

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
ENERGY FACILITY SITING BOARD**

**IN RE: THE NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC COMPANY’S:  
APPLICATION FOR A LICENSE TO:  
MOBILIZE AND OPERATE A LIQUIFIED: SB-2021-04  
NATURAL GAS VAPORTION FACILITY AT:  
OLD MILL LANE (PORTSMOUTH, RI):**

**ORDER EXTENDING DEADLINE  
FOR THE TOWN OF PORTSMOUTH**

On May 12, 2023, the Narragansett Electric Company (Company) filed a Motion to Extend Deadline to Submit Advisory Opinions with the Energy Facility Siting Board (Motion). The Motion is the second request for an extension of the deadline to submit Advisory Opinions. The first request was in January 2023 which the Board granted to extend the deadline to June 5, 2023 after having received no objections. The instant Motion asked the Board to further extend the deadline to August 4, 2023 “for state and local agencies.”

The Motion did not identify the specific agencies for which the extension was being sought. The Company stated that an extension was necessary because after receiving correspondence from the Department of Environmental Management in December of 2022, it changed the layout of the facility. Being that the revised site layout and engineering was just completed, the Company asserts that the designated agencies will not likely be able to complete Advisory Opinions by the June 5, 2023.

On May 16, 2023, the Board notified the Company that the specific agencies for which it was seeking the extension needed to be identified. In response, the Company filed a Supplement to the original Motion the following day identifying the Town of Portsmouth Town Council, Planning Board, and Zoning Board of Review (together, the Town of Portsmouth). Despite the Company’s representation that it was seeking a pause in the in proceedings for both state and local

agencies in its motion, the Company did not identify any state agencies. While the Supplement identified the Town of Portsmouth, it also did not indicate whether the Town of Portsmouth had either been contacted about the Motion or actually supported the request for an extension. Further, it was unclear whether the Town of Portsmouth would have understood that a second extension makes it highly unlikely that the Board's licensing proceedings could be completed before the next winter season, the implication of which is that the Company would need to seek yet another waiver for the winter operation of the facilities. For that reason, the Board directed the Company by letter dated May 18, 2023 to clarify whether the Town of Portsmouth supported the Motion.

In response to the Board's letter of May 18, the Town of Portsmouth, through counsel, sent an email to the Board, stating:

Because the Company has been in the process of revising its plans for the site and facility to address DEM issues, the Town has not been able to schedule and hold the necessary hearings and issue advisory opinions concerning the project as directed by the EFSB.... The Town is in the process of scheduling hearings to take place during the month of June, after the current deadline will have expired. Under these circumstances, the Town supports the request for a time extension of the deadline to issue advisory opinions.

There being no objection to the Motion, the Motion to extend the deadline to August 4, 2023 for the Town of Portsmouth to provide the applicable Advisory Opinions is hereby granted.

(162) So ordered.

DATED AND EFFECTIVE AT WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND THIS 19<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MAY, 2023.

ENERGY FACILITY SITING BOARD



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Ronald T. Gerwatowski, Chairman

