

January 19, 2023

## VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

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

RE: Docket No. 22-50-EL - The Narragansett Electric Company's
Tariff Advice to Provide RGGI Bill Credits to A-60 Customers
Clarification of Eligible Customer Group for Feb. RGGI Bill Credit - Follow Up

Dear Ms. Massaro:

On behalf of The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a Rhode Island Energy (the "Company") this letter represents a follow-up to a request for clarification submitted by the Company to the Public Utilities Commission ("PUC") on January 12, 2023. Specifically, this follow-up includes a redlined and clean version of an updated tariff for the PUC's consideration. The purpose of the updated tariff is to avoid any ambiguity as to the eligible group of customers who will receive the February 2023 Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative ("RGGI") bill credit.

### **Requested Action**

As indicated in its letter dated January 12, 2023, the Company respectfully requests that the PUC find that the Company's interpretation of the approved Feb RGGI Tariff is acceptable meaning the eligible group of customers will be all A-60 customers who are issued a bill in February. Through this follow-up letter, the Company is seeking approval from the PUC of the attached updated tariff to avoid any ambiguity.

# **Proposed Tariff Clarifications**

The attached proposed tariff makes the following changes:

- On Page 1 of 2, in the introduction, the language quoted from the RGGI plan documents is deleted. The purpose of this deletion is to remove any reference to the November and December 2022 billing periods.
- On Page 1 of 2, Section I entitled Applicability, qualifying language is added. The purpose of this addition is to make clear the eligible group of customers.

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# **No Objections to Requested Action**

As indicated in the letter dated January 12, 2023, the Company held a virtual meeting with representatives of the Division and the Office of Energy Resources ("OER") prior to filing the January 12, 2023 letter. The Division and OER did not have any objections to the Company executing the approved Feb RGGI Tariff in alignment with the Company's intent meaning the eligible group of customers will be all A-60 customers who are issued a bill in February.

Thank you for your attention to this filing. If you have any questions, please contact me at 401-784-4263.

Sincerely,

Andrew S. Marcaccio

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Enclosures

cc: Docket No. 22-50-EL via Docket No. 4978 Service List

# THE NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC COMPANY REGIONAL GREENHOUSE GAS INITIATIVE ("RGGI") AUCTION PROCEEDS CUSTOMER BILL CREDIT FOR A-60 RATE CLASS - RGGI 2022-C PLAN

This tariff is to comply with Section 5.4.2.c. of the 2022-C Plan for the Allocation and Distribution of Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Auction Proceeds ("RGGI 2022-C Plan") as finalized by the Office of Energy Resources on November 22, 2022. Section 5.4.2.c. of the RGGI 2022-C Plan provides that:

\$1,500,000.00 shall be allocated to Rhode Island Energy to provide electric bill credits to low-income customers enrolled in the A-60 rate class during the November and December 2022 utility billing periods, when the winter rate charges appear on customer bills. The direct bill credits are in recognition of the disproportionate financial burdens that low-income ratepayers will experience due to the high cost of electricity during the winter electricity rates period.

- I. **APPLICABILITY:** This tariff applies to each electric distribution customer account in the A-60 rate class who is issued a bill during February 2023.
- II. **BILL CREDIT AMOUNT**: A bill credit of \$41.46 will be applied to each customer account eligible under Section I during the billing period of February 2023.<sup>1</sup>
- III. **TIMING**: The bill credit described in Section II will appear on the bills of all customer accounts eligible under Section I issued from February 1, 2023, through February 28, 2023.
- IV. **EXPIRATION**: This tariff shall expire automatically once the bill credits described in Section II have been provided to all eligible customer accounts described in Section I and the reconciliation described in Section V has been completed and approved by the Public Utilities Commission.
- V. **RECONCILIATION**: If the amount of bill credits applied to each customer account eligible under Section I during the billing period of February 2023 is less than the amount of the RGGI funds allocated to the Company, the Company shall transmit any unused RGGI funds back to the Office of Energy Resources no later than October 1, 2023.

Issued: November 23 January 19, 2023, 2022 Effective: February 1, 2023

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The bill credit amount was calculated by dividing the \$1,500,000.00 of allocated RGGI funds by 36,176, which represents the Company's forecasted number of electric distribution customer accounts in the A-60 rate class for the month of February 2023.

#### **REDLINED VERSION**

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If the amount of bill credits applied to each customer account eligible under Section I during the billing period of February 2023 exceeds the amount of the RGGI funds allocated to the Company, the Company shall recover such excess bill credit amount from all electric distribution customers through the Company's 2023 Electric Revenue Decoupling Mechanism ("RDM") Revenue Reconciliation effective July 1, 2023. In the event that the calculation of the final excess bill credit amount is not complete in time to be included in the 2023 RDM Revenue Reconciliation filing, the excess bill credit amount will be recovered through the Company's 2024 Annual Retail Rate Filing.

Issued: November 23 January 19, 2023, 2022 Effective: February 1, 2023

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#### **CLEAN VERSION**

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credit amount is not complete in time to be included in the 2023 RDM Revenue Reconciliation filing, the excess bill credit amount will be recovered through the Company's 2024 Annual Retail Rate Filing.

Issued: January 19, 2023 Effective: February 1, 2023

## 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

January 19, 2023 Date

Docket No. 4978 – Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a Rhode Island Energy – 2021 Last Resort Service Procurement Plan Service List updated 8/29/2022

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