
RIPUC No. 2169  
Responses to PUC Data Requests – Set 1**

Dear Ms. Massaro:

On behalf of National Grid,<sup>1</sup> I have enclosed ten (10) copies of the Company's response to PUC 1-1.

This transmittal completes the Company's responses to the first set of data requests issued in this docket.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions regarding this filing, please contact me at 781-907-2121.

Very truly yours,



Raquel J. Webster

Enclosures

cc: Docket 4631 Service List  
Leo Wold, Esq., Division  
Steve Scialabba, Division

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<sup>1</sup> The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid (National Grid or Company).

The Narragansett Electric Company  
d/b/a National Grid  
RIPUC Docket No. 4631  
In Re: Tariff Advice to Amend Net Metering Provision  
Community Net Metering Pilot  
Responses to Commission's First Set of Data Requests  
Issued on January 20, 2017

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PUC 1-1

Request:

Referencing slide 9 of the January 11, 2017 power point, please provide the estimated cost of the online portal, the +/- range accuracy of that cost, and how the Company will propose to recover those costs. How will that cost compare to the current administrative costs related to update Schedule B manually?

Response:

In Massachusetts, New York, and Rhode Island, the Company and its affiliates have two IT-related system level projects, which are being developed to enhance customers' and employees' experiences with the interconnection process. The Company undertook these projects because of the continued high interest customers have in installing DG and taking advantage of community net metering. The first project, referred to as the Interconnection Online Application Portal (IOAP), will enable customers to submit their DG applications on-line and allow them to track the status of their applications throughout the process. The second project will automate, as much as possible, the process of allocating net metering or other credits from a host DG site (solar farm or other stand-alone DG) to, in many cases, potentially hundreds of off-takers.

This automation project, coupled with the IOAP, will replace the need for customers to manually send in a Schedule B. Currently, in Rhode Island, there are only a small number of projects that involve allocating credits to off-takers. Therefore, the current manual work is minimal. With the high interest in public and private community net metering and the Company's Renewable Energy Growth Program, the Company expects that the work to manage Schedule B will grow significantly. In addition, the Company has seen a strong interest from community net metering developers for an on-line, automated way to provide the initial Schedule B. These developers would also like the ability to make subsequent changes as off-takers come and go.

The Company is diligently working on both projects, but cost data specific to Rhode Island is not yet available.

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a copy of the cover letter and any materials accompanying this certificate was electronically transmitted to the individuals listed below.

The paper copies of this filing are being hand delivered to the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission and to the Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities and Carriers.



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Joanne M. Scanlon

February 10, 2017

Date

**Docket No. 4631 National Grid – Tariff Advice to Amend Net Metering Provision  
Service List updated 1/19/17**

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