

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

IN RE: NARRAGANSETT BAY COMMISSION'S PETITION TO RECOVER ELECTRONIC
PAYMENT TRANSACTION FEES – DOCKET NO. 5224

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the provisions of R.I. Gen. Laws §39-3-11, as amended, the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) hereby gives notice that it will conduct a hearing on **Thursday, March 10, 2022 @ 9:30 A.M.** in Hearing Room A at the PUC's office located at 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island. The purpose of this hearing is to take public comments on the Narragansett Bay Commission (NBC) Petition to Recover Electronic Payment Transaction Fees. The hearing may continue thereafter as required. The hearing will be streamed live at <https://video.ibm.com/channel/WqQyXw296dg>.

People interested in providing public comment at the meeting may participate in a Zoom meeting through the internet or by calling in, preferably 5-10 minutes prior to the hearing. To participate, click this link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89422182595> and you will be given instructions to enter the meeting by internet. If you choose to participate by telephone, you may call 929-205-6099 and enter meeting number 894 2218 2595 followed by the # symbol when prompted. If you are not interested in providing public comment, please watch the live stream at the address in the first paragraph. You will be able to observe the hearing and hear others' public comment.

In this docket, the Narragansett Bay Commission seeks to implement new rates to recover costs associated with the payment of credit card, debit card and voice transaction fees (Electronic Payment Transaction Fees). NBC seeks to recover \$617,810.05 for Electronic Payment Transaction fees incurred from April 1, 2020 to December 31, 2021 and any fees incurred thereafter until the PUC renders a decision in this docket. These costs were incurred as a result of PUC emergency orders related to the COVID-19 pandemic issued in Docket No. 5022 which prevented utilities from charging these fees. Additionally, NBC seeks to recover \$585,984.44 per year on an ongoing forward basis to cover Electronic Payment Transaction Fees. The rate impact on a residential customer using 72.3 HCF of water annually will result in an annual bill increase of \$2.87 or 0.55%. The impact on other users will vary depending on user classification meter size and consumption.

The proposal is available for examinations at the PUC's office. The dockets can also be accessed at <http://www.ripuc.ri.gov/eventsactions/docket/5224page.html>. Reference is also made to Chapters 42-35 and 39-1 of the Rhode Island General Laws.

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

Luly E. Massaro, Commission Clerk
March 1, 2021