



# STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

## Public Utilities Commission

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Chairman Ronald T. Gerwatowski  
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Commissioner John C. Revens, Jr.

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**-For Immediate Release-**

### **Public Utilities Commission's Statement Regarding Changes to Electric Supply Rates and Mitigation Actions**

Today the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) approved a number of changes to rates and credits on electric customers' bills that will take effect beginning on October 1, 2022. These changes affect both the supply and delivery portions of Rhode Island Energy (RIE) customers' bills. Customers are likely aware of the proposed rate increases the PUC considered today but may not be aware of the multiple factors approved today that will lessen the bill impacts of those proposed increases. We are urging customers to review the following information that summarizes the combined impacts of both the increases and decreases in order to understand what to expect on their monthly bills through March 2023.

First, all customers will receive a one-time credit of approximately \$64, most likely on their November bill, secured in the settlement between Attorney General Peter Neronha and the PPL Corporation regarding PPL's purchase of Narragansett Electric Company. Second, customers on RIE's low-income rate (A-60) will receive an additional approximately \$50 credit on both their December 2022 and January 2023 electric bills, provided by the Office of Energy Resources at the direction of Governor Daniel McKee. Third, to further mitigate remaining rate shock caused by the proposed rate increases, the PUC unanimously voted to suspend collection of the customer charge on all residential and small commercial electric bills through March 2023.

After implementing these mitigating actions, the PUC adopted RIE's proposed supply rates. While these rates represent a historic increase, the total bill impacts are greatly reduced for small commercial and residential customers. Eligible low-income customers may see smaller bills compared to last winter. According to rate analysts with the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers, a typical income-eligible customer using 500 kWh per month will experience a **decrease** of approximately \$5.37 per month compared to last winter. A typical residential customer with the same usage will see a monthly increase of approximately \$20 compared to last winter, as opposed to the \$36 per month increase originally proposed by RIE.

The PUC also notes that another outcome of Attorney General Peter Neronha's settlement with PPL was to require that all arrearages of low-income and protected status residential customers as of March 31, 2022 be forgiven, effective October 1, 2022. Finally, as proposed by RIE, the PUC approved reductions to three other electric distribution charges.

The new electric rates take effect on October 1, 2022. A written order from the PUC is forthcoming. The PUC is still considering new gas rates proposed by RIE to take effect on November 1, 2022. The PUC notes that the settlement agreement between Attorney General Neronha and PPL resulted in \$17.5 million in additional credits to be provided to gas customers.

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