
Public Utilities Commission

Minutes of Open Meeting Held on June 25, 2020

An Open Meeting of the Public Utilities Commission was held on Thursday, June 25, 2020 at 11:30 A.M. in Hearing Room A, 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island to discuss, deliberate, and/or vote on the following dockets

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

- I. Chairperson Curran called the Open Meeting to order at 11:35 A.M. A quorum was present.
- II. Minutes of Open Meetings held on April 28, 2020, May 26, 2020 and June 4, 2020 - Chairperson Curran moved to approve the Minutes of Open Meetings. Commissioner Gold seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. Vote 3-0.
- III. **Docket No. 5030 – The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a National Grid** – Discussion of this docket was postponed until next Open Meeting.
- IV. **Docket No. 5031 – The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a National Grid** – After review, Chairperson Curran moved to approve National Grid’s proposed Residential Assistance Recovery Filing for effect July 1, 2020 as submitted. The filing includes proposed Arrearage Management Adjustment Factor (AMAF) of \$0.00015 per kWh and proposed Low-Income Discount Recovery Factor (LIDRF) of \$0.00176 per kWh, both of which are covered by the Company’s Residential Assistance Provision. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**
- V. **Docket No. 4992 – The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a National Grid** – After review, Chairperson Curran moved to approve National Grid’s proposed Long-Term Contracting for Renewable Energy factor of \$0.000931 per kWh for the period July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**
- VI. **Docket No. 4770 – The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a National Grid** – After review, Chairperson Curran moved to approve National Grid’s requested Performance Incentive Factor (PIF) of \$0.00005 per kWh submitted pursuant to the Company’s Performance Incentive Recovery Provision on February 28, 2020. The proposed PIF is to take effect July 1, 2020. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.** The PUC noted that it will review further the tracking of A-60 enrollment in this docket or through the low-income data working group. The PUC will also consider adjusting performance incentive targets in the future.

- VII. **Docket No. 4983 – The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a National Grid** - There was no discussion of this docket.
- VIII. **Docket No. 5022 – Suspension of Service Terminations and Certain Collections Activities During the COVID-19 Emergency** – After review, Chairperson Curran moved to grant National Grid’s request for an extension of time to comply with PUC Order 23826 relating to the waiver of credit and debit card fees. National Grid sought an extension until July 3, 2020. Commissioner Gold seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**
- IX. **Docket No. 4690 – Block Island Utility District** – After review, Chairperson Curran moved to approve the Block Island Utility District’s June 1, 2020 request to change the Standard Offer and Transmission Rates as requested. The requested rates will take effect July 1, 2020. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**
- X. **Docket No. 5034 – Interstate Navigation Co.** – The PUC reviewed Interstate Navigation’s rate application and motion seeking expedited approval of revised fast ferry rates effective 30 days from filing date of May 27, 2020. After review, the following motions were made:
- 1.) Chairperson Curran moved to grant Interstate Navigation's request for exemption from the filing requirements pursuant to PUC's rules and request for waiver from hearing and investigation requirements pursuant to law. Commissioner Gold seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**
 - 2.) Chairperson Curran moved to approve Interstate Navigation's requested rate increase. Commissioner Gold seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**
- XI. **Docket No. 4976 – Narragansett Bay Commission** – The PUC considered Narragansett Bay Commission’s (NBC) tariff filing submitted on October 3, 2020. After review, the following motions were made:
- 1.) Chairperson Curran moved to approve NBC's proposal to add a sewer tie-in expense to its terms and conditions as filed. Commissioner Gold seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**
 - 2.) Chairperson moved to approve, with a single change, NBC's proposal to modify its tariff to add a second credit card transaction fee of 2.95% of the transaction amount of the minimum transaction fee of \$1.95. The single change is that this fee shall not apply to customers paying past due balances for monthly charges, including late fees. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**
 - 3.) Chairperson Curran moved to deny NBC's proposal to add a stormwater management application review fee of \$550 to recover costs associated with the review and processing of stormwater management applications. Commissioner Gold seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

- XII. The PUC reviewed the Renewable Energy Resource Eligibility Applications submitted in the following dockets:

Docket No. 5017 – Solect Energy Development’s application for eligibility certification of the SED-National Velour Corporation generation unit, a 0.180 MW AC (0.2498 MW DC) solar facility located in Warwick, Rhode Island, as a New Renewable Energy Resource. Chairperson Curran moved to approve the eligibility application subject to conditions set forth by PUC consultant that the applicant provide documentation verifying commercial operation date and designation of GIS ID number. Commissioner Gold seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Docket No. 5018 – Solect Energy Development’s application for eligibility certification of the SED-59 Tom Harvey Rd LLC generation unit, a 0.144 MW AC (0.1736 MW DC) solar facility located in Westerly, Rhode Island, as a New Renewable Energy Resource. Chairperson Curran moved to approve the eligibility application subject to conditions set forth by PUC consultant that the applicant provide documentation verifying commercial operation date and designation of GIS ID number. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Docket No. 4984 – Pine Hill Solar Partners, LLC’s application for eligibility certification of the Pine Hill Solar Partners, LLC generation unit, a 4.99 MW solar facility located in Johnston, Rhode Island, as a New Renewable Energy Resource. Chairperson Curran moved to approve the eligibility application subject to conditions set forth by PUC consultant that the applicant provide documentation verifying commercial operation date and designation of GIS ID number. Commissioner Gold seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

- XIII. There being no further business to address, Chairperson Curran adjourned the Open Meeting at 12:12 P.M. A video of the Open Meeting discussion can be accessed at <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/WqQyXw296dg>