

July 15, 2022

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

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

**RE: Docket 5210 - Gas FY 2023 Infrastructure, Safety and Reliability Plan  
Response to PUC Data Requests – Set 7**

Dear Ms. Massaro:

On behalf of The Narragansett Electric Company,<sup>1</sup> I have enclosed the electronic version of the Company's response to the Public Utilities Commission's Seventh Set of Data Requests in the above-referenced matter.<sup>2</sup>

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,



Steven J. Boyajian

Enclosure

cc: Docket 5210 Service List  
Leo Wold, Esq., Division

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<sup>1</sup> The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a Rhode Island Energy.

<sup>2</sup> Per a communication from Commission counsel on October 4, 2021, the Company is submitting an electronic version of this filing followed by six (6) hard copies filed with the Clerk within 24 hours of the electronic filing.

PUC 7-1

Request:

For each fiscal year beginning in FY 2016 and ending in FY 2022, and for every main replacement/abandonment project during the span of those years, provide the date that the first service was connected to the new main and the date that the associated old main was abandoned. Please also calculate for each fiscal year the average number of days between the first service connection and the abandonment of the original main for all of the projects for which an abandonment occurred in each applicable fiscal year.

Response:

Please see the Excel version of Attachment PUC 7-1 for a list of projects within the Proactive Main Replacement – Leak Prone Pipe (“MRP”) and Public Works (“CSC”) programs for each fiscal year (“FY”) beginning with FY 2016 and ending in FY 2022, which includes the in-service date of the new main (date of first service connection, if applicable) and the date that the associated old main was abandoned, as well as the average number of days between the in-service date and abandonment date for which an abandonment occurred. The actual project start date (date the work started in the field) was used to determine which fiscal year to which each project was assigned. In addition to the various project stage dates listed in Attachment PUC 7-1, the Company has also provided several additional columns of data (where readily available) that offer insight into the size and scope of each project.

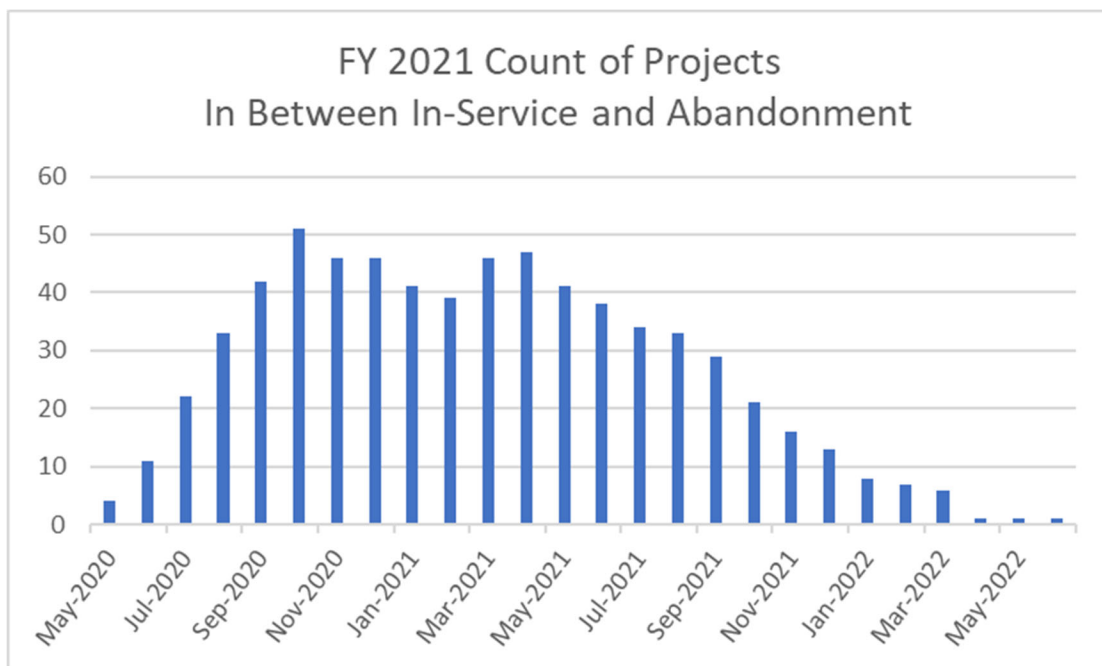
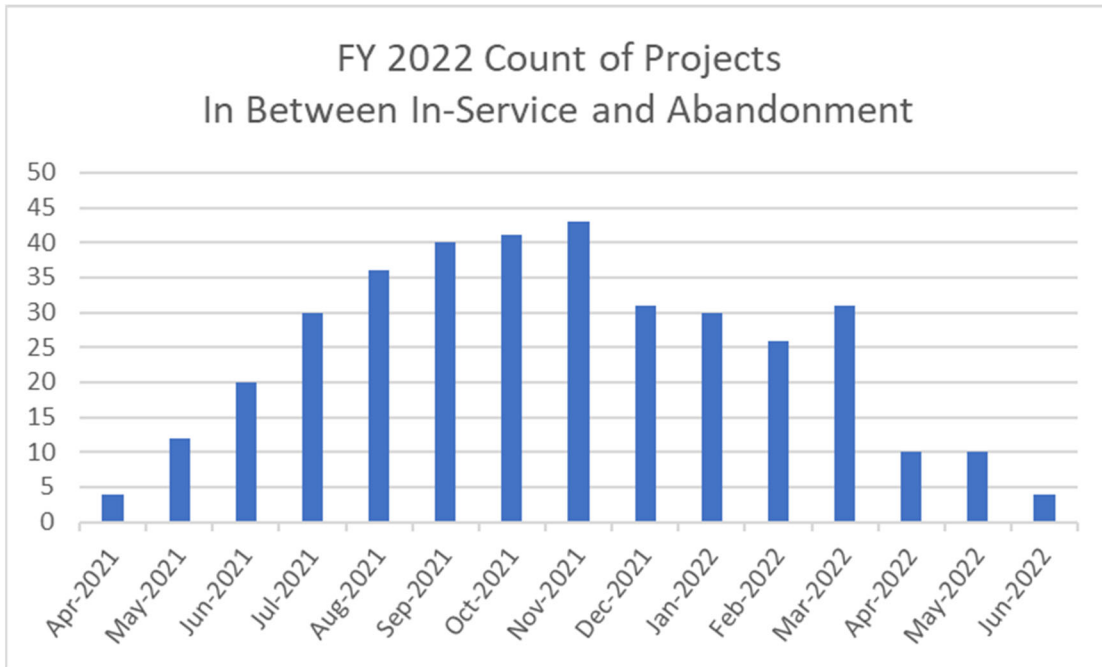
As the chart in Attachment PUC 7-1 Summary tab illustrates, the average number of days between In-Service and Abandonment increased during the COVID-19 Pandemic (“Pandemic”). The volume of abandonments decreased substantially during the beginning of the Pandemic (March 2020 through September-October 2020 timeframe) as the Company was generally not performing non-emergency service work, thus impacting the Company’s ability to abandon old main. This increased the average number of days between in-service and abandonment for some FY 2019 and FY 2020 projects and most FY 2021 projects. The chart also shows that the average number of days between in-service and abandonment is trending downward (positive trend) for FY 2022, which should continue this year as more FY 2023 projects reach abandonment. Please note, the calculated average days for FY 2022 are subject to increase as additional in-progress jobs reach abandonment.

PUC 7-1, page 2

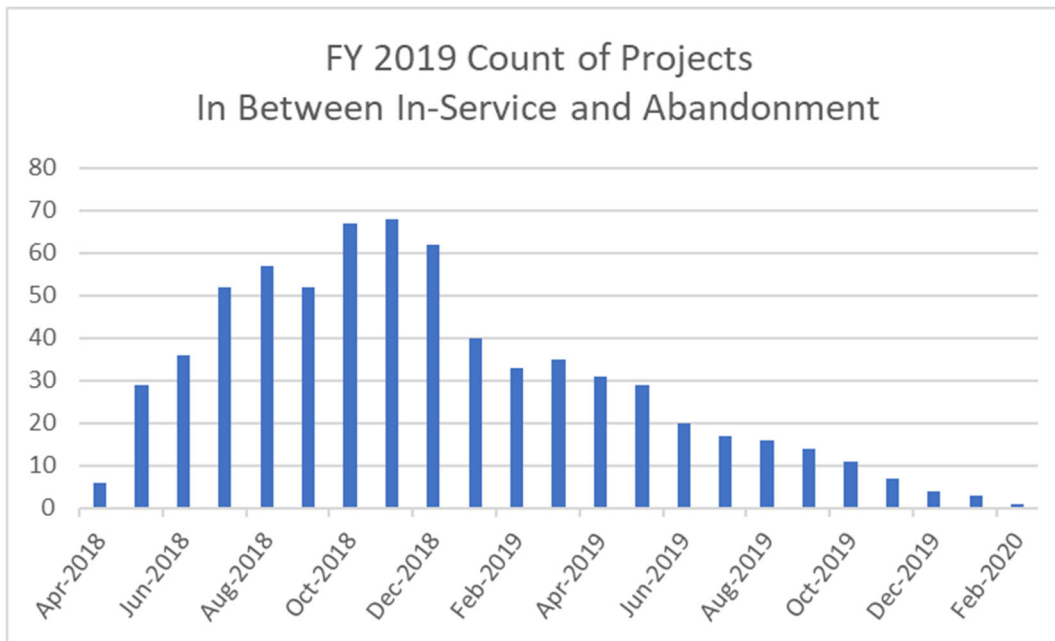
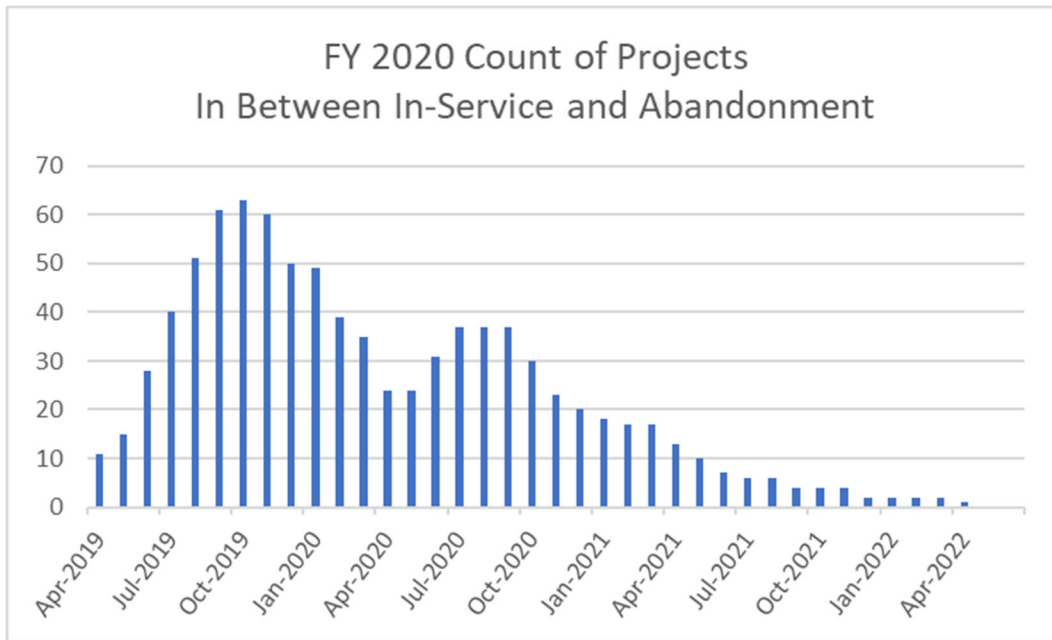
The Company's methods of collecting, entering, and storing the data related to this data request have improved over the course of fiscal years. The data from FY 2019 through FY 2022, and the later portion of 2018 was collected and stored in a consistent fashion and location(s). For data from FY 2016 through early FY 2018, the various columns of data generally existed, but were maintained in various databases and spreadsheets and in many instances required line-by-line investigation by Company personnel to collect. In total, the Company was able to calculate the number of days between in-service and abandonment for 1,138 projects between FY 2016 and FY 2022. The Company was unable to perform the calculation on 5 projects, which were from the 2016-2020 fiscal years, because a specific in-service date could not be determined. However, the Company does not believe that the inclusion of those projects would materially impact calculated averages, listed above. Please see Attachment PUC 7-1, Exclusions Tab for a list of the projects that were excluded due to insufficient data. Please note, the Company listed the probable in-service fiscal year, when possible, for the excluded projects.

To help illustrate how the seasonality of the Company's work typically impacts the aging of the time between in-service and abandonment, the Company has also provided graphs that counts the number of projects in the "between in-service and abandonment" status per month. As the graphs show, in a typical construction season, there is higher count of projects in that status from April through November, the volume decreases slightly in the winter, and then the volume tapers down in the following Spring as winter moratoriums end and carryover projects reach abandonment.

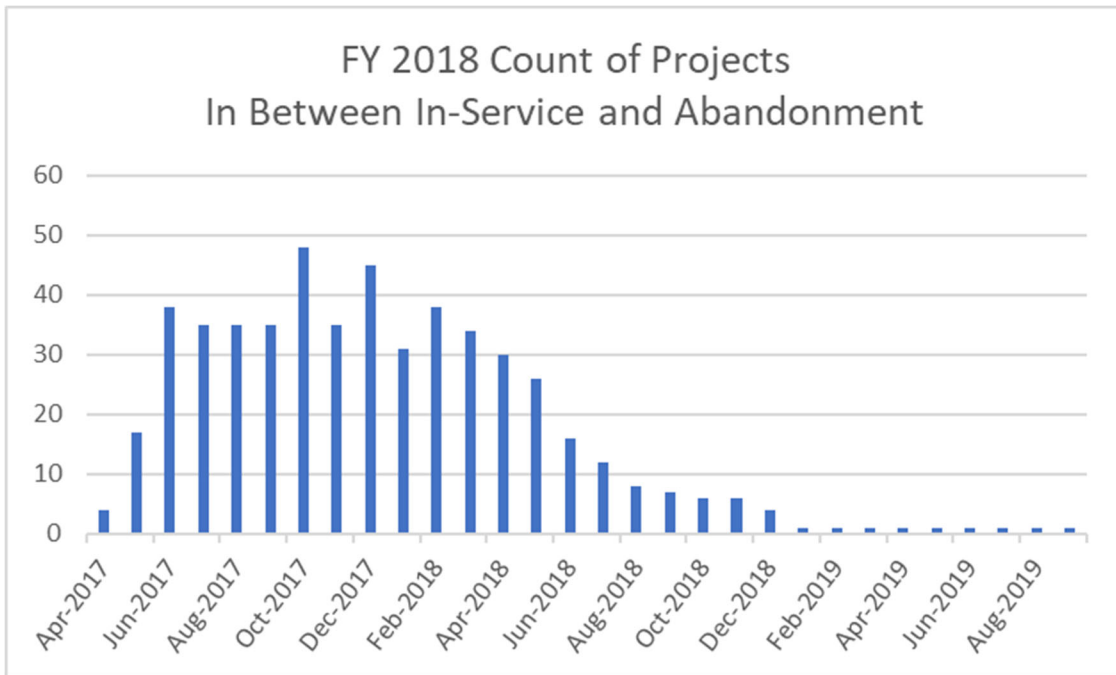
PUC 7-1, page 3



PUC 7-1, page 4



PUC 7-1, page 5



Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a copy of the cover letter and any materials accompanying this certificate was electronically transmitted to the individuals listed below.

The paper copies of this filing are being hand delivered to the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission and to the Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities and Carriers.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joanne M. Scanlon

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July 15, 2022

Date

**Docket No. 5210 - National Grid's FY 2023 Gas Infrastructure, Safety and Reliability (ISR) Plan - Service List 12/22/2021**

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