

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

Public Utilities Commission

Minutes of Open Meeting Held on September 26, 2019

An Open Meeting of the Public Utilities Commission was held on Thursday, September 26, 2019 at 1:00 P.M. in Hearing Room A, 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island to discuss, deliberate and/or vote on the following dockets.

Present: Chairperson Margaret Curran, Commissioner Marion Gold, Commissioner Abigail Anthony, Cynthia Wilson Frias, John Harrington, Margaret Hogan, Todd Bianco, Alan Nault and Luly Massaro.

- I. Chairperson Curran called the Open Meeting to order at 1:05 P.M. A quorum was present.
- II. **Docket No. 3533 – Cox Telcom Rhode Island Telcom** – Noting that the concerns raised by the Division have been resolved in this matter and finding that Cox RI Telcom has met the statutorily requirements for relinquishing its designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC), Chairperson Curran moved to grant Cox’s petition to relinquish its designation as an ETC. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**
- III. **Docket No. 4958 – The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a National Grid** – National Grid submitted proposed Pension and Postretirement Benefits Other than Pensions (PBOP) Adjustment Factor (PAF) and annual pension and PBOP reconciliation filing for the 12-month period ending March 31, 2019. The Division submitted a memorandum summarizing its review and recommending approval of the Company’s proposal. After review, Commissioner Gold moved to approve National Grid’s filing as submitted. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**
- IV. **Docket No. 4954 – The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a National Grid** –National Grid submitted proposed Renewable Energy Growth (RE Growth) Program Factor Filing proposing RE Growth Factors and Reconciliation RE Growth Factors for effect October 1, 2019. The Division submitted a memorandum summarizing its review and finding the proposed RE Growth Program cost recovery factors are correctly calculated and in accordance with the statute and approved tariff. The Division recommended approval of the proposed RE Growth Factors. After review, Chairperson Curran moved to approve the proposed RE Growth Factors for effect October 1, 2019. Commissioner Gold seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

The PUC discussed issues that warranted further consideration and perhaps some of these issues can be addressed in the Company’s next tariff filing, next fall. The issues discussed: 1) the three conditions the PUC’s decision was based in Docket 4847 have been met by the Company; 2) prudence of the administrative budget; 3)

the \$1.3 million expenditure to upgrade the billing system; 4) prudence of investments; 4) missing electricity referenced in Data Response Set 1; and 5) issues referenced in Data Response 2-10 regarding the allocation of megawatts between classes. The PUC will ask additional questions in the Company's next 2020 factor filing to help the PUC with a prudence review of the investments the Company expects to put into service in May 2020. Questions concerning the next factor filing will be incorporated in the PUC's Order.

- V. **Docket No. 4783– The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a National Grid** – National Grid submitted proposed Electric Infrastructure, Safety, and Reliability (ISR) Reconciliation Filing and associated factors relating to the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Electric ISR Plan. The Division submitted a memorandum summarizing its review finding the proposed filing accurately and reasonable support the revenue requirements and recommended approval of the proposed ISR reconciliation factors. After review, Chairperson Curran moved to approve the Company's proposed ISR factors. Commissioner Gold seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**
- VI. **Docket No. 4944 – Narragansett Bay Commission (NBC)** – This docket relates to NBC's petition to establish a private at-grade crossing. The concern expressed by the Division has not been resolved. Chairperson Curran moved to postpone ruling on the matter until a resolution is reached. The parties have until October 18 to notify if there is a resolution or if a hearing is required. Commission Gold seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**
- VII. **Docket No. 4890 – Narragansett Bay Commission** – This docket was on the agenda to discuss the Narragansett Bay Commission's failure to make a compliance filing regarding the calculation and allocation of costs and expenses attributable to the installation of a main sewer line. Mr. Harrington informed that NBC's counsel contacted him to notify that NBC will be submitted a compliance filing.
- VIII. The PUC reviewed and ruled on the renewable energy resource eligibility applications submitted in the following dockets. PUC consultant has reviewed the applications and recommends conditional approval subject to the requirement that the applicants submit documentation verifying commercial operation date and assignment of NEPOOL GIS Id number. After review, Chairperson Curran moved to grant approval conditionally as recommend by PUC consultant. Commission Gold seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**
- a. **Docket No. 4959 – K & K Beach Club LLC's** application for eligibility certification of the K & K Beach Solar LLC generation unit, a 0.840 MW AC (0.9968 MW DC) solar facility located in Middletown, Rhode Island, as a New Renewable Energy Resource
 - b. **Docket No. 4960 – M & K Leasing LLC's** application for eligibility certification of the M K Leasing LLC Solar generation unit, a 0.180 MW AC (0.225 MW DC) solar facility located in Mapleville, Rhode Island, as a New Renewable Energy Resource.

- c. **Docket No. 4961 – The Singleton Group LLC’s** application for eligibility certification of the Singleton Group Solar generation unit, a 0.200 MW AC (0.2492 MW DC) solar facility located in Woonsocket, Rhode Island, as a New Renewable Energy Resource.
- d. **Docket No. 4962 – Blackbird Farm LLC’s** application for eligibility certification of the Blackbird Farm Solar generation unit, a 0.216 MW AC (0.2492 MW DC) solar facility located in Smithfield, Rhode Island, as a New Renewable Energy Resource.

IX. There being no further business to discuss, Chairperson Curran moved to adjourn the Open Meeting at 1:36 P.M. A web video of the Open Meeting discussion can be accessed at <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/WqQyXw296dg>.