

February 1, 2018

VIA HAND DELIVERY AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

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

RE: Docket 4780 – The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid Proposed Power Sector Transformation Vision and Implementation Plan Responses to the Department of Navy Data Requests – Set 1

Dear Ms. Massaro:

Enclosed are an original and one copy of the Company's¹ responses to the first set of data requests issued by the Department of the Navy (DON) in the above-referenced docket. At the request of the Public Utilities Commission (PUC), the Company is also enclosing a USB Flash Drive containing the public version of the filing and a table of contents indicating where each response can be found in the set.

This filing includes a Motion for Protective Treatment of Confidential Information in accordance with Rule 1.2(g) of the PUC's Rules of Practice and Procedure and R.I. Gen. Laws § 38-2-2(4)(B) for the Company's response to data request DON 1-1. The Company seeks protection from public disclosure of certain confidential information contained in Attachment DON 1-1-3 and Attachment DON 1-1-18 provided with the response to data request DON 1-1. Accordingly, the Company has provided the PUC with one complete, unredacted copy of the confidential documents in a sealed envelope marked "Contains Privileged and Confidential Information – Do Not Release," and has included redacted copies of this documents for the public filing.

The enclosed responses complete the DON's first set of data requests, as indicated in the enclosed discovery log.

Thank you for your attention to this transmittal. If you have any questions, please contact me at 401-784-7288.

Very truly yours,

Jennifer Brooks Hutchinson

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¹ The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid (the Company).

Luly E. Massaro, Commission Clerk Docket No. 4780 – Responses to Division Set 1 January 24, 2018 Page 2 of 2

Enclosures

cc: Docket 4780 Service List
Macky McCleary, Division
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN RE: The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National)

(PST) Vision and Implementation Plan

Grid's Proposed Power Sector Transformation

Docket No. 4780

THE COMPANY'S MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE TREATMENT OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

The Company¹ respectfully requests that the Rhode Island Public Utilities

Commission (PUC) provide confidential treatment and grant protection from public

disclosure of certain confidential, competitively sensitive, and proprietary information

submitted in this proceeding, as permitted by PUC Rule 1.2(g) and R.I. Gen. Laws. § 38
2-2(4)(B). The Company also requests that, pending entry of that finding, the PUC

preliminarily grant the Company's request for confidential treatment pursuant to Rule 1.2

(g)(2).

I. BACKGROUND

On February 1, 2018, the Company filed responses to the Department of the Navy's (Navy) First Set of Data Requests to National Grid dated January 11, 2018 (Navy Set 1). Navy Set 1 includes Data Request DON 1-1 (seeking "a copy of all workpapers supporting the Schedules contained in the Testimony in native format" for the Company's Power Sector Transformation Plan filing). The Company's response to DON 1-1 includes Attachment DON 1-1-3 and Attachment DON 1-1-18, each of which is an Excel file containing confidential and proprietary commercial and financial information that the Company ordinarily would not share with the public. Specifically, these

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¹ The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid (the Company).

attachments contain confidential pricing information received from third parties for the Company's AMF proposal in this docket.

Therefore, the Company requests that, pursuant to Rule 1.2(g), the PUC afford confidential treatment to the information contained in: (1) Attachment DON 1-1-4, and (2) Attachment DON 1-1-18.

II. <u>LEGAL STANDARD</u>

PUC Rule 1.2(g) provides that access to public records shall be granted in accordance with the Access to Public Records Act (APRA), R.I. Gen. Laws § 38-2-1, et seq. Under the APRA, all documents and materials submitted in connection with the transaction of official business by an agency is deemed to be a "public record," unless the information contained in such documents and materials falls within one of the exceptions specifically identified in R.I. Gen. Laws § 38-2-2(4). Therefore, to the extent that information provided to the PUC falls within one of the designated exceptions to the public records law, the PUC has the authority under the terms of the APRA to deem such information to be confidential and to protect that information from public disclosure.

In that regard, R.I. Gen. Laws § 38-2-2(4)(B) provides that the following types of records shall not be deemed public:

Trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person, firm, or corporation which is of a privileged or confidential nature.

The Rhode Island Supreme Court has held that this confidential information exemption applies where disclosure of information would be likely either to (1) impair the Government's ability to obtain necessary information in the future; or (2) cause substantial harm to the competitive position of the person from whom the information

was obtained. <u>Providence Journal Company v. Convention Center Authority</u>, 774 A.2d 40 (R.I. 2001).

The first prong of the test is satisfied when information is voluntarily provided to the governmental agency and that information is of a kind that would customarily not be released to the public by the person from whom it was obtained. Providence Journal, 774 A.2d at 47.

III. BASIS FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

The information contained in Attachment DON 1-1-3 and Attachment DON 1-1-18 should be protected from public disclosure. As described herein, these attachments contain confidential and proprietary commercial and financial information relating to the Company's business operations. Specifically, each of these attachments contain confidential pricing information obtained from third parties. It is the type of information that the Company ordinarily would not disclose to the public. Therefore, the Company is providing Attachment DON 1-1-3 and Attachment DON 1-1-18 to the PUC on a voluntary basis to assist the PUC with its decision-making in this proceeding, but respectfully requests that the PUC provide confidential treatment to this attachment.

IV. CONCLUSION

Accordingly, the Company respectfully requests that the PUC grant protective treatment to Attachment DON 1-1-3 and Attachment DON 1-1-18.

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WHEREFORE, the Company respectfully requests that the PUC grant this Motion for Protective Treatment.

Respectfully submitted,

THE NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC COMPANY

By its attorneys,

Jennifer Brooks Hutchinson. (RI #6176)

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Dated: February 1, 2018

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a copy of the cover letter and/or any materials accompanying this certificate were electronically transmitted and/or hand delivered to the individuals listed below.

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	<u>February 1, 2018</u>
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Docket No. 4780 - National Grid – Power Sector Transformation Filing Service list updated 1/12/2018

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN RE: THE NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC COMPANY

d/b/a NATIONAL GRID -PROPOSED POWER SECTOR

TRANSFORMATION (PST) VISION AND

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

: DOCKET NO. 4780

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY'S FIRST SET OF DATA REQUESTS TO NATIONAL GRID

Through counsel, the Department of the Navy (DON) makes the following data requests to National Grid.

DON 1-1 Please provide a copy of all workpapers supporting the Schedules contained in the Testimony in native format (i.e., WORD and EXCEL or a compatible format). EXCEL workbooks should be provided with all formulas and links intact.

Response can be found in Book 1 part 1 on Bates page(s) 1-Book 1 part 2 on Bates page(s) 229.

DON 1-2 Please explain what effect, if any, the instant filing proposals will have on distributed generation programs.

Response can be found in Book 1 part 2 on Bates page(s) 230.

DON 1-3 Please explain what effect, if any, the instant filing proposals will have on Combined Heat and Power incentives.

Response can be found in Book 1 part 2 on Bates page(s) 231.