

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

IN RE: Petition of PPL Corporation, PPL Rhode)	
Island Holdings, LLC, National Grid USA, and)	
The Narragansett Electric Company for Authority)	Docket D-21-09
to Transfer Ownership of The Narragansett Electric)	
Company to PPL Rhode Island Holdings, LLC)	
and Related Approvals)	

**MOTION TO INTERVENE BY
NEW ENERGY RHODE ISLAND, CIRCULAR FUELS, LLC,
RER ENERGY GROUP, LLC, CLEAN ECONOMY DEVELOPMENT, LLC,
HEARTWOOD GROUP, INC., AND GREEN DEVELOPMENT, LLC**

By its attorneys, New Energy Rhode Island (“NERI”), moves to intervene in the above-captioned proceeding related to the proposed sale of the Narragansett Electric Company (“NEC”) pursuant to Rule 1.17(B)(1)(b) and (c) of the Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (“DPUC”) Rules of Practice and Procedure (Rules). In support of this motion, NERI states:

1. As reflected in the attached authorization letters, NERI’s member participants for this proceeding currently include Circular Fuels, LLC, Heartwood Group, Inc., RER Energy Group, LLC, Clean Economy Development, LLC, and Green Development, LLC. We expect additional entities to join NERI in this advocacy and will update the DPUC with any new participants in NERI’s advocacy for this docket.

2. NERI’s member participants either are developers of local renewable energy projects in Rhode Island or have ownership, energy offtake, or other financial or policy interests in such projects.

3. Rule 1.17(B) states “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 Division.”

4. Rule 1.17(B)(1)(b) defines an intervening interest as, “An interest which may be directly affected and which is not adequately represented by existing parties and as to which movants may be bound by the Division’s action in the proceeding. The following may have such an interest: consumers served by the applicant, defendant, or respondent and holders of securities of the applicant, defendant, or respondent.”

5. Rule 1.17(B)(1)(c) allows intervention for “[a]ny other interest of such nature that movant’s participation may be in the public interest.”

6. NERI are small business owners, executives, and consultants active in the Rhode Island energy industry. NERI members have developed and are developing many solar and wind distributed generation renewable energy projects in Rhode Island, leased or sold/purchased real estate for development of energy projects in Rhode Island, contracted for the purchase of renewable energy from renewable energy projects in Rhode Island or have worked for or with state and local governments for the implementation of our State’s energy policies.

7. NERI members have worked for or with the State of Rhode Island for many years on important energy policy matters offering much experience with National Grid, the Public Utilities Commission (“PUC”), the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers, and the Office of Energy Resources (“OER”). NERI and/or its members actively participated in PUC Dockets 4563 (access fee case), 4600 (setting energy values and valuation principles), 4770 (rate case) and 4780 (power sector transformation) and, over many years, have engaged in many other dockets that have raised and addressed important policy concerns to the PUC and the Division.

8. NERI, as a coalition, represents the public interest because the success of the distributed generation of renewable energy in Rhode Island is needed to reach the goals of the 2021 Act on Climate and the states 100% by 2030 plan.

Standard of Review

9. The standard for approval of this sale under R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-3-25 is that “the facilities for furnishing service to the public will not thereby be diminished [by the Transaction] and . . . the terms [of the Agreement and the Transaction] are consistent with the public interest.

10. The first criterion “requires a finding that “there will be no degradation of utility services after the transaction is consummated.”

11. The second criterion requires that “the proposed transaction will not unfavorably impact the general public (including [customers]).”

12. NERI seeks participation in this proceeding to advocate and ensure that these standards are met in the sale of NEC.

Statement of NERI’s Interests

13. For too long, NEC has inflated the value of its Rhode Island assets by prioritizing its profits above ratepayer, small business, and public interests. It has underserved our state’s preference for lower cost, more secure, and cleaner distributed energy resources to provide for its own profit from natural gas and infrastructure investment. The “Transforming the Power Sector Phase 1 Report,” found that

[w]hile many industries have become more efficient over the last few decades by leveraging information technologies to more fully utilize capital investment, Rhode Island’s peak to average demand ratio is 1.98, meaning that nearly half of the utility’s capital investment is not utilized most of the time . . . To meet peak demand, our system currently invests in solutions that are more expensive than is necessary.

14. NEC has long undervalued the benefits local generation of clean energy provide to the distribution and transmission system. NEC just filed another three-year plan to achieve system reliability through the consideration of non-wires alternatives; but, it only proposed more wires and further study. In 2017, Rhode Island law required NEC to propose locational incentives for renewable energy projects that could save ratepayers money on upgrades to the distribution system. The company has yet to make any such proposal. The failure to pursue non-wires alternatives costs small businesses and consumers. NEC has sought to keep its cost benefit analyses of our energy decision-making confidential and not subject to stakeholder review and critique.

15. Meanwhile, NEC has obstructed local small businesses seeking to use local labor to interconnect lower-cost, more secure, and cleaner supply alternatives. Those small businesses are fighting NEC's unauthorized assessment of huge transmission system operating and maintenance fees being billed by its transmission affiliate, New England Power, on projects designed to supply lower cost energy right here in Rhode Island. National Grid's recent acquisition of Geronimo Solar and its sale of NEC, positions its unregulated affiliate, "National Grid Renewables" to bring utility scale renewables to out-compete local clean energy businesses based on unparalleled access to information about our system.

16. Continued over-reliance on imported infrastructure-rich energy solutions compete with lower cost alternatives brought by local small businesses and supported by our local labor force. Fossil fuels have high energy density; they involve concentrated extraction and then transport huge facilities for transmission and distribution to end users. Their fuel is from elsewhere, taking local dollars go out of state. The current energy supply depends on dirty extraction industries and fossil fuel burning facilities too often sited in low-income areas. Our

state energy plan emphasizes the need to diversify our energy supply to enhance our energy security and resiliency. Continued overreliance on dirty, imported energy solutions becomes even more of a threat as we seek to electrify our transportation and heating and cooling sectors and need more and more electricity. Rhode Island desperately needs a new brand of administration over its electrical system to reach our goal of getting 100% of our electricity from renewable resources.

17. NERI members are concerned that PPL's priorities may not align with Rhode Island's long-term energy, ratepayer, labor and public interests. PPL's Kentucky subsidiary has recently filed its third request for a rate increase with regulators in four years, while also slashing the benefit that Kentucky customers get from their own clean energy investments by 80%. In its "Strategic Repositioning of PPL Corporation" report of March 18, 2021, PPL boasts to its shareholders of "Further opportunities to invest in electric and gas infrastructure with annual rate base growth greater than 9% over the past 5 years." Rhode Island's public interest is not served by unwarranted infrastructure investments that drive rates higher and higher.

18. In this proceeding, NERI will seek PPL's commitment to a proactive plan for rate reduction through implementation of local, distributed-energy solutions and for managing the electric system to achieve the state's goals of reaching 100% renewable energy by 2030 and net zero emissions by 2050. That planning process must be transparent, allowing stakeholders the opportunity to provide input and help shape the plan around Rhode Island's public interest as expressed repeatedly in its public policies.

19. NERI seeks protection against our utilities' conflicting economic interests and assurance from National Grid and PPL that they will insulate their own economic interests from solutions produced by our own small businesses that provide local jobs for clean energy

alternatives, not allowing natural gas, transmission and other utility business interests to contaminate the proper, neutral administration of our electric system.

20. NERI observes NEC with a bloated and inefficient infrastructure and an overfunded bureaucracy. As just one example, NEC comes to regulatory proceedings with an army of lawyers, experts, and overwhelmingly complex data dumps. The more they spend, the more they recoup from ratepayers, with a large markup. We deserve and hope to get more efficiency and cost effective management from PPL.

21. The institutional capacity of our regulators was built in an era of high energy density public utilities when issues pertaining to transmission and distribution were relatively clear and change was largely incremental. That system is a legacy, and while it continues to operate, now it must do so efficiently aside more complex systems proactively adapting to our energy transition. Most urgently, our regulators are understaffed and overwhelmed by utility interests and economic preferences, threatening their ability to stand up for critically important public interest.

Conclusion

22. This transaction has profound implications for Rhode Island's residents, businesses and institutions. Public utilities serve and must benefit our community. NEC's relationship with Rhode Island's public purpose and policies needs to be reinvigorated. NERI requests participation in this proceeding to protect our economic interests and the public interest in a well-managed electrical system.

23. NERI's members are NEC customers that are or will be served by the applicants in Docket 21-09.

24. NERI seeks a proactive plan for rate reduction through implementation of local, distributed-energy solutions and to manage the electric system expeditiously, cost effectively and equitably to achieve Rhode Island's goals of reaching 100% renewable energy by 2030 and net zero emissions by 2050.

25. NERI seeks assurance that our utilities (both National Grid and PPL) will insulate their own economic interests from local small business solutions that provide more resilient and affordable clean energy alternatives and will not allow natural gas and transmission system interests to contaminate the proper administration of our electric system.

26. NERI's members are not represented by existing parties to this proceeding. There is no other party that represents the breadth of interests and the depth of experience provided by NERI through its members.

27. NERI's interests will be bound by the Division's action in this proceeding. The sale of Narragansett Electric Company and the review of the public's interest in that sale will have profound impact on NERI's members.

28. NERI's participation in this proceeding is in the public interest. NERI will advocate for positions that are consistent with the public interest as put forth in many Rhode Island statutes and public policies and as are manifest in the projects in which NERI has interest including, but not limited to, electric supply diversification, energy security and resilience, stable and reduced energy costs, job creation and environmental benefit.

Please direct service of any correspondence or pleadings in connection with this proceeding to:

Handy Law, LLC
Seth H. Handy
42 Weybosset Street
Providence, RI 02903
Phone: (401) 626-4839
E-mail seth@handylawllc.com

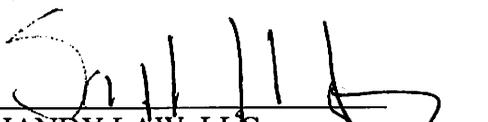
We have informed the service list of NERI's intent to intervene pursuant to Rule 1.17 and have yet to be informed of any objection.

WHEREFORE, NERI asks that the Division grant its Motion to Intervene.

Respectfully submitted,

**NEW ENERGY RHODE ISLAND,
CIRCULAR FUELS, LLC, RER
ENERGY GROUP, LLC, CLEAN
ECONOMY DEVELOPMENT, LLC
AND GREEN DEVELOPMENT, LLC**

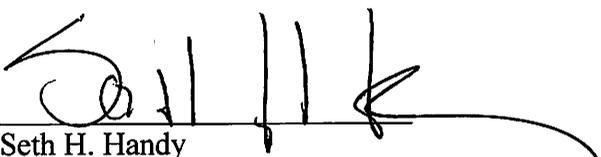
By their attorneys,



HANDY LAW, LLC
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Tel. 401.626.4839
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justin@handylawllc.com

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on June 25, 2021, I sent a true copy of the document by electronic mail to the Division and the service list and filed the original pleading and four (4) photocopies with the Division.



Seth H. Handy



Circular Fuels, LLC

June 24, 2021

Luly E. Massaro, Clerk
RI Public Utilities Commission
89 Jefferson Blvd.
Warwick, RI 02888

**Re: Division of Public Utilities and Carriers Docket No. D-21-09
Petition for Authority to Transfer Ownership of
the Narragansett Electric Company to PPL Rhode Island Holdings, LLC.**

Dear Ms. Massaro:

Please accept this letter as authorization that Handy Law, LLC represents Circular Fuels LLC with regard to all issues considered in Division Docket D-21-09. We are a limited liability company with 1 employee in Rhode Island. We appreciate the opportunity to participate in this very important stakeholder process.

Thank you for your assistance with this filing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard H Sellers", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Richard H Sellers
Title: Owner



HEARTWOOD GROUP, INC.

165 Evergreen Street, Providence, RI 02906

401-861-1650

June 23, 2021

Luly E. Massaro, Clerk
RI Public Utilities Commission
89 Jefferson Blvd.
Warwick, RI 02888

**Re: Division of Public Utilities and Carriers Docket No. D-21-09
Petition for Authority to Transfer Ownership of
the Narragansett Electric Company to PPL Rhode Island Holdings, LLC.**

Dear Ms. Massaro:

Please accept this letter as authorization that Handy Law, LLC represents Heartwood Group, Inc. with regard to all issues considered in Division Docket D-21-09. I appreciate the opportunity to participate in this very important approval process.

Thank you for your assistance with this filing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Fred Unger', written over a light blue grid background.

Fred Unger
President



Empower Your World.

June 25, 2021

Luly E. Massaro, Clerk
RI Public Utilities Commission
89 Jefferson Blvd.
Warwick, RI 02888

**Re: Division of Public Utilities and Carriers Docket No. D-21-09
Petition for Authority to Transfer Ownership of
the Narragansett Electric Company to PPL Rhode Island Holdings, LLC.**

Dear Ms. Massaro:

Please accept this letter as authorization that Handy Law, LLC represents RER Energy Group LLC with regard to all issues considered in Division Docket D-21-09. We are a renewable energy developer with one employee in Rhode Island. We appreciate the opportunity to participate in this very important stakeholder process.

Thank you for your assistance with this filing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jim Kuntz".

President, RER Energy Group LLC



June 24, 2021

Luly E. Massaro, Clerk
RI Public Utilities Commission
89 Jefferson Blvd.
Warwick, RI 02888

Re: Division of Public Utilities and Carriers Docket No. D-21-09
Petition for Authority to Transfer Ownership of
the Narragansett Electric Company to PPL Rhode Island Holdings, LLC.

Dear Ms. Massaro:

Please accept this letter as authorization that Handy Law, LLC represents Clean Economy Development, LLC with regard to all issues considered in Division Docket D-21-09. I appreciate the opportunity to participate in this very important approval process.

Thank you for your assistance with this filing.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julian Dash', is written over a horizontal line.

Julian Dash
Managing Partner
Clean Economy Development, LLC



People. Power. Purpose.

June 25, 2021

Luly E. Massaro, Clerk
RI Public Utilities Commission
89 Jefferson Blvd.
Warwick, RI 02888

**Re: Division of Public Utilities and Carriers Docket No. D-21-09
Petition for Authority to Transfer Ownership of
the Narragansett Electric Company to PPL Rhode Island Holdings, LLC.**

Dear Ms. Massaro:

Please accept this letter as authorization that Handy Law, LLC represents Green Development, LLC with regard to all issues considered in Division Docket D-21-09. I/we appreciate the opportunity to participate in this very important approval process.

Thank you for your assistance with this filing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hannah Morini".

Hannah Morini
Director of Business Development