

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS**

**IN RE: RULES AND REGULATIONS PRESCRIBING)
STANDARDS FOR GAS UTILITIES, MASTER METER) DOCKET NO. D-06-15
SYSTEMS AND JURISDICTIONAL PROPANE SYSTEMS)**

NOTICE OF RULEMAKING AND PUBLIC HEARING

The Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (“Division”) will conduct a public hearing on **Monday, May 8, 2006 at 10:00 a.m.**, in the second-floor hearing room of the Division’s office located at 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island, for the purpose of affording all interested persons an opportunity to submit data, views, or arguments, orally or in writing, in response to the Division’s plans to adopt new rules and regulations prescribing standards for gas utilities, master meter systems and jurisdictional propane systems, and to repeal related existing rules and regulations.

The proposed rules and regulations reflect a comprehensive rewrite and consolidation of the following currently effective Division rules and regulations: (1) *Rules and Regulations Prescribing Standards for Gas Utilities*, effective date July 1, 1966; (2) *Regulations Regarding Gas Pipeline Safety Enforcement Procedures*, effective date April 2, 1986; (3) *Control of Drug Use in Natural Gas and Liquefied Natural Gas*, effective date May 10, 1990; and (4) *Rules and Regulations Prescribing Standards for Gas Line Abandonment & Leakage Survey Procedures*, effective date May 21, 1986. Consequently, the Division also plans to repeal the above-described existing rules and regulations through this rulemaking process.

The regulations will apply to all Local Gas Distribution Companies (“LDC”), Master Meter Systems, and Jurisdictional Propane Systems engaged in the business of manufacturing, distributing, selling or transmitting natural or other gas by pipeline in the State of Rhode Island. Currently, there is one LDC, 40 Master Meter Systems, and 20 Jurisdictional Propane Systems in operation within the State of Rhode Island, all of whom are subject to all or specified portions of the proposed rules.

The proposed rules and regulations are on file in the Clerk’s Office at 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island. Copies of the proposed rules and regulations may be obtained in person at the Division, by mail by calling 941-4500, ext. 107, or may be accessed at www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/docket/d-06-15page.html.

Interested persons wishing to offer data, views, or arguments on the proposed rules and regulations or on the repeal of the existing rules and regulations may do so either orally on the day of the hearing, or in writing, by submitting their comments to the following address prior to the date of the hearing:

Luly E. Massaro, Division Clerk
Division of Public Utilities and Carriers
89 Jefferson Boulevard
Warwick, Rhode Island 02888

Reference is made to R.I. Gen. Laws Chapters 42-35 and 39-1, and specifically, §§42-35-1, 42-35-2, 42-25-3, 42-35-4, 42-35-5, 39-1-15, 39-3-33 and 39-1-38.

THE DIVISION IS ACCESSIBLE TO THE HANDICAPPED. INDIVIDUALS REQUESTING INTERPRETER SERVICES FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED MUST NOTIFY THE DIVISION BY CALLING 941-4500, EXT. 107, SEVENTY-TWO (72) HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE HEARING DATE.

Luly Massaro
Division Clerk
April 4, 2006