

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

Public Utilities Commission

Minutes of Open Meeting Held May 7, 2015

Attendees: Chairperson Margaret Curran, Commissioner Paul Roberti, Commissioner Herbert DeSimone, Cindy Wilson-Frias, Amy D'Alessandro, Alan Nault, Sharon Colby Camara, Todd Bianco and Luly Massaro.

Chairperson Curran called the open meeting to order at 9:45 A.M. in the first-floor hearing room of the Public Utilities Commission. A quorum was present.

Approval of the Minutes of Open Meeting held on April 13, 2015 – Commissioner Roberti moved to approve the minutes and Commissioner DeSimone seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Competitive Telecommunications Service Providers Dockets

The following companies submitted revisions to their existing tariffs. The Division filed a recommendation that the tariff filings are allowed to go into effect without suspension:

- 2878 – Choice One Communications of RI (tariff filing 4/21/15)
- 2618 – AT&T Corporation (tariff filings 4/15/15)
- 2426 – Teleport Communications America LLC (tariff filing 4/15/15)

After review, the Commission accepted the Division's recommendation to allow the tariffs go into effect without suspension. **Vote 3-0.**

4560 – American Broadband and Telecommunications Co. (Company) – The Company filed an application for authority to transact as Class VI telecommunication provider. The Division reviewed the application and recommended approval. After review, Commissioner Roberti moved to approve the application and Commissioner DeSimone seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

4561 – Verizon Rhode Island – Verizon filed on April 16, 2015, a tariff filing to update and clarify language associated with landline fraudulent disconnects. The Division filed a recommendation to allow the tariff filing go in effect without suspension. After review, the Commission unanimously adopted the Division's recommendation. **Vote 3-0.**

4534 – Pascoag Utility District (Pascoag) – Pascoag filed on April 21, 2015, a request to allocate 2014 carryover funds of \$22,926 in the 2015 DSM budget to the Lighting and Energy Efficient Project (\$13,455) and to the LED Street Light Incentive Program (\$9,471). After discussion, Commissioner DeSimone moved to approve Pascoag's request to allocate DSM funds. Commissioner Roberti seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

4527 – The Narragansett Electric d/b/a National Grid – National Grid filed on March 13, 2015 and April 29, 2015 requests to transfer funds in the 2015 Energy Efficiency Program Plan. Specifically, National Grids requests to transfer \$3.35 million from Small Business Direct Install programs to the Large C&I New Construction and Retrofit

programs. This transfer requires Division and PUC approval. The Division approved the transfer on March 20, 2015. After review, Commissioner Roberti moved to approve National Grid's request to transfer funds. Commissioner DeSimone seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

4277 – National Grid – The PUC reviewed the record relating to WED Coventry One's April 23, 2015 Petition for Relief regarding COV1's eligibility for the Third 2014 Distributed Generational Enrollment. The Petition sought an order requiring National Grid to make an expedited determination on WED Coventry One's Third Enrollment application in lieu of conducting a hearing. At an open meeting on March 31, 2015, the PUC voted unanimously to accept jurisdiction over the issue of whether WED Coventry One was eligible for the Third 2014 DG Enrollment and whether National Grid should consider and process WED Coventry One's enrollment application. The PUC ordered a hearing on the merits in order to allow both parties an opportunity to present their positions on this issue. The PUC's decision is recorded in Order No. 21875, issued April 20, 2015.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Roberti moved to deny the April 23 Petition of WED Coventry One, and to schedule a hearing for the parties to present their positions on the merits. Chairperson Curran seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Atty. Wilson-Frias was excused from the open meeting prior to the PUC's discussion of the Docket No. 4483.

4483 – WED Wind Energy Development, LLC & ACP Land LLC (Petitioners) – The PUC reviewed the pleadings relating to the Private Letter of Ruling (PLRs). In the pleadings filed with the PUC, National Grid is requesting permission to wait until it receives a ruling on the Massachusetts project before filing any other PLR requests, as it may not be necessary to file additional PLR requests, depending on the outcome of the MA PLR request. The Petitioners are requesting that the PUC resolve this concern promptly for the benefit of the Coventry projects and many more projects who are or will soon be seeking interconnection.

After review and discussion, Commissioner DeSimone moved to require National Grid to begin drafting a private letter ruling request for the WED Coventry One project but defer filing the request with the IRS pending review of this matter in thirty days. Commissioner DeSimone also moved to assign the matter to an open meeting in thirty days to determine the status of the Massachusetts private letter ruling request and whether it is necessary for National Grid to complete the PLR request for the WED Coventry One project and file the same with the IRS. Commissioner Roberti seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

4536-B – RI Distributed Generation Board (DB Board) – The DG Board filed on April 15, 2015, a budgetary request of up to \$65,000 to retain a consultant to assist in the

development of the 2016 Renewable Energy Growth Program ceiling prices. After review, Commissioner Roberti moved to approve the DG's Board budgetary request. Chairperson Curran seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

The open meeting adjourned at 10:35 A.M.