

# McElroy & Donaldson

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August 19, 2022

Luly E. Massaro, Clerk  
Public Utilities & Carriers  
89 Jefferson Boulevard  
Warwick, RI 02888

**Re: Block Island Utility District d/b/a Block Island Power Company  
PUC Docket 5192 / Legacy Net Metering Tariff Advice**

Dear Luly:

Please accept this letter of transmittal as a tariff advice pursuant to Commission Rule 1.10(C) on behalf of Block Island Utility District d/b/a Block Island Power Company.<sup>1</sup>

Under the proposed legacy net metering tariff, single meter systems installed prior to December 31, 2020, would be grandfathered in under the legacy net metering program for a period of 22½ years (until June 30, 2042). The purpose is to allow single meter systems that were installed under the terms of the legacy net metering policy to remain in service under the terms in which they were connected until the end of a system's operational life.

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<sup>1</sup> Commission Rule 1.10(C) states:

“1. Public utilities may file tariffs adding new services, providing for new rules, or otherwise adding to their tariff schedules without amending existing tariffs by tariff advice. Public utilities may also file minor changes to existing schedules by tariff advice. The tariff advice must include a letter of transmittal from the utility listing all tariff pages changed or added by the tariff advice and stating briefly the reason for filing the tariff advice. If existing tariffs are changed, the advice must contain two legible copies of each changed page, one showing all the changes with appropriate symbols for deletions or additions (see "Public Utilities Commission's Guidance on Formatting Tariffs"), and one showing the pages after the changes as they will appear in the new tariffs.

2. No tariff advice can be effective unless thirty (30) days' notice is given to the public, the Division, the Attorney General, and any other known parties, by the utility. The utility must provide proof of notice to the Clerk.

3. In the absence of an order approving or suspending the tariff advice, the tariff advice not suspended or approved goes into effect thirty (30) days after notice or on the proposed effective date, whichever is later. If a tariff advice is suspended, the Commission will open a formal proceeding and treat the tariff advice as an application.”

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Enclosed please find:

- (1) Testimony of Jeffery M. Wright, President of BIUD;
- (2) BIUD's proposed legacy net metering tariff;
- (3) BIUD's existing net metering policy (effective January 1, 2018); and
- (4) Proposed notice for Commission review and comment.

If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leah J. Donaldson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Leah J. Donaldson

Encl.

Cc: Service List

*McElroy & Donaldson*

**Docket No. 5192 – Block Island Power Co. (BIUD) – Terms & Conditions for Net Metering Service List as of 7/28/2022**

<b>Name/Address</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Phone</b>
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<b>File an original &amp; nine (7) copies w/:</b> Luly E. Massaro, Commission Clerk Cynthia Wilson Frias, Counsel <b>Public Utilities Commission</b> 89 Jefferson Blvd. Warwick, RI 02888	<a href="mailto:Luly.massaro@puc.ri.gov">Luly.massaro@puc.ri.gov;</a>	401-780-2107
	<a href="mailto:Cynthia.WilsonFrias@puc.ri.gov">Cynthia.WilsonFrias@puc.ri.gov;</a>	
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**Direct Testimony**  
**of**  
**Jeffery M. Wright, President**  
**Block Island Utility District d/b/a Block Island Power Company**

**Docket No. 5192**

**August 19, 2022**

1 **Q. Please state your name and business address for the record.**

2 A. My name is Jeffery M. Wright. My principal business address is 100 Ocean Avenue,  
3 Block Island, Rhode Island 02807.

4  
5 **Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?**

6 A. I am the President of the Block Island Utility District d/b/a Block Island Power  
7 Company.

8  
9 **Q. Can you please describe your education and experience?**

10 A. I have an Associate Degree in Accounting and have worked for electric utilities since  
11 1984 in various roles.

12  
13 Prior to working for the Block Island Power Company, I was the Chief Operating Officer  
14 at the Vermont Electric Cooperative (“VEC”) from 2008-2016. VEC is the state’s second  
15 largest utility and largest electric cooperative which serves approximately 40,000 electric  
16 meters across the northern 1/3 of the state of VT. I was responsible for the company’s  
17 operations including transmission and distribution operations, substations and system  
18 operations and engineering. I worked closely with the company’s CFO in developing  
19 long capital plans, long range financial forecasting and supported several rate cases.

20  
21 Prior to working for VEC, I worked at the Vermont Electric Power Company from 1996-  
22 2008. I was a member of the company’s Senior Leadership Team and was responsible for  
23 managing the company’s assets which included over 35 high voltage transmission  
24 substations, more than 700 miles of high voltage transmission lines, all rights of way, and  
25 the company’s facilities and fleet assets. I also managed the assets of the Vermont  
26 Electric Transmission Company which owns and maintains Vermont’s portion of the 450  
27 kV DC “Phase One” line.

28  
29 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

30 A. The purpose of my testimony is to sponsor the Block Island Utility District’s (“BIUD”)  
31 revisions to its legacy net metering program policy as directed by the RI-PUC in Docket

1 5192. The proposed tariff is titled “LEGACY NET METERING FOR SINGLE METER  
2 SYSTEMS INSTALLED PRIOR TO DECEMBER 31, 2020.”

3  
4 BIUD proposes the continuation of this legacy program for a period of 22½ years (until  
5 June 30, 2042). This would allow systems that were installed under the terms of the  
6 legacy net metering policy to remain in service under the terms in which they were  
7 connected until the end of a system’s operational life.

8  
9 **Q. When was the last time the legacy net metering policy was modified?**

10 A. The net metering policy that is in effect now was last modified and approved by the  
11 Block Island Power Company Board of Directors on January 1, 2018. To my knowledge,  
12 the net metering policy, which had been in place for many years, was virtually unchanged  
13 year to year.

14  
15 After BIUD purchased the assets of the Block Island Power Company and began  
16 operations, the BIUD Board of Commissioners began working on a new net metering  
17 tariff that took two years to complete. The new net metering tariff has since been  
18 approved by the RI-PUC and went into effect on April 1, 2022.

19  
20 **Q. BIUD recently implemented a new net metering tariff that went into effect April 1,**  
21 **2022. Please explain why BIUD supports continuing its legacy net metering program**  
22 **instead of requiring all legacy systems to meet the terms of the new tariff.**

23 A. There are three primary reasons.

24 1) The technical aspects of the new tariff provide a second meter with remote  
25 disconnect to shut off solar while on diesel generators if necessary. We do not have  
26 the ability to shut off the systems installed under the legacy program. However, we  
27 know that we can manage the output of the legacy systems while on generators under  
28 all conditions.

29 2) The cost implications that could affect BIUD could reach \$60,000. BIUD  
30 reimburses members up to \$1,000 towards the cost of a second meter to comply with  
31 the new tariff. If all the systems installed under the terms of the legacy program were

1 required to switch to the terms of the new tariff, BIUD could be faced with requests  
2 for up to \$60,000 of reimbursements.

3 3) The cost implications born by the net metering members would be considerable  
4 and unexpected. The systems installed under the terms of the legacy tariff were  
5 designed and built under the assumption that they would be integrated with the main  
6 panel and not metered separately. To make this change to an already installed system  
7 would not only be an undue burden on the member but would also create the need for  
8 significant wiring modifications, especially if the system has a multi-mode function  
9 that includes a battery system. BIUD Utility Commissioner John Warfel has a system  
10 such as this and explained in our meetings that it would be nearly impossible to make  
11 these changes without completely rewiring his main panel and all his solar and  
12 battery equipment.

13  
14 **Q. Is it reasonable for BIUD to maintain the legacy net metering program for members**  
15 **who enrolled prior to December 31, 2020, and the new net metering tariff for**  
16 **members who enroll after April 1, 2022?**

17 A. Yes. It is reasonable and not discriminatory for BIUD to maintain these two net metering  
18 policies, where existing (legacy) customers remain subject to a legacy net metering  
19 program (policy) and new customers are subject to a new net metering tariff. This is  
20 especially true where legacy customers have installed highly specialized technologies that  
21 are difficult to change once they have been configured and installed. The existing systems  
22 are physically wired into each home's electric panel. In the best case, changing the  
23 metering of a legacy system would be an expensive inconvenience to existing net  
24 metering customers. In the worst case, changing the metering of legacy systems may not  
25 be possible without a significant wiring change in the home.

26  
27 The RI PUC previously found that it was reasonable and not discriminatory for an  
28 electric distribution company to maintain two different net metering policies. In Docket  
29 No. 2710, the PUC approved the continuation of Narragansett Electric Company's prior  
30 net metering policy for existing customers, while simultaneously approving a new net  
31 metering policy for new installations. In PUC Order No. 15705 the PUC held that:



1 “Customers being net metered as of the date of the filing will be allowed to continue  
2 under the previous policy.”

3  
4 Additionally, as the PUC is aware, BIUD is owned and governed by its  
5 consumers/members. BIUD’s Board and members strongly support allowing legacy  
6 systems to remain in service until they are retired or have reached the end of their  
7 operational life.

8  
9 **Q. How was the legacy net metering tariff created?**

10 A. BIUD’s legacy net metering policy, dated January 1, 2018, was reviewed by the BIUD  
11 Board. Thereafter, a sub-committee was formed to edit the policy with the goal of  
12 preparing a legacy tariff proposal to be discussed and acted upon at our July 28, 2022  
13 meeting. The sub-committee consisted of Board Chair Barbara MacMullan and Board  
14 Secretary John Warfel who is a long-time net metering member, past solar installer, and  
15 renewable energy advocate. The sub-committee met to revise the legacy policy which  
16 was then discussed and voted on at an open BIUD Board meeting.

17  
18 **Q. Was the proposed legacy tariff discussed and voted on at an open Board meeting?**

19 A. Yes. The legacy net metering tariff was discussed and voted on at the July 28, 2022  
20 BIUD Board meeting. In addition to BIUD’s full Board of Utility Commissioners, there  
21 were approximately ten BIUD members present at the meeting. The BIUD members in  
22 attendance were evenly split between net-metering members and non-net-metering  
23 members. There was overwhelming support from everyone present that systems installed  
24 under the terms of the legacy program should be allowed to stay connected under the  
25 terms in which they were connected. Everyone present felt strongly that it would not be  
26 right for BIUD to “change the rules of interconnection” during a system’s operational  
27 life. Everyone present agreed that ROI analysis had been done prior to connecting and to  
28 change the economics of the program after the fact was not warranted. In some instances,  
29 systems were connected as recently as fall of 2020 after reviewing the policy in place at  
30 the time. To change the terms of interconnection just two and half years after installation  
31 would significantly change the economics of their investment.

1  
2 Although the members agreed on maintaining the legacy program, the group was evenly  
3 split when it came to discussions of expanding the legacy program beyond 3%. A lively  
4 debate took place among the group regarding the merits of incentivizing solar. The net-  
5 metering members voiced strong support to expand the legacy program and “undo” the  
6 new tariff. The non-net-metering members commended BIUD for addressing the cost  
7 shift created by the legacy system when designing the new tariff, but strongly supported  
8 the legacy program through the next twenty years for those who had enrolled in it prior to  
9 December 31, 2020.

10  
11 **Q. Was the legacy net metering policy discussed when developing the new net metering**  
12 **tariff that went into effect on April 1, 2022?**

13 A. Yes. During our open meetings over the past two and half years in which we debated  
14 changes to net metering, the legacy tariff was discussed as a means of comparison of the  
15 old and new programs. Additionally, during open debate while developing the new tariff,  
16 the cost shift created by the legacy was discussed at length. At most meetings there was  
17 fair representation of those who were enrolled in the legacy program and those who did  
18 not net meter. There were arguments that BIUD should be incentivizing renewable  
19 energy as much as possible, while the opposing arguments were that BIUD should  
20 eliminate any cost shift created by the incentives created by the legacy tariff, moving  
21 forward. During our discussions at open board meetings there was always strong support  
22 for allowing the systems in place under the legacy program to remain in service until they  
23 are retired or have lived out their useful life.

24  
25 **Q. Please list significant changes from the net metering policy dated January 1, 2018.**

26 A. In addition to several housekeeping edits, there were four main changes that were made:  
27 1) a tariff expiration “sunset” date of June 30, 2042 was included,  
28 2) the net metering credit was clearly defined and made consistent with the new tariff,  
29 3) the 125% provision was omitted, and  
30 4) maintenance provisions were included clarifying how a member may maintain their  
31 legacy system without being forced into the new tariff terms.

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**Q. Please explain the expiration “sunset” provision and how the date was selected.**

A. The BIUD Board and BIUD members strongly support continuing the legacy net metering program for those who had enrolled in it prior to December 31, 2020. The average life span of a solar array is between 20-25 years. The date of June 30, 2042 was selected because it represented roughly a 22½-year period after the last possible in-service date of December 31, 2020.

**Q. Please explain the change to the net metering credit provision.**

A. The legacy net metering policy only stated that excess net metering credits were credited at the avoided cost. The proposed legacy tariff clearly defines the avoided cost calculation and is consistent with the new net metering tariff that went into effect April 1, 2022.

**Q. Please explain why the 125% provision was removed.**

A. The legacy policy stated that only net metering generation up to 125% of a member’s consumption would be credited. BIUD has no record of applying a zero-credit value to a member’s net metering credits that exceeded 125% under the existing net metering policy. BIUD believes the 125% provision was included to limit the capacity of new systems. There will be no new systems installed under the proposed legacy tariff, so there is no need to maintain this provision.

Although there are other aspects of the proposed legacy tariff that are not revenue neutral and do create a cost shift, this is not one of them. When excess generation is credited at the true avoided cost, this component of the proposed tariff is revenue neutral and BIUD believes it should credit all excess generation.

Maintaining the 125% provision is also a billing challenge for two reasons. The first reason is that meter indexes would never line/add up after the first occurrence which would make it even harder for a member to understand their bill. The second reason is that BIUD would need to have its billing software company customize the billing calculations. This could cost up to \$5,000.

1 **Q. Please explain the maintenance provisions and how a 15% change in DC or AC**  
2 **rating was selected.**

3 A. There are times during a solar array's life when maintenance must be performed.  
4 Equipment failure or damage is not uncommon, and panels and inverters are often  
5 replaced within the 20-to-25-year life span of a system. Often replacement parts are not  
6 identical and small incremental changes might be unavoidable. Considering the legacy in-  
7 service systems are mostly less than 5 kW, this would represent a potential change in  
8 output of +/- .75 kW. There are six systems in the 5-10 kW range and only two greater  
9 than 10 kW. BIUD feels that the exposure of the program capacity expanding due to  
10 small incremental maintenance increases is minimal. BIUD also understands that we are  
11 mostly unaware of these types of maintenance activities.

12  
13 **Q. Have you supplied any attachments for review?**

14 A. Yes. I have included a copy of the proposed legacy net metering tariff (Attachment  
15 JMW-1), as well as a copy of the legacy net metering policy dated January 1, 2018  
16 (Attachment JMW-2).

17  
18 **Q. Does this complete your pre-filed direct testimony?**

19 A. Yes, it does.

**CLEAN**

RIPUC No. \_\_\_\_\_

Effective \_\_\_\_\_

Sheet 1

**BLOCK ISLAND UTILITY DISTRICT  
LEGACY NET METERING TARIFF  
FOR SINGLE-METER SYSTEMS  
INSTALLED PRIOR TO DECEMBER 31, 2020**

**TARIFF APPLICABILITY**

This Tariff sets forth interconnection requirements, equipment specifications, and metering for Block Island Utility District consumer/members who are currently enrolled in the Utility District's legacy Block Island Power Company's net metering program and were installed and connected prior to December 31, 2020.

**DEFINITIONS**

"Net metering" means a system of metering electricity in which Block Island Utility District credits a Block Island Utility District consumer/member for excess generation.

"Net Metering System" means the system that includes the consumer/member's generator and interconnecting equipment.

"Generation Credit" means the credit allocated to the consumer/member's bill in the form of a bill credit for all excess generation. The Generation Credit which will be based on the Utility District's Last Resort/Power Supply and Transmission Rates – minus – the Non-Bypassable Charges embedded within those rates. Examples of Non-Bypassable Charges are National Grid's Direct Assignment Facilities fixed charges.

"Non-Bypassable Charges" means those portions of the Utility District's Last Resort/Power Supply and Transmission Rates that are fixed and not a function of consumption or production.

"Last Resort/Power Supply and Transmission Rates" means those tariffs that identify specific variable and non-bypassable charges that are used in calculating the Net Metering Rate.

"Annual Reconciliation" means the regulatory filing done annually to determine the Last Resort/Power Supply, Transmission and Net Metering Rate.

"Utility District" means the Block Island Utility District dba Block Island Power Company.

**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

1. This tariff applies to Net Metering Systems installed prior to December 31, 2020 and were connected under the terms of the legacy Block Island Power Company Net Metering Policy most recently dated January 1, 2018. BIUD will maintain a current list of in-service facilities.

**CLEAN**

RIPUC No. \_\_\_\_\_

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Sheet 2

2. No new installations may be connected under the terms of this tariff. Any new net metering facility must be connected under the terms of Block Island Utility District's net metering tariff that went into effect April 1, 2022.
3. This tariff will expire on June 30, 2042. Any projects that remain in service at this time will have the option of transitioning to the current tariff or retiring their facilities.
4. Maintenance of the systems connected under the terms of this tariff is allowed, but the DC nameplate rating and AC output must not be increased more than 15%. Any increase in either the AC or DC nameplate capacity greater than 15% will result in the facility being subject to the terms of the new tariff in effect April 1, 2022.
5. Pursuant to this Net Metering Tariff, the Utility District will continue to offer net metering to all existing residential accounts that are currently enrolled in the legacy program.
6. All accounts will be reconciled monthly.
7. Excess Renewable Net Metering Credit shall be equal to BIUD's net metering rate which is approved annually with the district's power supply and transmission reconciliation. The applicable rate is calculated as follows:
 

Last Resort/Power Supply Service + Transmission – (Direct Assignment Facilities "DAF" Charges + Block Island Transmission System "BITS" Charges + BIUD Interconnection Amortization Expenses).
8. Each consumer/member's net metering bill will undergo a monthly reconciliation of the Generation Credit and Consumption Metered usage. In the event the amount due on the consumer/member's bill is a negative number, this amount will be carried over to their next bill as a credit. If a credit is maintained for more than two years, the member/consumer will forfeit the credit balance.
9. The consumer/member must maintain equipment approved by BIUD which prevents the flow of electricity into BIUD's system when BIUD's supply is out of service.
10. BIUD shall have the right to disconnect any facility if in BIUD's opinion the facility interferes or is likely to interfere with BIUD's service to other customers.

**METERS AND METERING**

1. PV and wind systems require a smart (AMI) meter.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR INVERTER-BASED SYSTEMS**

**CLEAN**

RIPUC No. \_\_\_\_\_

Effective \_\_\_\_\_

Sheet 3

1. The Utility District's distribution circuits generally operate with automatic re-closers, which activate following a fault and line trip. The consumer/member is responsible for protecting their net metering equipment from being re-connected out of synch with the Utility District's system.
2. For Net Metering Systems that utilize PV technology, it is required that the system comply with IEEE Standard 929-2000, "IEEE Recommended Practice for Utility Interface of PV Systems." The inverter shall meet the "Underwriters Laboratories Inc. Standard UL 1741, Static Inverters and Charge Controllers for Use in PV Power Systems." Based on the information supplied by the Interconnecting Customer, if the Utility District determines the inverter is in compliance with UL 1741, the Interconnecting Customer's request for interconnection will be approved.
3. For Net Metering Systems that utilize wind technology or other direct current energy sources and employ inverters for the production of alternating current, the inverter shall meet the Underwriters Laboratories Inc. Standard UL 1741, "Static Inverters and Charge Controllers for Use in Photovoltaic Power Systems." Based on the information supplied by the Interconnecting Customer, if the Utility District determines the inverter is in compliance with UL 1741, the Interconnecting Customer's request for interconnection will be approved.

**FORCE MAJEURE**

An event of Force Majeure means any act of God, labor disturbance, act of the public enemy, war, insurrection, riot, fire, storm or flood, explosion, breakage or accident to machinery or equipment, any curtailment, order, regulation or restriction imposed by governmental, military or lawfully established civilian authorities, or any other cause beyond either party's control. A Force Majeure event does not include an act of negligence or intentional wrongdoing. Neither the Utility District nor the interconnecting consumer/member will be considered in default as to any obligation under Interconnection Requirements if prevented from fulfilling the obligation due to an event of Force Majeure. However, a party whose performance is hindered by an event of Force Majeure shall make all reasonable efforts to perform its obligations under this interconnection requirement.

**INDEMNIFICATION**

The interconnecting consumer/member shall at all times indemnify, defend, and hold Utility District harmless from any and all damages, losses, claims, including claims and actions relating to injury to or death of any person or damage to property, demands, suits, recoveries, costs and expenses, court costs, attorney fees, and all other obligations by or to third parties, arising out of or resulting from the Utility District's performance of its obligations under this Interconnection Requirements on behalf of the interconnecting consumer/member except in cases of gross negligence or intentional wrongdoing by the Utility District.

**CLEAN**

RIPUC No. \_\_\_\_\_

Effective \_\_\_\_\_

Sheet 4

**PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS**

If, due to the interconnection of the Facility, when combined with pre-existing facilities interconnected to the Utility Districts system, the rating of any of the Utility Districts equipment or the equipment of others connected to the Utility Districts system will be exceeded or its control function will be adversely affected, the Utility District shall have the right to require the Interconnecting Customer to pay for the purchase, installation, replacement, or modification of equipment to eliminate the condition. Where such action is deemed necessary by the Utility District, the Utility District will, where possible, permit the interconnecting consumer/member to choose among, two or more options for meeting the Utility Districts' requirements as described in this protection Tariff.

**ACCESS AND CONTROL**

Representatives of the Utility District shall, at all reasonable times, have access to the Net Metering System to make reasonable inspections. At the Net Metering System, the Utility District's representatives shall identify themselves to the interconnecting consumer/member's representative, state the object of their visit, and conduct themselves in a manner that will not interfere with the construction or operation of the Facility.



## BLOCK ISLAND POWER COMPANY

### Net Metering Policy, effective January 1, 2018

Approved by BIPCo Board of Directors, December 20, 2017

The Board of Directors of the Block Island Power Company (BIPCo) hereby ratifies BIPCo's voluntary Net Metering Policy as follows, effective January 1, 2018 for a period of one (1) year.

**Eligible Installations:** All installations that use renewable energy resources as defined in R.I.G.L. § 39-26.4-2(1) are eligible for net metering only if they are:

privately owned and located on parcels for that customer's residential use exclusively, and conform to Block Island Ordinances, including all Planning and Zoning requirements, and Block Island's Comprehensive Plan, and are

certified by the Town Building Inspector and BIPCo to be a proper installation, and are

installed by an electrician who is licensed by the State of Rhode Island to install solar units or any other appropriate electrical generating units that rely on renewable energy resources and that

the installer must possess and furnish to BIPCo proof of all required licenses, to include, but not limited to a current Rhode Island Renewable Energy Professional license, and that the

total wattage by plate of all units does not exceed 3% of BIPCo's yearly peak.

The Block Island Post Office Building is an eligible grandfathered installation.

No installations that service non residential customers are allowed to be net metered.

All installations must have "smart meters" that will allow BIPCo to measure the amount of electricity delivered and received. (NOTE: The three existing wind turbines on Block Island have dual meters because of their age and configuration but function in the same manner as the newer smart meters and will be considered to be smart meters for this purpose).

All accounts will be reconciled monthly.

The total capacity of the current, non-grandfathered accounts plus future installations of all types may not exceed 3% of BIPCo's previous year's peak. Once the cap is reached, BIPCo will not allow additional net metering, unless the cap is increased by BIPCo.

Net Metering Credit- "Excess Renewable Net Metering Credit" means a credit that applies to each eligible net metering system for that portion of the renewable self-generator's production of electricity beyond one hundred percent (100%) of that generator's individual consumption. The self-generator will not be given any credit for the production of electricity greater than one hundred twenty-five percent (125%) of the renewable self-generator's own consumption. This production and consumption of electricity must take place at the eligible net metering system site during the applicable billing period.

The applicable billing period is monthly.

Such Excess Renewable Net Metering Credit shall be equal to BIPCo's avoided cost.

The customer must install equipment approved by BIPCo which prevents the flow of electricity into BIPCo's system when BIPCo's supply is out of service.

BIPCo shall have the right to disconnect any facility if in BIPCo's opinion the facility interferes or is likely to interfere with BIPCo's service to other customers.

All interconnection costs associated with the facility shall be borne by the customer.

## NOTICE OF FILING

Block Island Utility District ("BIUD") hereby gives notice that on August 19, 2022, BIUD filed with the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission (the "Commission") a tariff advice designed to allow single meter systems that were installed under the terms of the legacy net metering policy to remain in service under the terms in which they were connected until the end of a system's operational life.

BIUD recently implemented a new net metering tariff that went into effect April 1, 2022. Under the proposed legacy net metering tariff, single meter systems installed prior to December 31, 2020 would be grandfathered in under the legacy net metering program for a period of 22½ years (until June 30, 2042).

In addition to several housekeeping edits, the proposed legacy tariff makes four main changes in the net metering policy dated January 1, 2018, including (1) a tariff expiration (sunset) date of June 30, 2042 is included, (2) net metering credit is clearly defined and made consistent with BIUD's recently implemented net metering tariff, (3) the 125% provision was removed, and (4) maintenance provisions were included to clarify how a member may maintain their legacy system without being subject to the terms of the newly implemented net metering tariff.

The net metering program is proposed to take effect on October 1, 2022. However, the Commission can suspend the effective date of the proposed tariff and the proposed program will not take effect until the Commission has conducted a full investigation on the proposal. The Commission will publish a notice of the hearing dates when they are scheduled. At that time, ratepayers may comment on the proposal.

A copy of the filing is available at the offices of BIUD's attorneys, Leah J. Donaldson and Michael R. McElroy, 21 Dryden Lane, Providence, RI 02904, and at the Public Utilities Commission, 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, RI 02888, and may be examined by the public during business hours. The filing may also be accessed on the Commission's website at: \_\_\_\_\_ . This notice is given pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure.

Block Island Utility District