

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

Public Utilities Commission

Minutes of Open Meeting Held on March 17, 2020

An Open Meeting of the Public Utilities Commission was held on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at 2:00 P.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, Commissioner Abigail Anthony, John Harrington, Alan Nault, Todd Bianco and Luly Massaro. Remotely via teleconferencing: Commissioner Marion Gold, Margaret Hogan and Cynthia Wilson-Frias.

Chairperson Curran called the Open Meeting to order at 2:09 P.M. A quorum was present.

- I. **Docket No. 4995 – The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a National Grid** – This docket is related to the PUC's review of proposed Electric Infrastructure, Safety and Reliability (ISR) Plan for FY 2021 submitted by National Grid. After deliberation, the following motions were made:

Commissioner Anthony moved that the PUC approve National Grid's FY 2021 Electric Infrastructure, Safety and Reliability Plan with one modification. The \$2 million proposed for Advanced Capacitor/Regulator Controls and Feeder Monitor Sensors and Advanced Recloser Controls in the Strategic DER Program should be moved from the system capacity performance category to the non-discretionary Customer Request/Public Requirements category for cost socialization. Chairperson Curran seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Commissioner Anthony moved to adopt all of Mr. Greg Booth's recommendations in his testimony. Chairperson Curran seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

- II. **Docket No. 4996 – The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a National Grid** – This docket is related to the PUC's review of proposed Gas Infrastructure, Safety and Reliability (ISR) Plan for FY 2021 submitted by National Grid. After deliberation, the following motions were made:

Commissioner Anthony moved to grant the motion for protective treatment of Division Attachment 1-11. Chairperson Curran seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Commissioner Anthony moved that the PUC approve National Grid's FY 2021 Gas Infrastructure, Safety and Reliability Plan, as amended, with the Heat Decarbonization proposal removed. Also, that the Company be directed to be prepared for a technical session to be held at a future date. The Company shall be prepared to discuss and demonstrate the methodology for assessing the reduction

of risk resulting from its replacement efforts and be prepared to discuss Appendix C of the October 15 Risk Assessment Compliance Filing in Docket 4540. Chairperson Curran seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Commissioner Anthony moved to adopt Mr. Rod Walker's recommendation on pages 10-11 of his testimony, specifically, 1) that the Company should develop and maintain a comprehensive inventory of aging leak prone mains, and 2) that the company should develop a proactive service replacement program in addition to its Isolated Service replacement program. Chairperson Curran seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

III. **Review of the Renewable Energy Resource Eligibility Application Dockets**

Docket No. 5001 – Zoll Medical Corporation’s application for eligibility certification of the Bio-Detek PV Array generation unit, a 0.164 MW AC (0.176 MW DC) solar facility located in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, as a New Renewable Energy Resource. PUC consultant recommended approval. After review, Chairperson Curran moved to approve the application and Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Docket No. 5006 – Ron Markovsky’s application for eligibility certification of the Cooley, Incorporated generation unit, a 0.336 MW AC solar facility located in Cranston, Rhode Island, as a New Renewable Energy Resource. PUC consultant recommended approval. After review, Chairperson Curran moved to approve the application and Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Docket No. 5007 – Howard Lane Solar, LLC’s application for eligibility certification of the Howard Land Solar, LLC generation unit, a 3.12 MW AC (4.368 MW DC) solar facility located in North Scituate, Rhode Island as a New Renewable Energy Resource. PUC Consultant recommended conditional approval with the requirement that the applicant provide evidence when the facility achieves commercial operation and is assigned a NEPOOL GIS identification number. Chairperson Curran moved to approve the application with the conditions recommend by PUC Consultant. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Docket No. 5008 – Greenville Road Solar, LLC’s application for eligibility certification of the Greenville Road Solar, LLC generation unit, a 0.840 MW AC (0.9979 MW DC) solar facility located in North Smithfield, Rhode Island as a New Renewable Energy Resource. PUC Consultant recommended conditional approval with the requirement that the applicant provide evidence when the facility achieves commercial operation and is assigned a NEPOOL GIS identification number. Chairperson Curran moved to approve the application with the conditions recommend by PUC Consultant. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Docket No. 5009 – Absalona Hill Road Solar, LLC’s application for eligibility certification of the Absalona Hill Road Solar, LLC generation unit, a 0.840 MW AC (0.9979 MW DC) solar facility located in Chepachet, Rhode Island as a New Renewable Energy Resource. PUC Consultant recommended conditional approval with the requirement that the applicant provide evidence when the facility achieves commercial operation and is assigned a NEPOOL GIS identification number. Chairperson Curran moved to approve the application with the conditions recommend by PUC Consultant. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Docket No. 5004 – Westbound Solar LLC’s - There was no discussion of this docket.

IV. **Review of Telecommunications Service Dockets**

Docket No. 5020 – White Label Communications, LLC applied for registration to conduct business as a telecommunication supplier. The Company also requests for confidential treatment of financial information attached as Exhibit B. The Division submitted a recommendation to approve the registration. After review, the following motions were made:

- 1) Chairperson Curran moved to grant the applicant's request for confidential treatment of financial information as exempt from public disclosure pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws Sec. 38-2-2(A)(II)(B). In the future, carriers are advised that they need to file a motion for protective treatment under the PUC’s rules rather than a statement that they expect confidential treatment. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**
- 2) Chairperson Curran moved to approve the registration. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Docket No. 4932 – ComApp Technologies LLC submitted a request to cancel its registration to conduct business. Chairperson Curran moved to grant the request. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Docket No. 2262(P16) – Legacy Long Distance International, Inc. submitted a request to cancel registration to conduct business. Chairperson Curran moved to grant the request. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

- V. The Open Meeting adjourned at 2:33 P.M. A video of the Open Meeting discussion can be accessed at <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/WqQyXw296dg>