STATE OF RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN RE: THE NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC CO.:d/b/a RHODE ISLAND ENERGY ADVANCED:METERING FUNCTIONALITY BUSINESS CASE:AND COST RECOVERY PROPOSAL:

NOTICE OF EVIDENTIARY HEARINGS

Pursuant to the provisions of R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-3-11, as amended, the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) is conducting evidentiary hearings commencing on **July 20, 2023 at 9:30 A.M.** in Hearing Room A at the PUC's office, 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island. The hearing will be streamed live at <u>https://video.ibm.com/channel/WqQyXw296dg</u>. The hearing may continue thereafter from day to day and from time to time as required, with additional dates currently anticipated on July 25-27, 2023 and July 31, 2023, if needed.

In this docket, Rhode Island Energy filed for approval of the Company's Advanced Metering Functionality (AMF) Business Case program proposal. The proposal includes a full scale deployment of AMF across its electric service territory in Rhode Island intended to replace existing electric automated meter reading (AMR) meters. The proposal includes capital spending and recovery through rates for expenses associated with meters, software, communications and other operating expenses.

Rhode Island Energy seeks additional revenues in the amount of approximately \$199.6 million to fund the incremental cost associated with the AMF through a separate factor outside the base distribution rates (AMF Factor) over eleven years, 2023 through 2033. The AMF factor would recover the actual incremental capital investments placed in service and the actual incremental operation and maintenance (O&M) costs incurred on a historical basis. The Division of Public Utilities and Carriers has recommended an alternative cost recovery mechanism. Intervenors include the Rhode Island Attorney General, the Office of Energy Resources, the George Wiley Center, the Conservation Law Foundation, Mission:data Coalition, and the NRG Companies.

The Commission has previously conducted a public hearing for the purpose of eliciting public comment. Written public comments are still being accepted through July 19, 2023, and comments may be emailed to <u>luly.massaro@puc.ri.gov</u> (preferred method) or sent by U.S. Mail to 89 Jefferson Blvd., Warwick, Rhode Island 02888, Attn: Luly E. Massaro, Commission Clerk.

The filing may be examined at the PUC's office. The filing can also be accessed at <u>https://ripuc.ri.gov/Docket-22-49-EL</u>. Reference is made to R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 39-1, 39-3 and 42-35. The PUC is accessible to the handicapped. Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must notify the Commission Clerk's office at 780-2107, seventy-two hours in advance of hearing date.

Luly Massaro, Commission Clerk July 7, 2023