

Andrew S. Marcaccio Senior Counsel

August 3, 2021

## VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

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

## RE: Docket 5169 – Town of Portsmouth Request for Approval of Community Electricity Aggregation Plan in accordance with RIGL § 39-3-1 National Grid's Motion of Intervention

Dear Ms. Massaro:

Enclosed is National Grid's<sup>1</sup> Motion of Intervention in the above-referenced docket.<sup>2</sup>

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please contact me at 401-784-4263.

Very truly yours,

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Andrew S. Marcaccio

Enclosure

cc: Docket 5169 Service List John Harrington, Esq. Christy Hetherington, Esq. John Bell, Division

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

 $<sup>^2</sup>$  Per Commission counsel's update on October 2, 2020, concerning the COVID-19 emergency period, the Company is submitting an electronic version of this filing. The Company will provide the Commission Clerk with five (5) hard copies of the enclosures.

## STATE OF RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN RE: TOWN OF PORTSMOUTH	:	
<b>REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF</b>	:	DOCKET NO. 5169
COMMUNITY ELECTRIC	:	
AGGREGATION PLAN	:	

## <u>MOTION TO INTERVENE OF THE NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC</u> <u>COMPANY d/b/a NATIONAL GRID</u>

The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid ("National Grid" or the "Company") hereby respectfully requests that the Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") grant the Company's intervention in the above referenced docket pursuant to 810-RICR-00-00-1.14. The reasons for intervention are set forth in this motion to intervene (this "Motion"). In accordance with 810-RICR-00-00-1.16(B) and based on email communications with counsel for the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers ("Division") and Good Energy, L.P. ("Good Energy"), it is the Company's belief that this Motion will not be opposed.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

1. On or around July 21, 2021, the Town of Portsmouth ("Municipality") filed a petition with the Commission, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-3-1.2 ("Municipal Aggregation Statute"), for approval of its Community Electricity Aggregation Plan ("Municipal Aggregation Plan").

2. The Commission established the above-referenced docket to review the Municipality's petition. On July 26, 2021, the Commission set a procedural schedule through which an August 6, 2021 deadline was set for interventions in this proceeding. Via email

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communications with counsel, the Municipality, through Good Energy,<sup>1</sup> and the Division indicated that they would not oppose this Motion.

3. The Municipal Aggregation Statute enables municipal aggregation through which a city or town may aggregate its electric load and procure electric supply from a nonregulated power producer for its residents and businesses. Residents and businesses who will be included in municipal aggregation plans are also distribution customers of the Company.

4. The Municipality, Good Energy, and nonregulated power producers from which municipal aggregators procure power supply may need to collaborate with the Company to fulfil their responsibilities under the Municipal Aggregation Plan and in accordance with the Company's Terms and Conditions for Municipal Aggregators, R.I.P.U.C. No. 2222.

## LEGAL STANDARD

5. Intervention in Commission proceedings is governed by 810-RICR-00-00-1.14 which provides that "any person claiming a right to intervene or an interest of such nature that intervention is necessary or appropriate may intervene in any proceeding before the Commission." <u>See</u> 810-RICR-00-00-1.14(B).

6. It is appropriate for the Commission to grant a motion to intervene when (1) the right of intervention is conferred by statute; (2) a movant may be bound and its interests may be directly affected by the proceedings, and those interests are not adequately represented by existing parties; or (3) the movant holds an interest of such nature that the movant's participation may be in the public interest. <u>See</u> 810-RICR-00-00-1.14(B)(1) through (3).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Good Energy was contracted by the Municipality to assist with the preparation of the Municipal Aggregation Plan and related regulatory filings.

#### **ARGUMENT**

7. The Company's intervention in the above-referenced docket is necessary and appropriate, and the Company's participation is in the public interest.

8. National Grid is seeking intervention pursuant to 810-RICR-00-00-1.14(B)(2) and B(3). The Company does not have a position in this proceeding. Rather, the Company is seeking intervention in the above-referenced docket so that it can effectively fulfill its responsibilities as an electric distribution company within the state. As mentioned above and consistent with the Municipal Aggregation Statute, distribution customers of the Company will be included within the Municipal Aggregation Plan. <u>See</u> R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-3-1.2(a). The Company has a responsibility to provide the Municipality with reasonable and timely access to information that is pertinent to the formation of the Municipal Aggregation Plan. <u>See</u> R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-3-1.2(b). This process is governed by the Company's Terms and Conditions for Municipal Aggregators, R.I.P.U.C. No. 2222. Intervention in this docket will allow the Company to effectuate its responsibilities in a manner that is beneficial to its customers and consistent with the aforementioned applicable terms and conditions. As such, the public interest would be served by National Grid's intervention in this proceeding.

### **CONCLUSION**

For all of the foregoing reasons, National Grid hereby respectfully requests that the Commission grant its motion to intervene in this proceeding as a full party.

**WHEREFORE**, the Company respectfully requests that the Commission grant its Motion to Intervene as stated herein.

[Signature block on next page]

Respectfully submitted,

# NATIONAL GRID

By its attorney,

Cont & m

Andrew S. Marcaccio (RI Bar #8168) National Grid 280 Melrose Street Providence, RI 02907 (401) 784-4263 Andrew.Marcaccio@nationalgrid.com

Dated: August 3, 2021