

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

Public Utilities Commission

Minutes of Open Meeting Held August 5, 2010

Attendees: Chairman Elia Germani, Commissioner Mary Bray, Commissioner Paul Roberti, Patricia Lucarelli, Cindy Wilson-Frias, Amy D'Alessandro, Sharon Colby Camara, Alan Nault, Nick Ucci, Dilip Shah and Luly Massaro.

Chairman Germani called the open meeting to order at 8:30 A.M. in the first-floor hearing room of the Public Utilities Commission. A quorum was present.

Minutes of Open Meetings held on July 8, 200 and July 14, 2010 - After review, Commissioner Bray moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Roberti seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Competitive Telecommunications Service Providers

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

4191 – Global Crossing Local Services, Inc.

After review, Commissioner Bray moved to approve the applications. Commissioner Roberti seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

The following companies filed revisions to their existing tariffs. The Division has reviewed the tariff filings and recommends that they be allowed to go into effect without suspension:

3059 – Broadview Networks, Inc. (tariff filing 7/15/10)

3028 – Qwest Communications Co. (tariff filing 7/12/10)

2262(J20) – Embarq Communications, Inc. (tariff filing 7/12/10)

2262(A6) – SBC Long Distance, LLC (tariff filing 7/22/10)

2262(C8) – CTC Communications Corp. (tariff filing 7/22/10)

2262(K17) – 3U Telecom, Inc. (tariff filing 7/22/10)

2262(K21) – Velocity The Greatest Phone Company Ever, Inc. (tariff filing 7/22/10)

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

The following company filed a request to rescind its authority to operate:

3691 – Navigator Telecommunications, LLC

After review, Commissioner Bray moved to rescind the authority of the Company.

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

4192 – Verizon Rhode Island – Verizon filed on July 16, 2010 a tariff filing to implement rate increase to residential optional custom calling services. The Division filed a memorandum finding that the tariff proposal conforms to the requirements of the 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 was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

4193 - Verizon Rhode Island – Verizon filed on July 22, 2010 a tariff filing to introduce a month-to-month option and a two-year term commitment to the Solutions for Business Bundle. The Division filed a memorandum finding that the tariff proposal conforms to the requirements of the 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 was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

4194 - Verizon Rhode Island – Verizon filed on July 22, 2010 a tariff filing to expand the Bundle Discount associated with Regional Value to customers who subscribe to a long distance calling plan. The Division filed a memorandum finding that the tariff proposal conforms to the requirements of the Successor Alternative Regulation Plan and Order No. 18550. After review, Commissioner Bray moved to approve Verizon's proposed tariff filing. Commissioner Roberti seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

3569 - National Grid – National Grid filed on July 9, 2010 a tariff advice to amend the two tariffs associated with use of credit card as a method to pay utility bills. The tariffs are the Optional Telephone and Web Page Payment Provision applicable to electric customers and Optional Credit Card Provision applicable to gas customers. The tariff revisions include a reduction to the transaction fee, to increase the maximum per-transaction amount and language clarification to the tariff. The Division filed a memorandum summarizing its review and recommending approval. After review, Commissioner Bray moved to approve National Grid's proposed tariff revision as filed. Commissioner Roberti seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

4034 - National Grid – National Grid filed on July 9, 2010 a request to modify the Accelerated Replacement Program (ARP) for FY 2011, specifically, seeks to adjust the ARP program to shift some spending from service replacement to focus on main replacement work. The Division filed a memorandum summarizing its review of the filing and recommending approval. After review, Commissioner Bray moved to approve NGrid's request to modify the ARP for FY 2011. Commissioner Roberti seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

4149 - National Grid – The Commission review of the record and rule on the following outstanding issues regarding National Grid's proposed 2011 Standard Offer Service (SOS) Procurement Plan and 2011 Renewable Energy Standard (RES) Procurement Plan:

- SOS Procurement for Industrial Group was not disputed and the proposed procurement approach is same as the 2010 plan. Commissioner Bray moved that the Company continue to procure SOS with Full Requirement Service (FRS) Contract for this customer group. Commissioner Robert seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

- Chairman Germani moved to adopt National Grid's SOS procurement for the New Commercial Group. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.** National Grid's procurement for this customer group is a combination of FRS and spot market purchases for 2011 and 2012 deliveries and National Grid adopted the Division's position regarding customer switching pricing options.
- Commissioner Roberti moved to approve National Grid SOS procurement approach for Residential Group. Chairman Germani seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.** National Grid's procurement for this customer group is a combination of FRS and spot market purchases for 2011, 2012 and 2013 deliveries.
- Commissioner Roberti moved to adopt same Default Retail Pricing for the Commercial Group as priced in Massachusetts. The default pricing for the C-06 customer shall be fixed pricing with the option to choose variable pricing. Chairman Germani seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**
- Chairman Germani moved to approve two rate changes each year related to the SOS retail pricing and reconciliation of the SOS costs. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**
- Chairman Germani rejected National Grid's new provision in the 2011 SOS and RES Procurement Plans that requires the Commission's review of the actual contracts through a three business day review prior to their finalization whereby no action on the part of the Commission deems the contracts approved. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.** The status quo review process for SOS and RES will remain
- The Commission directed National Grid to file quarterly reconciliation reports and include a comparison of estimated SOS spot purchases to actual spot market costs incurred.

The open meeting adjourned at 8:50 A.M.