

February 3, 2012

VIA HAND DELIVERY & ELECTRONIC MAIL

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

**RE: Division Docket No. D-11-94
National Grid Hurricane Irene Response Assessment
Responses to Division Data Requests (Set 2)
Section IV. Logistics**

Dear Ms. Massaro:

Enclosed are one original and five (5) copies of National Grid's¹ responses to the Division's Second Set of Data Requests issued in Section IV. Logistics.

Thank you for your attention to this transmittal. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (401) 784-7288.

Very truly yours,



Jennifer Brooks Hutchinson

Enclosures

cc: Steve Scialabba, Division
Leo Wold, Esq.

¹ The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid ("Company").

IV. Logistics (Construction Crew Staging)
Division 2-1

Request:

When did staging begin relative to outages in Rhode Island? What was the coordination/authorization process to approve resources, meals, and lodging?

Response:

The Vice President of Operations Support contacted members of the logistics team by email on the morning of Wednesday, August 24, to activate the three-day pre-storm checklists in anticipation of Irene. Logistics Leads began to perform their specific tasks, and preparatory work for potential staging and providing hotels for outside crews began at this point.

Authorization for the Logistics Leads to resource their response teams was established following System Storm Call #1 on Wednesday, August 24. Authorization for meals and lodging was provided following requests from the Incident Commander either at daily System Storm Calls or Divisional Storm Calls, subject to operational requirements.

Initially, crews planned to support both southern Massachusetts and Rhode Island were pre-staged on August 27 in Raynham, MA. The decision was made by the Incident Commander and Team to establish staging sites along the perimeter of where the greatest anticipated damage would likely be sustained, based on the latest forecast information. This strategy helps to keep crews, equipment and supplies directly out of harms way, until the storm passes, yet keeps the resources “close by” to where the greatest damage is expected. Based upon this strategy, crews designated to support Rhode Island and southern Massachusetts were pre-staged in Raynham, MA on August 27.

Prepared by or under the supervision of: Neil Proudman

IV. Logistics (Construction Crew Staging)
Division 2-2

Request:

Did National Grid utilize centrally located crew staging at locations in Rhode Island?

Response:

National Grid used two staging sites in Rhode Island, Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI) in Warwick, and Twin Rivers Casino in Lincoln, RI.

Prepared by or under the supervision of: Neil Proudman

IV. Logistics (Construction Crew Staging)
Division 2-3

Request:

Discuss the factors that caused the delay in setting up staging areas in Rhode Island until Tuesday, August 30. What were the daily typical travel arrangements for Rhode Island crews?

Response:

Staging areas for crews dedicated for Rhode Island and Southern MA were set up on Saturday, August 27 in Rynahm, MA. The decision was made to establish staging sites along the perimeter where the greatest anticipated damage would likely be sustained, based on the latest forecast information. This strategy ensures crews, equipment and supplies are kept directly out of harms way, until the storm passes, yet keeps the resources close to where the greatest damage is expected.

As the event unfolded and more resources were acquired to support restoration, the decision was made to establish staging sites within Rhode Island and transition those crews designated for Rhode Island from the Raynham staging site. Staging sites at Community College of Rhode Island and Twin Rivers were established and available to receive crews on Monday, August 29. On Tuesday August 30, crews were deployed to both Rhode Island locations and the staging sites became fully activated and operational.

With regard to typical travel arrangements, crews would park their vehicles at an assigned staging site overnight for re-fueling. The crews would then travel to their hotels by bus. The following morning the buses would transport the crews back to their assigned staging site to receive instructions for the day, eat breakfast (CCRI only), replenish materials, pick up boxed lunches, and then leave for the day to work in multiple locations throughout the area impacted by the storm.

Prepared by or under the supervision of: Neil Proudman

IV. Logistics (Construction Crew Staging)
Division 2-4

Request:

What were the average miles per day traveled per crew from material staging to work site for Rhode Island personnel? How many trips on average were made per day per crew?

Response:

The Company did not track the average miles traveled per crew. However, typical crew travel patterns can be described as follows. A crew staged at either Community College Rhode Island or at Twin Rivers made a single bus journey from their lodgings to the staging site, where they replenished their vehicle stock before heading out to the work location. The crew returned at the end of the working day to park their vehicles before being transported by bus to their lodgings.

In the event that additional materials were required such materials would be replenished either by their Field Construction Coordinator transporting materials to the site or from a number of fully stocked locations throughout the area including Westerly, North Kingstown, Providence, Lincoln, Scituate and Middletown.

Prepared by or under the supervision of: Neil Proudman

IV. Logistics (Construction Crew Staging)
Division 2-5

Request:

Were meals delivered to the crews or did the crew have to travel to a central site for meals for Rhode Island personnel? How far was the central site if there was one and how many trips were made per day per crew?

Response:

Typically breakfast was provided for crews at either their hotel or at the staging site in the case of Community College of Rhode Island (“CCRI”).

Boxed lunches were provided at both staging sites and crews typically took their lunches before leaving site only to return at the end of the working day.

Boxed lunches were also provided at National Grid Operational sites for those not staged at either Twin Rivers or CCRI, and support staff delivered lunches out to crews where necessary.

Evening Meals were provided at specific restaurants located at or near to the hotels or, where practical, close to the work locations.

Prepared by or under the supervision of: Neil Proudman