

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

Public Utilities Commission

Minutes of Open Meeting Held March 10, 2017

Attendees: Chairperson Margaret Curran, Commissioner Herbert DeSimone, Commissioner Marion Gold, Patricia Lucarelli, Cynthia Wilson-Frias, Alan Nault, Sharon Colby Camara, Todd Bianco and Luly Massaro.

Chairperson Curran called the Open Meeting to order at 9:05 A.M. in the first-floor hearing room of the Public Utilities Commission (PUC). A quorum was present.

Minutes of Open Meetings held on February 16, 2017, February 20, 2017 and February 27, 2017 – After review, Commissioner DeSimone moved to approve all three Minutes of Open Meetings. Chairperson Curran seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

4647 – The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a National Grid - National Grid filed on January 31, 2017 a request to change the Gas Procurement Incentive Plan (GPIP) year from a July to June reporting period to an April to March reporting period to align the incentive periods for the GPIP and the Natural Gas Portfolio Management Plan. National Grid also proposed minor language changes to the GPIP. The Division filed a memorandum summarizing its review and supporting the proposed change in the timing of the GPIP annual incentive period to an April-March period. The Division also supported the minor language changes in the GPIP. After review, Commissioner Gold moved to approve National Grid’s request as submitted. Chairperson Curran seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

4513 – National Grid – The PUC reviewed the scope and parameters of the pilot metering proposal for municipal-owned streetlights (meter pilot) approved in Order No. 22413 based on the joint filing made by National Grid and the Municipalities on February 17, 2017. On February 17, 2017, National Grid filed a Joint Report of National Grid and the Municipalities addressing areas of agreement and disagreement regarding future activities related to the meter pilot and identifying disputed costs. Following the filing of the Joint Report, on March 1, 2017, PUC staff conducted a status conference to discuss the Joint Report. Agreement on a short-term solution was reached whereby the parties agreed that (1) it would be appropriate for National Grid to continue with Phase 1, Stages 1 and 2 of the meter pilot, including additional costs that will be incurred; (2) that it would be reasonable for the PUC to consider suspending the effectiveness of the approved meter pilot as it relates to further work on the Information System Studies; and (3) that it would be reasonable to defer ruling on the propriety of all costs associated with the meter pilot and the reasonableness of costs disputed by the Municipalities following the conclusion of the Phase 1 activities. After review, Chairperson Curran moved to approve the three short-term solutions agreed to by the parties. Commissioner Gold seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

4631 – National Grid – The PUC reviewed National Grid’s November 30, 2016 proposed amendments to the Net Metering Tariff to: (1) implement the statutory provisions regarding the Community Remote Net Metering (CRNM) Pilot (Pilot), which went into effect on June 27, 2016; (2) clarify the way in which the Company applies net metering credits to customer bills; and (3) simplify and clarify certain tariff provisions. The Division filed a memorandum finding the amendments to be reasonable and necessary. Commissioner DeSimone concurred and moved to approve National Grid’s amendments to the Net Metering Tariff as submitted. Commissioner Gold seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

4682 – National Grid – There was no discussion of this docket because the PUC rendered a bench decision at the March 9, 2017 hearing. This docket relates to Grid’s 2018 Electric Infrastructure, System and Reliability (ISR) Plan and associated ISR factors.

4556 & 4605 - National Grid – National Grid filed on February 22, 2017, a motion to amend the 2016-2017 Renewable Energy Standard (RES) Procurement Plans so the Company may use renewable energy certificates from the Renewable Energy Growth Program to satisfy its RES obligations for standard offer service customers. The Division did not oppose the motion. Commissioner Gold moved to grant National Grid’s motion. Chairperson Curran seconded the motion and the motion passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Gas Marketers – The following companies submitted an application for registration as a gas marketer in the State of Rhode Island. The Division filed a memorandum recommending approval of the applications:

2379(W3) – Eisenbach Consulting, LLC
2379(X3) – Town Square Energy, LLC

After review, Chairperson Curran moved to approve the gas marketer applications. Commissioner Gold seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

2262(U21) – Total Access Telecom, Inc. (Company) – The Company notified that it has no customers nor any revenues in the State of Rhode Island and requested that its authority to do business be cancelled. Chairperson Curran moved to rescind the authority of Total Access Telecom. Commissioner Gold seconded the motion and the motion passed. **Vote 3-0.**

The Open Meeting adjourned at 9:20 A.M.