

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

Public Utilities Commission

Minutes of Open Meeting Held April 26, 2006

Attendees: Chairman Elia Germani, Commissioner Robert Holbrook, Commissioner Mary Bray, Steve Frias, Cindy Wilson-Frias, Thomas Massaro, Alan Nault, Douglas Hartley and Luly Massaro.

Chairman Germani called the open meeting to order at 2:00 P.M. in the first-floor hearing room of the Public Utilities Commission.

Minutes of Open Meetings held on April 13, 2006 - After review, Chairman Germani moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Holbrook and unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Competitive Telecommunications Service Providers

The following companies submitted tariff revisions. The Division has reviewed the tariff filings and does not recommend suspension of:

2618 – AT&T Communications (tariff filings 3/31, 4/3, 4/4, 4/7 & 4/13/06)

2426 – TCG Rhode Island (tariff filing 4/4/06)

2535 – Cox Rhode Island Telcom (tariff filings 3/29 & 4/6/06)

2472 – Sprint Communications (tariff filing 3/31, 4/3 & 4/14/06)

2621 – MCI Communications Services, Inc. d/b/a Verizon Business Services (tariff filing 3/31/06)

3597 – ACN Communication Services, Inc. (tariff filing 4/5/06)

3526 – National Grid Communications, Inc. (tariff filing 4/13/06)

2262(V19) – Phone 1, Inc. (tariff filing 4/5/06)

2262(K) – SNET America, Inc. (tariff filing 4/13/06)

2262(V1) – BellSouth Long Distance, Inc. (tariff filing 3/31/06)

2262(P7) - MCI Communications Services, Inc. d/b/a Verizon Business Services (tariff filing 3/31/06)

After review, the Commission followed the Division's recommendation that the tariff filings be allowed to go into effect without suspension.

3740 – Verizon Rhode Island – Verizon submitted a tariff filing to introduce new access line connections for Transparent LAN Service (TLS) and introduce Ethernet Virtual Circuits (EVCs) for Transparent LAN Ethernet Relay Services (ERS) for effect May 5, 2006. The Division has reviewed the filing and recommended no suspension of the tariff filing. After review, Chairman Germani entertained a motion to approve Verizon's tariff filing. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

3738 – Verizon Rhode Island – Verizon submitted a tariff filing to make administrative changes to Verizon Client Advantage Program for Regulated Services for effect April 30, 2006. The Division reviewed the filing and recommended no suspension of the tariff filing. After review, Chairman Germani entertained a motion to approve Verizon's tariff

filing. Commissioner Holbrook seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

3737 – Verizon Rhode Island – Verizon submitted a tariff filing to withdraw optional Service Level 3 for Network View from its Enhanced Dedicated SONET Service (EDSS) Customer Service Management (CSM) offering for effect April 30, 2006. The Division has reviewed the filing and recommended no suspension of the tariff filing. After review, Chairman Germani entertained a motion to approve Verizon’s tariff filing. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

3736 – Verizon Rhode Island – Verizon submitted a tariff filing to increase certain rates for RI Directory Listing Service and Directory Assistance Service for effect April 30, 2006. The Division reviewed the filing and recommended no suspension of the tariff filing. After review, Chairman Germani entertained a motion to approve Verizon’s tariff filing. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

3742 - Interstate Navigation Co. – The Commission reviewed Interstate’s request to implement Island Hi-Speed Ferry’s fast ferry rates, from Pt. Judith to Old Harbor, Block Island for effect May 24, 2006. The parties in the docket, comprising of the Division, Interstate Navigation, Island Hi-Speed Ferry and the Towns of New Shoreham and Narragansett, filed a Stipulation seeking that the Commission approve Interstate’s request to begin service by May 24, 2006. After review, Chairman Germani entertained a motion to approve the Stipulation Commissioner Holbrook moved to approve the Stipulation. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

3696 – New England Gas Co. (NEGas) – The Commission reviewed NEGas’ filing to update and implement a revise semi-annual Btu conversion factor effective May 1, 2006. After review, Chairman Germani entertained a motion to approve the filing. Commissioner Holbrook moved to approve NEGas’ filing. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

3690 - New England Gas Co. – This docket relates to the Commission review of the company’s Distribution Adjustment Clause. Discussion of this docket was postponed until next open meeting.

3739 – Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a National Grid – National Grid's filed to implement a rate reduction to the Standard Offer rate, from 10.0¢ per kWh to 9.4¢ per kWh, for effect May 1, 2006. The company subsequently modified the rate based on updated data on fuel prices and predicted higher prices in the coming months. National Grid proposed to lessen the reduction to 9.7¢ per kWh. This would represent an overall reduction of \$1.56 on a typical residential monthly bill. The Division filed a recommendation to defer a decision for the purpose of continuing to monitor fuel markets and keep the current rate in effect.

After review of the filings by National Grid and the Division, the Commissioners were in agreement that it would best serve the ratepayers to maintain the current SO rate at 10.0¢ per kWh in order to maintain rate stability, specifically, at this time when fuel prices are volatile and uncertain. Chairman Germani moved to suspend National Grid's proposed rate filing to further monitor fuel costs and directed National Grid to provide update data by May 25, 2006. Commissioner Holbrook seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

The open meeting adjourned at 2:25 P.M.