

State of Rhode Island

Public Utilities Commission

Minutes of Open Meeting Held on July 13, 2023

An Open Meeting of the Public Utilities Commission (Commission or PUC) was held July 13, 2023 at 10:00 A.M. in Hearing Room A, 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island to discuss, deliberate, and/or vote on the following dockets.

In attendance: Chairman Ronald Gerwatowski, Commissioner Abigail Anthony, Commissioner John Revens, Cynthia Wilson-Frias, Alan Nault, Todd Bianco, Christopher Caramello and Luly Massaro.

I. Commissioner Gerwatowski called the Open Meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. A quorum was present.

II. **Renewable Energy Resource Eligibility Applications** – The Commission reviewed and voted on the applications submitted in the following dockets:

Docket No. RES-23-12 – MN8 energy Operating Co.’s application for eligibility of the Dry Bridge Brown generation unit, a 39.7 MW AC (50.698 MW DC) solar energy facility located in North Kingstown, Rhode Island. The facility has not yet achieved commercial operation. PUC consultant recommended conditional approval. Commissioner Anthony moved to accept the consultant’s recommendation to conditionally approve the application. Commissioner Revens seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Docket No. RES-23-11 – Woonsocket Ind Complex LLC’s application for eligibility of the Woonsocket Ind generation unit, a 0.200 MW AC (0.25359 MW DC) solar energy facility located in Woonsocket, Rhode Island. PUC consultant recommended conditional approval. Commissioner Anthony moved to accept the consultant’s recommendation to approve the application. Commissioner Revens seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Docket No. RES-23-09 – ER Center Road Solar, LLC (Company) – The Company submitted an application for eligibility of the Center Road Solar Generation Unit. This docket was not ready for a vote and there was no discussion.

III. **Docket No. 22-39-REG - The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a Rhode Island Energy** - This docket relates to the Company’s 2023 Renewable Energy Growth (REG) Program approved by the Commission in this docket. In accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-26.6-20(b), the Company selected one (1) commercial scale solar project in the Fist Enrollment REG Program Open Enrollment. The Company seeks approval of the Certificate of Eligibility awarded to White Brook Renewables. Commissioner Anthony moved to approve the award . Commissioner Revens seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

- IV. **Docket No. 4770 - The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a Rhode Island Energy** – In accordance with the Amended Settlement Agreement approved by the PUC in this docket (Report and Order No. 23823), Rhode Island Energy submitted the Company’s earnings report for the twelve-month period ended December 31, 2022 for its electric operations and gas operations. The Commission discussed the earnings reports submitted on June 30, 2023. No votes were taken.

The Chairman observed that RI Energy made commitments not to recover from customers some transitional charges relating to the PPL acquisition of Narragansett Electric. At the Commission’s request, the company included information regarding how they separated out transitional costs from actual expenses that were incurred and recorded for RI Energy. At some point, a review will be needed to assure that the accounting for transition cost vs expenses that would be incurred by the RI Energy are being accounted for properly. The Commission needs to accept the report on an interim basis because once the transition period closes out and National Grid is no longer providing transition services, PPL will close out all expenses and accounting associated with the transition. At that time, the Division can review the transitioning charges were appropriately recorded.

The Commission is putting the Company on notice that this is an interim acceptance of the earnings reports until after the transition closure and the Division’s review.

- V. There being no further discuss, the Chairman adjourned the Open Meeting adjourned at 10:09 A.M. A web video of the Open Meeting discussion can be accessed at <https://video.ibm.com/recorded/132905096>.