STATE OF RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN RE: THE NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC CO. d/b/a NATIONAL GRID DISTRIBUTION ADJUSTMENT CHARGE – DOCKET NO. 5165 GAS COST RECOVERY CHARGE – DOCKET NO. 5180

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the provisions of Rhode Island Gen. Laws §39-3-11, as amended, the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) will conduct a hearing on Wednesday, October 13, 2021 @ 9:30 A.M. at the PUC's office, Hearing Room A, 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island. The hearing will be streamed live at https://video.ibm.com/channel/WqQyXw296dg. At this hearing, the PUC will examine the propriety of filings submitted by National Grid to implement rate change to the Company's Distribution Adjustment Charge (DAC) and Gas Cost Recovery. National Grid proposes the rate change to take effect November 1, 2021.

In Docket No. 5165, National Grid filed to amend the DAC factors. The DAC is designed to provide for the recovery and reconciliation of the costs of identifiable special programs. The DAC includes a System Pressure factor; an Advanced Gas Technology (AGT) factor; an Environmental Response Cost factor; a Pension Adjustment Factor; a Service Quality Performance factor; a Revenue Decoupling Adjustment factor; rate class specific Infrastructure, Safety, and Reliability factors (previously approved in Docket No. 4996); two reconciliation factors for the previous year; an Earnings Sharing Mechanism factor; an Arrearage Management Adjustment Factor; a Storm Net Revenue Factor; a Low Income Discount Recovery Factor; and a factor to recover a deferral of an increase to the DAC factors applicable during the preceding year related to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic as ordered in Docket No. 5040. For the average Residential Heating customer using 845 therms annually, this represents an annual bill increase of \$43.29, or 3.2%, as compared to the DAC rates currently in effect.

In Docket No. 5180, National Grid filed to ament the GCR factors. The GCR filing provides the customer class-specific factors necessary for the Company to recover projected gas costs allocated to firm sales customers for the period November 1, 2020 through October 31, 2021. For the average Residential Heating customer using 845 therms annually, this represents an annual bill increase of \$50.09, or 3.6%, as compared to the GCR rate currently in effect.

The combined bill impact on an average residential heating customer using 845 therms annually represents an increase of \$93.38 or 6.8%, per year from \$1,368.36 to \$1,461.74. The impact on other customer rate classes will vary depending upon the rate class and usage.

The filings may be examined at the PUC's office. The filings can also be accessed at <u>http://www.ripuc.ri.gov</u>, under Docket No. 5165 and Docket No. 5180. Reference is made to Chapters 39-1, 39-3 and 42-35 of the Rhode Island General Laws.

The Public Utilities Commission is accessible to the handicapped. Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must notify the Clerk's office at 780-2107 seventy-two hours in advance of hearing date.

Luly E. Massaro, Commission Clerk October 5, 2021