
State of Rhode Island

Public Utilities Commission

Minutes of Open Meeting Held on December 21, 2023

An Open Meeting of the Public Utilities Commission (Commission or PUC) was held December 21, 2023 at 11:00 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, John Harrington, Alan Nault, Todd Bianco, Emma Rodvien and Luly Massaro.

I. Chairman Gerwatowski called the Open Meeting to order at 11:00 A.M. A quorum was present.

II. **Renewable Energy Resource Eligibility Applications**

- **Docket No. RES-23-46 – Greenwich Renewable Energy LLC - Greenwich Wind** submitted an application for eligibility of the Greenwich Wind Generation Unit, a wind energy facility located in Addison, Vermont as a New Renewable Energy Resource. Commissioner Anthony moved to accept PUC consultant’s recommendation to approved. Commissioner Revens seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**
- **Docket No. RES-23-30 – IGS USB VII, LLC** submitted an application for eligibility of the IGS Solar, LLC - 23RI-2T2QK Aggregation. Discussion of this docket was postponed.

III. **Docket No. 23-35-EE – The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a Rhode Island Energy** – This docket relates to the PUC’s examination of Rhode Island Energy proposed 2024-2026 Three Year Energy Efficiency and Conservation Procurement Plan (Three-Year Plan) and the 2024 Annual Energy Efficiency and Conservation Procurement Plan (Annual Plan). On December 20, 2023, the Company submitted a Compliance Filing in accordance with the PUC’s directives at the December 19 Open Meeting. At that Open Meeting, the PUC deferred action on the three-year plan and voted on the annual plan. At this Open Meeting the PUC voted on the three-year plan as follows:

- a) Commissioner Anthony moved to approve the gas and electric budget and savings targets as proposed by the Company in its 2024 Annual Plan as modified by the Commission’s previous motions in this docket and as shown in the December 20th Compliance Filing. Commissioner Revens seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**
- b) Commissioner Anthony moved to authorize the Company to implement the programs described in the 2024 Annual Plan, as modified by the PUC’s previous motions in this docket. Commissioner Revens seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

- c) Commissioner Anthony moved to approve an electric energy efficiency rate of \$0.01139 per kWh effective for usage on or after January 1, 2024. Commissioner Revens seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**
- d) Commissioner Anthony moved to approve gas energy efficiency rates of \$0.998 per Dth for the residential classes and \$0.680 per Dth for C&I classes effective for consumption on or after January 1, 2024. Commissioner Revens seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

IV. **Docket No. 23-46-EE - The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a Rhode Island Energy**

– RI Energy filed proposed 2024-2026 Gas Demand Response Pilot SRP Investment Proposal. The Pilot targets large commercial and industrial customers and includes budgets for years 2024-2026 that is funded through a System Reliability Procurement Factor incorporated into the Gas Energy Efficiency Charge for the Commercial and Industrial class. The Division filed a memorandum summarizing its review and suggesting the PUC approve the Pilot for this coming winter. The Division offered three recommendations. The Company reply that it agreed with all three Division’s recommendations. The following motions were deliberated:

- a) Commissioner Anthony moved to approve the Company’s Gas Demand Response Pilot System Reliability Procurement Investment Proposal for one year effective January 1, 2024. Commissioner Revens seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**
- b) Commissioner Anthony moved to approve the proposed RSP factor of \$.015 per Dth applicable to commercial and industrial gas customers for effect January 1, 2024 and direct the Company to incorporate the SRP factor into the Gas Energy Efficiency Charge effective January 1, 2024. Commissioner Revens seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**
- c) Commissioner Anthony moved to direct the company to submit a compliance filing by June 30, 2024 detailing the 2024 winter results of the Pilot, including, at minimum, a comprehensive account of program expenditures, number of participating customers, incentives provided to customers, gas savings in dollars and volumes by customer, and narrative of lessons learned. Commissioner Revens seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**
- d) Commissioner Anthony moved that any proposal by the Company to continue the program past Year 1 will be submitted no later than September 20, 2024. Commissioner Revens seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

V. **Docket No. 23-43-EL – Block Island Utility District** – There was not discussion of this docket.

VI. Chairman Gerwatowski adjourned the Open Meeting adjourned at 11:12 A.M. A web video of the Open Meeting discussions can be accessed at <https://video.ibm.com/recorded/133250369>.