

DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES & CARRIERS Accounting Section 89 Jefferson Boulevard Warwick, Rhode Island 02888 (401) 941-4500 (401) 941-9248 - Fax

Memo

To: Luly Massaro, Commission Clerk

Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission

From: Joel Munoz, Rate Analyst

Date: February 26, 2021

Re: Docket No.: 5080 – The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid

2021-2023 Three-Year System Reliability Procurement Plan

The Division of Public Utilities & Carriers ("Division") reviewed National Grid's 2021-2023 Three-Year System Reliability Procurement Plan (the "Plan"), filed on November 20, 2020, and finds that it is in compliance with the most recently updated Least Cost Procurement Standards adopted by the Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") in Docket No.: 5015 and R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-1-27.7, the Least Cost Procurement Statute.

As a ratepayer advocate, the Division focuses on costs to ratepayers. It is worth noting that without any fully vetted investment projects and with no new enhancements to the Data Portal or the Market Engagement program, the Plan has a \$0 incremental cost to ratepayers.

The Division looks forward to its continued participation in the System Reliability Procurement ("SRP") Technical Working Group to further explore potential opportunities to defer, reduce, or remove the need for traditional distribution wires and pipes investment in favor of Non-Wires and Non-Pipeline Alternatives.

Although, the Divisions supports the filing and recommends that the Commission approve it as filed, the Division reserves its rights to comment on specific SRP Investment Proposals as they are filed. The Division would need the opportunity to evaluate each proposal individually and weigh the costs and benefits to ratepayers.