

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

**NOTICE OF OPEN MEETING**

Pursuant to the provisions of the Rhode Island Open Meetings Act, R.I.G.L. § 42-46-6 (b)-(c) and § 39-1-32(a), the public is hereby notified that the Public Utilities Commission (Commission or PUC) will hold an open meeting on **Monday, March 30, 2020, at 2:00 P.M.** in Hearing Room A, 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island for purpose of discussing, deliberating and/or voting on the following matter. Because this is not a hearing, the PUC will not be accepting oral public comments. The Open Meeting will be streamed live at <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/WqQyXw296dg>.

I. Call to Order

- II. Docket No. 5022 – Suspension of Service Terminations and Certain Collections Activities During the COVID-19 Emergency - On March 16, 2020, the PUC voted to enter an emergency order, effective immediately, through March 31, 2020, to prohibit regulated electric, natural gas, water, and sewer utilities to cease termination of service for nonpayment, cease sending past due accounts to collection agencies, and to refrain from sending termination notices with shut-off dates prior to April 1, 2020 for nonresidential customers. Absent a vote to continue the order or modify the order, the March 16, 2020 order will terminate at 12:01 a.m. on April 1, 2020.

At this open meeting, the PUC will vote on whether the emergency order should be continued or modified. In making its decision, the PUC will consider whether the State of Rhode Island is still under a state of emergency, whether businesses are open, whether collections have significantly impaired, or are likely to impair the ability of the utilities, particularly non-investor-owned utilities, from meeting financial obligations, among any other information made available to the PUC. Such information may include comments and data as noted below.

- a. In the emergency order and through a separate notice, the PUC invited written public comments which may be submitted to [luly.massaro@puc.ri.gov](mailto:luly.massaro@puc.ri.gov) or Luly E. Massaro, Commission Clerk, RIPUC, 89 Jefferson Blvd., Warwick, RI 02888. The PUC requests comments be submitted on or before March 26, 2020, but will consider all comments submitted in time for review prior to the open meeting.
- b. In the emergency order and through a separate notice, the PUC requested the utilities provide the following information on or before March 26, 2020:
  - i. Whether collections have dropped off for nonresidential customers over the past two weeks compared to prior months and prior years?
  - ii. If so, please quantify the extent of the reduction.
  - iii. What effect has any such reduction had on the utility's cash flow?
  - iv. Has the utility been unable to meet any obligations, or does it expect to be unable to meet any financial obligations in the next two weeks if it cannot commence termination of service as a collections option.

III. Adjourn

Luly E. Massaro, Commission Clerk  
March 18, 2020 at 3:00 P.M.