STATE OF RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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:

DOCKET NO. 23-06-EL & 5073

REPORT AND ORDER

A purchase of receivables program is one that the electric distribution company purchases, at a discounted rate, the accounts receivable of competitive electric suppliers operating in the electric distribution company's service territory. The POR applies to those accounts where the competitive supplier uses the electric distribution company to bill its customers (complete billing). It is then up to the electric distribution company to collect the total amount due from customers taking competitive electric supply in the same manner as its regular collections activities.¹ Each year, the electric distribution company is required to file its calculation of the Standard Complete Billing Percentage (SCBP) calculation. The SCBP is the percentage discount at which RI Energy purchases the receivables.

On February 27, 2023, The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a Rhode Island Energy (RI Energy or Company) filed the SCBP calculations for the period commencing April 1, 2023. The proposed SCBPs are as follows: Residential: 1.36% Commercial: 1.45% Industrial: 0.03%.²

The Company is also provided the payment periods for the POR Program that will be in place beginning April 1, 2023: Residential 59 days, an increase of two days over the prior period; Commercial 45 days, an increase of four days over the prior period; and Industrial, 36 days, a

¹ Order 24613 at 1 (citations omitted).

² RI Energy Filing at 1; <u>https://ripuc.ecms.ri.gov/sites/g/files/xkgbur841/files/2023-02/5073-RIE-POR-SCBP-</u>

<u>Filing 2-27-23.pdf</u>. The SCBP consists of the uncollectible percentage, the administrative cost percentage, and the prior period reconciliation percentage. *Id*.

decrease of one day from the prior period.³ These payment periods reflect the average payment period of the relevant customer group.⁴

The Company also provided, for informational purposes, the reconciliation of the purchase of the existing receivable which took place at the implementation of the Purchase of Receivables Program in Spring 2022. The Company asserted that it would be premature to refund any amounts associated with the purchase of the existing receivable to competitive suppliers this early in the program.⁵

No party to Docket No. 5073, the case where the Purchase of Receivables Program was reviewed and approved, filed any objection or other comments. Nor were there any intervenors to the new filing. The Division of Public Utilities and Carriers did not make a filing in this matter.

At an Open Meeting held on March 29, 2023, the Commission reviewed the filings and found the SCBP, inclusive of the reconciliation to be calculated consistently with prior orders and the approved tariffs. The SCBP was approved for effect April 1, 2023. There was no dispute over the payment periods as presented and they are approved.

Accordingly, it is hereby

(24662) ORDERED:

- The Standard Complete Billing Percentage filed by The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a Rhode Island Energy on February 27, 2023, is hereby approved for effect April 1, 2023.
- The payment periods listed in the February 27, 2023 filing by The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a Rhode Island Energy are hereby approved.

³ Id.

⁴ Tariff RIPUC No. 2248, page 13; Tariff RIPUC No. 2249, at pages 5-6.

⁵ RI Energy Filing at 1, Attachment 4.

3. Docket No. 5073 is closed.

EFFECTIVE AT WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND, ON APRIL 1, 2023, PURSUANT TO AN OPEN MEETING DECISIONS ON MARCH 29, 2023. WRITTEN ORDER ISSUED MAY 16, 2023.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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Ronald T. Gerwatowski, Chairman

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Abigail Anthony, Commissioner

John C. Revere, Jr.

John C. Revens, Jr., Commissioner

Notice of Right of Appeal: Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-5-1, any person aggrieved by a decision or order of the Commission may, within 7 days from the date of the Order, petition the Supreme Court for a Writ of Certiorari to review the legality and reasonableness of the decision or Order.

