STATE OF RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN RE: SEASTREAK, LLC

TARIFF FILING 2022 RATES : DOCKET NO. 4621

ORDER

On April 18, 2022, SeaStreak, LLC (SeaStreak), together with the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (DOT), filed a tariff with the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to increase adult rates (each way) by \$1.00 and child rates by \$0.50 for ferry transportation between the City of Providence and the City of Newport commencing with the 2022 season. Seastreak also included rates for service between Providence, the Town of Bristol, and City of Newport. On May 12, 2022, after a review of SeaStreak's filing, Patricia Smith, Rate Analyst of the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (Division), filed a memorandum with the PUC recommending approval of the proposed increase without the need for a hearing, noting that the ferry is discretionary and does not constitute lifeline ferry services of an isolated ratepayer population.²

On May 19, 2022, the PUC considered the matter at an Open Meeting and approved the proposed increase. Based upon the fact that the services proposed by the applicant do not constitute lifeline ferry services to an isolated ratepayer population, the PUC further found good cause existed, under R.I. Gen. Laws. § 39-3-12, to waive further investigation, further notice, and public hearing.

¹ 2022 Tariff Advice Filing; http://www.ripuc.ri.gov/eventsactions/docket/4621-SeaStreak%20Tariff%20Season%202022.pdf. The 2022 season will run from June 17, 2022 through October 10, 2022. The passenger fares for the ferry service will be: Adults--\$12.00 one way, \$24.00 round trip; Senior Citizens, Disabled and Medicare Cardholders, and children Ages 12 and under - \$6.00 one way, \$12.00 round trip.

² Smith Mem.; http://www.ripuc.ri.gov/eventsactions/docket/4621- DIV%20Position%202022%20Fare%20Change%20(5-12-22)%20(1).pdf

Accordingly, it is

(24415) <u>ORDERED</u>:

The April 18, 2022 tariff filing made by SeaStreak, LLC and the Department of Transportation seeking approval to set new rates for ferry transportation between the City of Providence, the Town of Bristol, and the City of Newport commencing June 17, 2022, is hereby approved.

EFFECTIVE AT WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND ON JUNE 17, 2022
PURSUANT TO AN OPEN MEETING DECISION ON MAY 19, 2022. WRITTEN
ORDER ISSUED ON JUNE 3, 2022.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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Ronald T. Gerwatowski, Chairman

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Abigail Anthony, Commissioner

John C. Revore Jr

John C. Revens, Jr., Commissioner

John C. Revens, Jr., Commissioner

Notice of Right of Appeal: Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-5-1, any person aggrieved by a decision or order of the PUC may, within 7 days from the date of the Order, petition the Supreme Court for a Writ of Certiorari to review the legality and reasonableness of the decision or Order.