

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

Public Utilities Commission

Minutes of Open Meeting Held August 29, 2013

Attendees: Chairperson Margaret Curran, Commissioner Paul Roberti, Commissioner Hebert DeSimone, Patricia Lucarelli, Cindy Wilson-Frias, Amy D'Alessandro, Sharon Colby Camara, Alan Nault, Dilip Shah, Nicholas Ucci and Luly Massaro.

Chairperson Curran called the open meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. in the first-floor hearing room of the Public Utilities Commission. A quorum was present.

Minutes of Open Meeting held on August 22, 2013: Chairperson Curran entertained a motion to approve the minutes and Commissioner DeSimone 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 companies submitted tariff filings to revise existing tariffs. The Division has reviewed the tariff filings and recommended that they be allowed to go into effect without suspension:

- 2618 – AT&T Corp. (tariff filing 8/1/13)
- 2262(E2) – Teleconnect Long Distance Services & Systems Co. (tariff filing 8/2/13)

After review, Commissioner DeSimone moved to accept the Division's recommendation to allow the tariff revisions to go into effect without suspension. Commissioner Roberti seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

The following companies filed a request that its authority to transact business in RI be cancelled and rescinded. The Division filed a recommendation supporting the request of:

- 3527 – Covista, Inc.
- 3611 – TransNational Communications International, Inc.
- 2262(D13) - TransNational Communications International, Inc.

After review, Commissioner DeSimone moved to cancel and rescind the authority as requested. Commissioner Roberti seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

4420 – Conanicut Marine Services, Inc. (Company) – The Company filed an application seeking certification for its CMS Solar Generation Unit, a 0.1283 MW Solar energy Generation Unit located in Jamestown, RI, as an eligible New Renewable Energy Resource. Commission Consultant submitted a memorandum summarizing its review that the facility meets the requirements for eligibility as a Renewable Energy Resource and recommending approval with conditional requirement that the Company provide the Commission with documentation verifying Commercial Operation Date and provide the Generation Unit's NEPOOL-GIS Asset Identification Number when assigned by NEPOOL following achievement of Commercial Operation. After review,

Commissioner DeSimone moved to approve the application with the conditional requirement recommended by Commission Consultant. Commissioner Roberti seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

4434 – United Water Rhode Island – United Water filed on August 13, 2013 proposed rates and tariffs designed to generate additional revenues of \$1,563,153 to support total cost of service of \$5,233,419, or 42.59%. Commissioner DeSimone moved to suspend United Water’s proposed rates for eight months beyond the effective date of September 13, 2013 to conduct discovery and hearing into the proposal. Commissioner Roberti seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

4427 - i-wireless, LLC – i-wireless filed on July 16, 2013 Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier t (ETC) to solely provide Lifeline to qualifying Rhode Island low-income households. The Division filed a position finding that i-wireless complies with Commission ETC regulations. After review, Commissioner Roberti moved to approve the petition. Commissioner DeSimone seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

4425 - Town of New Shoreham (Town) – The Commission reviewed the record regarding the Town’s July 10, 2013 Petition for Declaratory Judgment. After review, Commissioner DeSimone moved that the PUC has no jurisdiction to determine the eligibility of the Town to receive funds for Renewable Energy projects, and further finding that the RI Economic Development Corporation has exclusive jurisdiction over the administration of the Renewable Energy Fund. Chairman Roberti seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

3798 - Rules Governing the Implementation of a Renewable Energy Standard – The Commission reviewed the comments received regarding whether the Commission should change its current policy regarding the effective date of eligibility of Renewable Energy Certificates (“RECs”) generated by Eligible Renewable Energy Resources. The Division and National Grid supported a change in the policy that would recognize RECs produced during the Test Period. After review, Commissioner DeSimone moved to approve a proposed change to the current policy to recognize that energy generated during the test period would be eligible RECs. Commissioner Roberti seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

4277 & 4288 - National Grid and the RI Office of Energy Resources – The Commission reviewed the National Grid’ August 7, 2013 revised DG Enrollment Application/Enrollment Rules and revised DG Standard Contracts to reflect the recent passage of Senate Bill No. 0641, enacted into law July 11, 2013. The revisions, mandated by law, include requiring small DG projects to submit competitive bids; changing the size limits for both small and large DG projects; changing the output demonstration test; subjecting small and large DG projects to the same scoring criteria; and adding reporting requirements. National Grid requested expedited review of the revisions in order to complete the second enrollment for 2013 under the DG contract program. The Division filed a letter indicating it has no objection to the filing and noting that competitive bidding for small DG projects will promote low contract pricing which

is in the best interest of ratepayers. After review, Commissioner DeSimone moved to approve National Grid's revised DG Enrollment Application/Enrollment Rules and revised DG Standard Contracts with the provision to remove language contained in Section 2.12 (which was subsequently withdrawn by the Company on August 22, 2013.) Commissioner Roberti seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed.
Vote 3-0.

The open meeting adjourned at 10:48 A.M.