

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

Public Utilities Commission

Minutes of Open Meeting Held July 10, 2008

Attendees: Chairman Elia Germani, Commissioner Robert Holbrook, Commissioner Mary Bray, Patricia Lucarelli, Thomas Massaro, Alan Nault, Donna Conway and Luly Massaro.

Chairman Germani called the open meeting to order at 2:00 PM. in the first-floor hearing room of the Public Utilities Commission. A quorum was present.

Competitive Telecommunications Service Providers

The following company filed application registrations for authority to provide telecommunications service in Rhode Island. The Division has reviewed the application and recommends approval of:

3970 - Wholesale Carrier Services, Inc.

2262(E21) – ITI Inmate Telephone, Inc.

2262(D21) – NexUSTel, LLC

After review, Commissioner Holbrook moved to approve the application as submitted.

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

The following companies submitted tariff revisions. The Division has reviewed the tariff revisions and recommends that it be allowed to go into effect without suspension:

2262(A6) – SBC Long Distance, LLC (tariff filing 6/12/08)

2262(P4) – Global Tel*Link Corp. (tariff filing 6/12/08)

2262(O2) – NOS Communications, Inc. (tariff filing 6/13/08)

2262(P2) – NOSVA Limited Partnership (tariff filing 6/13/08)

2262(Q2) – Affinity Network Inc. (tariff filing 6/13/08)

3429 – AmeriVision Communications, Inc. (tariff filing 6/24/08)

3315 – T-NETIX (tariff filing 6/25/08)

2426 – TCG Rhode Island (tariff filings 6/30/08)

2618 – AT&T Corp. (tariff filings 6/20 & 6/30/08)

2486 – MCImetro Access Transmission Services, LLC (tariff filing 6/25/08)

3028 – Qwest Communications Corp. (tariff filing 6/13/08)

After review, the Commission followed the Division's recommendation to allow the tariff to go into effect without suspension.

The following company ceased operations and requested that its authority be cancelled:

2262(C8) – CTC Communications Corp.

After review, Commissioner Holbrook moved to rescind and cancel the authority of CTC Communications. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Renewable Energy Resources Generation Units – The Commission reviewed the following Renewable Energy Resource certification applications submitted by:

3937 – Putman Hydropower, Inc. for Generation Unit: Putnam Hydropower

3946 – Conservation Services Group on behalf of Casella Waste System for Generation Unit: Hyland

After review, Commissioner Holbrook moved approve the above certification applications. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.** As approved, the Putman Hydropower Generation Unit meets the eligibility requirement as Existing, Small Hydropower Renewable Energy Resources. The Hyland Generation Unit meets the eligibility requirement as New, Eligible Biomass Renewable Energy Resources and is approved with the conditional requirement that the Company verifies Commercial Operation and provide the Generation Unit's NEPOOL-IS asset identification number when assigned by NEPOOL.

3967 – Verizon Rhode Island – The Commission reviewed Verizon's June 20, 2008 filing to introduce a waiver of non-recurring charges associated with installation of a network access line when the customer subscribes to the 24-month Commitment for Business Measured Exchange Service, for effect July 20, 2008. After review, Commissioner Holbrook moved to approve Verizon's tariff filing as filed. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

3896 – Pascoag Utility District – Pascoag filed its mid-year reconciliation of the standard offer rate, transmission charge and transition charge and proposed changes to the charges. After review, Commissioner Bray moved to suspend the proposed rates pending further examination of the filing. Commissioner Holbrook seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

3960 – National Grid Electric (NGrid) – The Commission reviewed the record regarding NGrid's proposed standard offer rate adjustment filing. After review, the following motions were made:

- Chairman Germani moved to approve an increase to the Standard Offer Rate from 9.2¢ per kWh to 12.4¢ per kWh effective July 15, 2008 through December 31, 2008. Commissioner Holbrook seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**
- Commissioner Bray moved to retain a CPA firm to audit the company's costs associated with the Standard Offer Service contract. Chairman Germani seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

3961 – National Grid Gas (NGrid) – The Commission reviewed the record regarding NGrid's proposed interim cost of gas recovery (GCR) charge filing. After review, Commissioner Bray moved to approve the Division's position to increase to the GCR factors effective July 15, 2008 through October 1, 2008. Chairman Germani seconded the motion. Commissioner Holbrook supported National Grid's position and opposed the motion. **Vote 2-1.** The approved GCR charges are: \$1.2269 per therm for Residential & Small C&I customers, \$1.2260 per therm or Medium C&I customers, \$1.2300 per therm for Large Low Load Factor C&I customers; \$1.2039 for Large High Load Factor customers; \$1.2269 for Extra Large Low Load Factor customers; and \$1.1938 for Extra Large High Load Factor customers. The Natural Gas Vehicle rate is \$0.9326 per therm.

The open meeting adjourned at 2:40 P.M.