

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

IN RE: INVESTIGATION INTO THE FUTURE OF :  
THE REGULATED GAS DISTRIBUTION BUSINESS IN : DOCKET NO. 22-01-NG  
RHODE ISLAND IN LIGHT OF THE ACT ON CLIMATE :

**NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT OF DOCKET**

The Public Utilities Commission (PUC or Commission) hereby gives notice that it has opened a docket to investigate the effect of the Act on Climate (Act), R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 42-6.2, on the regulated gas distribution business in Rhode Island. The purpose of the docket is to examine the extent to which the requirements of the Act impact the conduct, regulation, ratemaking, and the future of gas supply and gas distribution within Rhode Island. The investigation will include, but not be limited to, a stakeholder process that identifies goals for the future of the gas system in light of the Act, identifies or updates principles for ratemaking and regulation that would reasonably facilitate the achievement of the greenhouse gas emission reduction targets in the Act, and develops the scope for a report on the future of gas distribution business operations and investments in the state.

Before formally engaging the utility and stakeholders in the docket, the PUC will issue a more comprehensive notice that will identify a set of specific questions for public comment and provide a schedule for the investigation. The investigation will not be a “contested case” which ordinarily requires parties to engage counsel in order to participate. Thus, during the investigatory phase, persons desiring to participate are not required to retain counsel but may need to adhere to reasonable limits that may be necessitated by the potential number of participants.

At some point during the process, the PUC may need to invite experts or company witnesses to provide oral testimony and/or answer questions, through evidentiary proceedings yet-to-be determined. Participation in any evidentiary hearings that may be scheduled by the Commission in which parties are presenting or questioning witnesses may require representation of counsel and formal filings to intervene, at such future time as noticed by the Commission.

The PUC will establish a “service list” to which future communications from the PUC and filings of any public comments will be directed. Anyone wishing to be included on the service list should send an email to [Luly.Massaro@puc.ri.gov](mailto:Luly.Massaro@puc.ri.gov) ATTN: Docket No. 22-01-NG. In the email, please indicate whether the person, organization, or entity intends to be an active participant in the docket or is only seeking to be included on the service list for informational purposes. An active participant may be asked to provide data or other information to support their position if the PUC believes that information may be helpful. In the case of an organization or entity, please identify a primary point of contact in the email and the names of any additional participants from your organization. Anyone initially seeking only to be on the service list for informational purposes will not be precluded from changing its status to a participant at a later date during the investigatory phase, by notice to the PUC. The ability to provide comment in this matter according to the future

schedule set by the PUC does not require the person, organization, or entity to subscribe to the service list. Separate notices will be sent to allow for public comment by any interested person, organization, or entity.

Public docket information can be accessed at: <http://www.ripuc.ri.gov/eventsactions/docket/22-01-NG.html>.

Luly E. Massaro, Commission Clerk  
June 9, 2022