



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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*Peter F. Neronha*  
*Attorney General*

March 10, 2023

*Via Electronic Mail*

Luly Massaro  
Commission Clerk  
Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission  
89 Jefferson Blvd.  
Warwick, RI 02888

***In Re: The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a Rhode Island Energy - Last Resort Procurement Plan  
Docket No. 4978***

Dear Ms. Massaro:

On behalf of the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers, please accept for filing the attached memorandum from John Bell, Chief Accountant, that provides the agency's comments regarding the above reference docket.

Thank you for your attention to this submission.

Very truly yours,

*/s/ Gregory S. Schultz*

Gregory S. Schultz  
Special Assistant Attorney General  
On behalf of the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers

Enclosure

cc: 4978 Service List  
Linda George, Esq., Division Administrator  
John Spirito, Esq., Division Deputy Administrator  
Christy Hetherington, Esq., Division Chief Legal Counsel Paul  
Roberti, Esq., Division Chief Economic and Policy Analyst



**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES & CARRIERS**

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**To: Luly Massaro, Commission Clerk  
Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission**

**From: John Bell, Chief Accountant  
Division of Public Utilities & Carriers**

**Date: March 10, 2023**

**Re: Docket No. 4978 – Last Resort Procurement Plan  
Proposal to Recover Deferred Customer Charge**

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On December 13, 2022, Rhode Island Energy (“RIE”) submitted a proposal to recover the A-16, A-60 and C-06 customer charges that were deferred for the six-month period beginning October 1, 2022. As stated on page 8 of Mr. Oliveira’s prefiled testimony, RIE is seeking the following approvals from the Public Utilities Commission:

to (1) double the customer charge during the period of April 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023, (2) credit any overcollections into the Storm Contingency Fund, and (3) allow the Company to recover any under-collections through the Revenue Decoupling Mechanism.

As noted in the filing, the Company previously presented its proposal to the parties in this docket, and the Division did not raise any objections to the proposal. With lower summer supply rates scheduled to be in place for the six-month period beginning April 1, 2023, the Division believes it is an opportune time to recover the entirety of the deferred customer charges, prior to the start of the next winter season when supply rates are typically higher. Even with the proposed doubling of the customer charge and taking into account higher summer usage, customer’s total electric bill for the six-month recovery period will be lower than the total experienced during the period of the deferral (See Schedule JDO-2 of the filing). In conclusion, the Division recommends approval of RIE’s proposal as filed.