

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

IN RE: NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC D/B/A NATIONAL GRID
APPLICATION FOR AUTHORITY TO ISSUE DEBT

DOCKET NO. D-09-49

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the provisions of the Rhode Island General Laws, §§ 39-3-15 and 39-3-17, as amended, the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (the "Division") will conduct a public hearing on **Monday, December 7, 2009 @ 10:00 A.M.** in the Hearing Room B of the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers located at 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island. The hearing may continue thereafter from day to day and time to time as required.

At this hearing, the Division will consider the propriety of a Settlement Agreement (the "Agreement") executed by and between Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a National Grid (the "Company") and the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers Staff Advocacy Section resolving issues in connection with the Company's June 18, 2009 application for authority to issue up to \$840 million in long-term debt through March 12, 2010. If approved, the Agreement provides for a debt issuance structure that would grant to National Grid authority to issue new long-term debt in the amount not to exceed an aggregate principal amount of \$550 million for the purpose of replenishing internally generated cash funds that were used to fund long-lived capital plant additions and to refund long-term debt, and using those funds to pay down existing short-term debt balances and modify its capital structure to one more appropriate for an electric distribution company. The Agreement would also allow the Company to seek permission to issue the additional debt issuance in the amount of not to exceed an aggregate principal amount of \$290 million at a point in time when such funds actually would be needed for capital expansion or other purposes. The Agreement will provide the Division with more effective oversight review of the Company's debt issuances.

The application is on file and may be examined at the office of the Division and at the office of National Grid, 280 Melrose Street, Providence, Rhode Island.

Reference is made to Chapters 39-1, 39-3 and 42-35 of the Rhode Island General Laws; specifically Sections 39-1-7, 39-1-8, 39-1-11, 39-1-12, 39-1-16, 39-1-18, 39-1-20, 42-35-8, 42-35-10.

THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS 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.

Thomas F. Ahern, Administrator
November 27, 2009