

February 1, 2021

**BY ELECTRONIC MAIL**

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

**RE: Docket 5099 - Proposed FY 2022 Gas Infrastructure, Safety, and Reliability Plan Responses to OER Data Requests – Set 1**

Dear Ms. Massaro:

I have enclosed an electronic version of National Grid's<sup>1</sup> responses to the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources' First Set of Data Requests in the above-referenced matter.

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

Very truly yours,



Raquel J. Webster

Enclosures

cc: Docket 5099 Service List  
Leo Wold, Esq.  
Al Mancini, Division  
John Bell, Division  
Rod Walker, Division

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

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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joanne M. Scanlon

February 1, 2021

Date

**Docket No. 5099- National Grid's FY 2022 Gas Infrastructure, Safety and Reliability (ISR) Plan - Service List 1/7/2021**

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<b>File an original &amp; five (5) copies w/:</b> Luly E. Massaro, Commission Clerk Public Utilities Commission 89 Jefferson Blvd. Warwick RI 02888	<a href="mailto:Luly.massaro@puc.ri.gov">Luly.massaro@puc.ri.gov</a> ;	401-780-2107
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The Narragansett Electric Company  
d/b/a National Grid  
RIPUC Docket No. 5099

In Re: Gas Infrastructure, Safety, and Reliability Plan FY2022  
Responses to the Office of Energy Resources' First Set of Data Requests  
Issued on January 15, 2021

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OER 1-1

Request:

Regarding the Proactive Main Replacement Program: Referring to Bates pages 56-59, National Grid describes proactive main replacement and rehabilitation of leak-prone pipes. Please complete the below table as it pertains to (a) and (b). Please provide the table in Excel format.

- (a) Please provide the total number of miles of leak-prone pipe per municipality for each municipality served by National Grid.
- (b) Please provide the number of miles of main replacement (or repair or abandonment) planned per municipality for FY 2022 alongside previous annual replacement miles for FY 2015-2021. Please show all municipalities.
- (c) Please include the number of services, along with the number of miles. If it does not make sense to include the number of services, please explain.

Row	Municipality	Total miles of leak-prone pipe currently in place	Miles of leak-prone pipe replaced, repaired, or abandoned FY22 Proposed	Miles of leak-prone pipe replaced, repaired, or abandoned FY21 Forecasted/Actual	...	Miles of leak-prone pipe replaced, repaired, or abandoned FY15 Actual
1	Barrington					
...	...					
38	Woonsocket					

Response:

Please see Attachment OER 1-1 for the response to parts (a), (b) and (c) of this request.

The Narragansett Electric Company  
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Attachment OER 1-1

The Company is providing Attachment OER 1-1 in Excel Format.

The Narragansett Electric Company  
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OER 1-2

Request:

Referring to Bates pages 69-71, National Grid discusses the proposed plan for long-term reliability on Aquidneck Island. Is the \$4.9 million requested solely for planning and project development purposes, or is any portion of funding going to installing the solutions? If a portion of the funding request would support solution installation, approximately what percentage?

- (a) What is National Grid's estimation of the probability that each solution is chosen? (Percentage probabilities should add to 100%).
- (b) What additional engagement will National Grid have with Aquidneck Island stakeholders on 2021-2022 that will inform the solution selected for implementation?

Response:

The Company's request of \$4.9 million is solely for planning and project development purposes.

- (a) The Company does not have an estimation of the probability that each solution is chosen.
- (b) The Company's plans for engagement in 2021 with Aquidneck Island stakeholders is highlighted in Table OER 2-1-1 below. The Company will plan additional engagement with the Aquidneck Island stakeholders in similar forums to inform the final infrastructure solution in 2021-2022.

Table OER 2-1-1

Engagement	To Whom	Target Date(s)	Type
Winter Reliability Meeting: Update on latest outreach plan and recommendations.	Division/OER	January 15th	Group Video Conference
Legislator Briefing on Recommendation: Socialize findings, suggested recommendation, and next steps for stakeholder engagement.	AI Legislators	January 19th	Group Video Conference
SRP Technical Working Group Meeting: Formal Briefing of Findings and Recommendation	System Reliability Procurement TWG Members	January 20th	Group Video Conference
Aquidneck Advisory Group: Formal Briefing of Findings and Recommendation	AAG Members – Division, OER, AI Town Administrators, AI Economic Development Groups, Newport Chamber.	January 22nd	Group Video Conference
Other Key Stakeholder Groups: Formal Briefing on Findings and Recommendation	CLF, Jennifer Wood, Town Councils	January 18-Mar 1	Direct Tel/Videoconference
Public Notice: Provide "Findings and Next Steps" presentation on webpage.	Public	February 1	Company Webpage/Email/Social Media

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OER 1-3

Request:

To what extent are proposed investments in the gas distribution system in FY22 compatible with hydrogen and renewable natural gas?

Response:

Currently, the Company is involved with various Research and Development centers such as GTI and NREL to investigate the suitability of polyethylene pipes for the transportation of hydrogen and renewable natural gas.

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OER 1-4

Request:

Does National Grid propose any activities in FY22 to proactively plan for gas system optimization (e.g. strengthening branches to support pockets of customers for whom Renewable Natural Gas is the only viable decarbonized option, trimming branches and supporting electrification for pockets of customers who have access to other viable decarbonized options)?

Response:

The Company did not propose any proactive plan to modify the gas network for Renewable Natural Gas, Electrification or other decarbonization options in FY22.



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OER 1-5

Request:

Does National Grid propose any activities in FY22 to decrease the carbon content of natural gas delivered through the gas pipeline system in Rhode Island?

Response:

The Company did not propose any activities in FY 2022 to decrease the carbon content of natural gas. The Company is pursuing funding for efforts such as Heat Decarbonization Assessments outside of the ISR. The Company currently has a tariff advice filing pending in Docket No. 5079. In that filing, the Company seeks to amend Section 3.2, Advanced Gas Technology (“AGT”) Factor of the Distribution Adjustment Clause of its gas tariff. The amendment would allow the Company to recover prudently incurred costs of studies approved by the PUC and the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers on the decarbonization of natural gas through the AGT Factor. Please see the Company’s response to PUC 1-3.