To whom it may concern,

I am writing to ask you to reject the sale of our utility system to the PPL corporation. PPL Executives have said in public hearings that they "reserve the right" to seek $82 million from ratepayers through rate hikes, and there is no evidence that this sale will provide any public benefit.

Please do the best thing for the public and reject this sale.

All the best,

--
Nate Levin-Aspenson
919.619.6641
Hello,

I'm writing as a resident and business owner from Pawtucket, RI. I strongly oppose the plan for RI's Division of Public Utilities to sell National Grid to the PPL corporation.

I urge you to reject this plan and seek an alternative. This will not benefit Rhode Island residents—only the companies serving to earn a profit from the sale.

Thank you,
Lillian Mathews
Pawtucket, RI
To whom it may concern,

I am writing to urge you to prioritize climate factors in determining whether the petitioner's request to transfer ownership of The Narragansett Electric Company is in the public interest. I am concerned that insufficient readiness of PPL to comply with Rhode Island's new "Act on Climate" law relative to National Grid will result in harm to the public.

I have a 15-month-old daughter. Rhode Island is already seeing harmful impacts of the changes to the climate caused by fossil fuel companies: hurricanes, unseasonable weather affecting agriculture, and warmer oceans impacting fisheries. We stand to be harmed most significantly by sea level rise: Rhode Island's coasts are home to significant real estate value, transportation resources, and tourism revenue. Much of this is endangered by just a few feet of sea level rise. Half of Downtown Providence, the job center of the state and some of its highest value real estate, would be underwater with 10 feet of sea level rise, which may occur in your lifetime or mine, let alone my daughter's. The more the climate continues to change, the more I, my family, and all Rhode Islanders will be impacted.

These existential, predictable risks are why the Act on Climate was passed, and why government entities across the country and the world are taking previously unimaginable steps to rapidly transition energy infrastructure such as that stewarded by utility companies to renewable energy. If there is evidence that PPL may be less able to meet this new reality than National Grid, there is no doubt in my mind that that difference is significant to the public interest.

This readiness is one factor I urge you to consider. No doubt you are also considering other factors relevant to all Rhode Islanders such as customer service and reliability. I hope you are also evaluating the relative posture of National Grid and PPL to take advantage of cleaner & less expensive renewable energy sources that will be coming online in the next 5-10 years.

What are their relative positions on transmission grid upgrades? Significant upgrades are needed to the electrical grid to allow for the growth in renewable energy generation that is already occurring, and the people of Rhode Island need a strong partner in our utility provider to navigate those challenging improvements.
Will PPL be able to provide the same level of service to Rhode Islanders at the same costs, or will they need to raise rates?

Before a sale is approved, the Division needs to be certain that PPL will not be worse than National Grid in these ways. Thank you for your thorough and thoughtful review.

Alex KG Ellis
Providence
Hi,

My name is Lindsey Kopech and I am a resident in Rhode Island. I am writing to you to ask that you reject the sale of RI utilities to PPL as it will raise costs for electric and gas. Furthermore, PPL has not demonstrated how they will help our state continue to follow the Act on Climate Law.

Please reject this sale, our property are already struggling due to the pandemic and multiple variants of covid.

Thank you,

Lindsey Kopech
Hello,

Please reject the sale of National Grid to the PPL Corporation. It is not in the best interest of the public.

Thank you,

Amber Scheer
Cumberland, RI
To whom it concerns,

I am here to tell you that I cannot take it anymore. I cannot take any more increases in my bills and charges that I cannot afford. I cannot take selling out to corporations that do not care about the future of this planet and making it a safe, equitable place for our future.

If you go through with approving the sale of our utility system from National Grid to the PPL Corporation, that will mean that many of us (including myself) will be struggling to pay our electric/gas bills. We are still in a very cold winter and, as someone who has already struggled paying my National Grid bills before, I know the feeling of having to decide whether I will use the heat/A.C to stay warm or cool in the drastic temperatures we have been facing, or to reduce the use of my electricity/gas in order to save money. Especially in the winter, when we are facing days like yesterday where temps drop to the single digits, we should not have to choose to keep our heat down or off because we cannot afford to pay absurd rates to stay warm.

By allowing PPL Corp to buy National Grid, you will allow rates to increase making it so much harder for us to pay our electric and gas bills. Many of us are struggling to find jobs already because of Covid, and as someone currently working three jobs (one being in a restaurant), we are struggling to make ends meet. Whether it is the low minimum wage, or the reduced hours because of restrictions and people not coming out, or the lack of jobs that pay and treat workers well....we are all out here struggling to get by.

Accepting this sale will also mean that reducing our carbon emissions will most likely go out the window. We cannot have a corporation that does not work to reduce the amount of waste it puts out into the earth. They have not demonstrated that this acquisition won't hinder our state's progress towards meeting the goal related to reducing carbon emissions and addressing climate change.

Please do not make it harder for us to survive. Think about the future of those living in Rhode Island. We beg you to reject this sale now. Rhode Islanders do not need more costs to pay.

Thank you

Caterina Maina

Providence, RI 02906
Good afternoon,

My name is Greg Abrams, and I am a resident of Pawtucket, RI. I recently heard about National Grid's plans to sell our utility system to the Pennsylvania-based PPL Corporation. At a time when so many people are struggling to keep a roof over their heads and their bills paid, it is wrong to approve a sale that will most definitely ensure rate hikes for essential services like electricity and gas. PPL is on record stating that they "reserve the right" to grab $82 million from ratepayers through these price increases. Are we really going to make an out-of-state corporation even richer at working families' expense? I urge you to please reject the sale of our utility system to the PPL Corporation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Greg Abrams
Hello Luly -

I am a resident of Providence and urging you to reject the sale of National Grid to PPL. We are in the midst of a few competing struggles including the cost of energy and the risks climate change poses to our state. Until PPL can demonstrate that they will not increase the cost of energy and make every possible effort to help the state achieve its Act on Climate goals, this sale should not take place.

Thank you so much for your time,

Tyson Bottenus
56 Wood St.
Providence, RI 02909
Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed transaction: Docket No. D-21-09.

RI developed the first offshore wind production facility which began operating in 2016, but RI needs more planned projects to greatly increase renewable electricity production.

The cost of wind technology is competitive with fossil fuels, without the costly GHG emissions.

PPL being a Pennsylvania based company has significantly less experience than National Grid in entering contracts with offshore wind developers, interconnecting renewable energy, and meeting rigorous clean energy law requirements, such as we have in RI.

I am greatly concerned that, if this sale goes through, RI won't meet its very necessary Act On Climate emissions reduction goals.

I certainly hope the Division will consider whether this sale to PPL is the right thing for RI given the urgent needs for action to reduce GHG emissions.

To meet the Act On Climate goals and RI's Renewable Energy Standard, PPL will need to contract for many offshore wind development projects. Will PPL commit to this?

A. Hilton Parmentier
15 Tomahawk Trail South
Wakefield, RI 02879
RE: Petition of PPL Corporation, PPL Rhode Island Holdings, LLC, : Docket No. D-21-09

These projects must adhere to the highest environmental protections, labor standards and economic investments in job creation and other benefits, with studies on their impact on fisheries and BIPOC communities. Rhode Island’s electric utility company will be responsible for entering contracts with offshore wind projects and designing Requests for Proposals to procure these projects. Thus, we must be confident that the company that owns the electric utility has sufficient experience and commitment to clean energy to do this rapidly and well.

PPL has significantly less experience than National Grid when it comes to entering contracts with offshore wind developers, interconnecting renewable energy, and meeting rigorous clean energy law requirements. I am greatly concerned that, if this sale goes through, RI will fall behind on its Act On Climate goals. I urge the Division to do a careful review of whether a sale to PPL is the right thing for Rhode Island, given Act On Climate, our Renewable Energy Standard, and upcoming offshore wind development.

Thank you for taking my comment,

Mary Filippo
P.O. Box 385
Saunderstown, RI 02874
From: John A Fazzino <johnfazzino@mac.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 15, 2022 10:20 PM
To: Massaro, Luly (PUC)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] : The sale of our utility System

Please do not let the sale of our utility system go through to PPL. Our prices will rise for gas and electricity and they are not prepared to meet our goals for reducing emissions and slowing climate change.

Thanks,

John Fazzino
Please do not approve the sale of National grid RI to PPL. Rhode Islanders already pay some of the highest energy rates in the country! This sale will only mean higher energy bills for all RI residents and big profits for a Pennsylvania energy company already making exorbitant amounts of money.

Richard Moschetti
4 Haywood rd
Coventry RI 02816

Sent from my iPhone
Hello,

I wanted to voice my concern that the sale of National Grid is not in the best interest of the residents of Rhode Island. The costs of this sale will be passed on to ratepayers with absolutely not benefit to us in return. We won't see any difference in service but it will cost more simply because these companies have decided to trade us between themselves.

I don't believe it helps us towards our legislated emissions reduction goals, and I do not believe PPL has the experience necessary to deal with the resilience needed for our coastal and winter storms.

Sean Sierra-Patev
Hello,

I am a citizen and resident of Pawtucket, writing to humbly ask you to REJECT the sale of our public utilities to the PPL Corporation. This proposed sale will increase our already expensive utilities costs, and is not in the best interests of the people of Rhode Island.

Thank you,

Siraj Ahmed Sindhu
3154868855
Good afternoon members of the RI Division of Public Utilities:

I am writing to you today to oppose the sale of Rhode Island’s utility system to PPL Corporation as someone who would be impacted by rate hikes.

It’s not hard to connect the dots in this situation, whether it’s the sale to an outside company located in Pennsylvania, PPL executives admitting publicly that they want $82 million more in ratepayer expenses and feel they have the right to hike electricity and gas costs on the people of Rhode Island, and the basic fact that Rhode Islanders for years have been struggling with the high costs of energy for electricity and heating in their homes. The financial dire straits are even more pronounced in the middle of the COVID pandemic which stalled the economy in early 2020 and still impacts working families to this day.

And yet, to connect all of these details, this is not the first time utilities have been asking for rate hikes (and sometimes had them successfully approved at the cost of Rhode Island ratepayers). National Grid was asking for a rate hike as recently as December 2021, and rate increases have been discussed for years now, including one approved in 2017 by RI regulators. Rhode Islanders have been burdened by these previous rate hikes on energy and health insurance costs. Wouldn’t another rate hike hurt their economic well-being even more?

For families like mine, it’s already a struggle to keep ourselves afloat. Imagine what this could do to us. Even more important, imagine what this could do to families that are even poorer than us. It could drive them right from their homes and onto the streets. The stakes are too high to enrich wealthy executives at the cost of Rhode Island families and raise rates on electricity and heating that are already unbearable for so many.

That is why I hope the Division of Public Utilities will reject the current proposal to sell National Grid to PPL Corporation, which would exacerbate the horrendous business and economic climate that we already have. As Professor Leonard Lardaro would say, we don’t want our state to be known nationally for our energy costs and our hostile business climate as our wonderful beaches. And that is why I hope you will reject this sale for the people of Rhode Island.

I wish you the best of luck in these decisions:
Michael Salzillo Providence, RI

https://truenergy.com/national-grid-seeks-23-6-percent-rate-hike-rhode-island-electric-customers/
https://upriseri.com/2020-09-30-puc/
To whom it may concern,

The sale of National Grid assets in RI to PPL would adversely affect the ratepayers in the state of RI. It could also affect the quality of service. Please reject this sale. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Peter Haas, Woonsocket, RI
Hello Lucy,

My name is Liza Burkin and I'm a resident of 56 Wood Street, Providence, RI.

I am writing to ask that the PUC reject the sale of our energy system to PPL, a company that clearly does not have the capability of managing Rhode Island's utilities.

Their experience in Pennsylvania and Kentucky does not apply to our coastal state. They have zero experience in offshore wind — as we are about to become one of the biggest producers of wind energy, how can we trust a company that will not know how to distribute it?

At a minimum, PPL needs to research and report on how they could support the Act On Climate — BEFORE a sale is approved.

Please reject the sale as is and make them step up to the crisis at hand.

Thank you,
Liza

--
--
Organizer
Providence Streets Coalition [ourstreetspvd.org]
(401) 400-1382

Facilitator
Providence Coalition of Neighborhood Associations [provcna.org]

pronouns: she/her
Hi. I am a tax paying citizen living in Providence Rhode Island.
I strongly urge you to reject the sale of my electricity and gas from national grid to PPL. I do not want PPL to be owners of my RI division of PUBLIC utilities.

Thank you for the rejection to the unqualified company.
Matt LaBranche
PPL does not have the best interests of rate payers or residents in mind. Please don’t allow National Grid to sell to them!

Warmly,
Jenn Steinfeld
Providence
Public commentary on Docket No. D-21-09 National Grid USA, and The Narragansett Electric Company for: Authority to Transfer Ownership of The Narragansett Electric Company: to PPL Rhode Island Holdings, LLC and Related Approvals

Now that we can sue companies for violating their promises on climate change I’m quite happy to help raise awareness and raise funds to do so!

The way I see it, we either prove that leadership passed an ineffectual bill and literally did nothing to stop climate catastrophe, or we win and force whoever owns the PUC to comply with climate promises.

Either way it will be expensive for someone.

--

Martin Lynn
Providence, RI
Dear Division of Public Utilities and Carriers,

I am writing to remind you of Rhode Island’s ACT ON CLIMATE Law when you make your decision about the sale of National Grid to PPL. No sale can go through if it holds us back Rhode Island’s climate goals. PPL does not have the experience or record of positive action that National Grid has on energy savings programs. It does not have experience with offshore wind. Severing ties with NG will reduce our learning/collaboration with Massachusetts and New York. I do not support the sale.

Best regards,
Jaime Palter
Wakefield, RI