

**State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations**

**Public Utilities Commission**

**Minutes of Open Meeting Held July 15, 2009**

**Attendees: Chairman Elia Germani, Commissioner Mary Bray, Commissioner Paul Roberti, Patricia Lucarelli, Cindy Wilson-Frias, Sharon Colby Camara, Alan Nault and Nick Ucci. Staff member Luly Massaro was not present.**

**Chairman Germani called the open meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. in the first-floor hearing room of the Public Utilities Commission. A quorum was present.**

**Approval of Open Meeting Minutes held on July 1, 2009 and July 7, 2009:** After review, Commissioner Bray moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Roberti seconded the motion. Motion to approve the minutes unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

**Competitive Telecommunications Service Providers**

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

3413 – Intrado Communications (tariff filing 6/30/09)

2535 – Cox Rhode Island Telcom LLC (tariff filings 6/26/09)

3807 – Matrix Telecom, Inc. (tariff filing 7/1/09)

2618 – AT&T Corp. (tariff filing 6/30 & 7/1/09)

2262(A6) – SBC Long Distance, LLC (tariff filing 6/26/09)

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

**4071 – Verizon Rhode Island** – Verizon filed on July 2, 2009 a proposal to waive the non-recurring charges (Service and Equipment Charges) associated with the installation of business lines and PBX trunks for customers who subscribe to two- or three-year service agreement for Corporate Rewards. The Division filed a memo finding Verizon's tariff filing is in conformance with Successor Alternative Regulation Plan and Order No. 18550. After review, Commissioner Bray moved to approve Verizon's tariff filing. Commissioner Roberti seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed.

**Vote 3-0.**

**2379(F2) – Taylor Consulting & Contracting LLC** – The Company filed an application for authority to operate as a gas marketer in RI. The Division has reviewed the application and recommended approval. After review, Commissioner Bray moved to approve the application. Commissioner Roberti seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

**4043 – WM Renewable Energy LLC** – The Company submitted compliance filing providing start date of commercial operations and NEPOOL GIS asset identification number for the Crossroads generation facility. After review, Commissioner Bray moved

to approve the compliance filing and assign a Renewable Energy Resource certification number RI-4043-N09. Commissioner Roberti seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

**1725 – Rules & Regulations Governing the Termination of Residential Gas, Electric and Water Utility Service** - The George Wiley Center's filed a Petition to Establish a Hardship Moratorium from utility shutoffs for RI household that has experienced a foreclosure or a loss of job and is willing to make an affordable payment plan for service. The Commission reviewed the Wiley's petition and the various replies submitted by utilities and the Division. The following motions were taken:

1) Commissioner Bray moved to reject the Wiley's petition noting that the request is vague and some things are already covered by the termination rules. Commissioner Roberti supported rejection of the petition noting that the request is too general; the current rules are comprehensive in that addresses the issues better than the general approach. The Commission does have a role to ensure crises averted in provisioning of essential services. It is not prudent to adopt such a general rule. Chairman Germani moved to reject the Wiley's petition. **Vote 3-0.**

2) Commissioner Bray stated that the current rules are complex and open to different interpretation. She moved to initiate a negotiated rulemaking for the purpose of creating new termination rules that are clearer and more concise. Also, to establish a Negotiated Rulemaking Committee limited to 10 members. The Commission will need to set forth clear guidelines for the committee and choose a facilitator. Water will be separated from the negotiated rulemaking and done through a formal rulemaking proceeding. Commissioner Roberti seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 A.M.