

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

Public Utilities Commission

Minutes of Open Meeting Held August 4, 2016

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

Chairperson Curran called the Open Meeting to order at 2:00 P.M. in the first-floor hearing room of the Public Utilities Commission. A quorum was present.

4635 – Block Island Power Co. – The PUC considered the Block Island Power Company’s (BIPCo) Petition for Expedited and Emergency Rate Relief submitted on July 29, 2016. The Company sought to amend the Fuel Adjustment Clause tariff language to recover generator rental and related transportation costs. The Company also requested that pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-3-12, the PUC waive the 30-day notice requirement and evidentiary hearing. After a review of the filing and responsive pleadings, the PUC voted as follows:

- 1) Chairperson Curran moved that good cause exists to find that BIPCo’s request should be considered with less than thirty days’ notice and without a hearing. BIPCo’s request was a result of a July 22, 2016 fire caused by a failure of one of BIPCo’s generating units. Commissioner DeSimone seconded the motion, noting that the fire caused the company to lose over 50% of its generating capacity, leaving one engine destroyed in its entirety and two others damaged. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

- 2) Commissioner DeSimone concurred with the Division’s recommendation to approve BIPCo’s additional proposed tariff language to allow recovery for engine rental and ancillary costs. However, Commissioner DeSimone proposed that approval should sunset at the end of September 2016 (and not at the end of August 2016 as the Division recommended). Chairperson Curran agreed and moved to approve BIPCo’s proposed tariff change for effect on bills rendered in August and September 2016. To the extent that there are recoveries from the insurance claim, it should go to the benefit of customers. Commissioner DeSimone seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

The Open Meeting adjourned at 2:22 P.M.