

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

IN RE: THE NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC CO. d/b/a RHODE ISLAND ENERGY

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the provisions of R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-3-11, as amended, the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) hereby gives notice that it will conduct a hearing on **Wednesday, September 13, 2023 @ 6:00 P.M.** in Hearing Room A at the PUC's office located at 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island. The purpose of this hearing is to take public comments on Rhode Island Energy's proposed rate changes that will take effect October 1, 2023 for electric service and November 1, 2023 for gas service in various dockets currently pending before the PUC. The hearing will be streamed live at <https://video.ibm.com/channel/WqQyXw296dg>.

People interested in providing public comment at the meeting may participate in a Zoom meeting through the internet or by calling in, preferably 5-10 minutes prior to the hearing. To participate, click this link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87144140599> and you will be given instructions to enter the meeting by internet. If you choose to participate by telephone, you may call 929-205-6099 and enter meeting number 871 4414 0599 followed by the # symbol when prompted. If you are not interested in providing public comment, please watch the live stream at the address in the first paragraph. You will be able to observe the hearing and hear others' public comment. Written public comment may be submitted by email to PUC.PublicComments@puc.ri.gov, SUBJECT: RI Energy Rate Change.

Rhode Island Energy's proposed rate changes to electric rates would take effect October 1, 2023. The rate changes would affect electric rates in all rate classes. One of the changes is the Last Resort Service rate. The residential Last Resort Service rate has a different rate for the Winter rate period (Oct. 1 through March 31) than the Summer rate period (April 1 through Sept. 30). The Winter rate typically increases because the market price for electricity is higher during the winter period than the summer period. The residential Last Resort Service rate proposed for this winter is 17.741¢ per kWh, compared to the residential Summer rate of 10.341¢ per kWh which expires on Sept. 30. There also are other changes to electric rates occurring at the same time. Table 1 shows the categories of changes and estimates the impact on the monthly bill of a typical residential customer taking Last Resort Service (LRS) from Rhode Island Energy.

Table 1: Monthly Bill Impacts of Proposed Electric Rates for a Typical Residential Customer taking Last Resort Service (500 kWh/month)

<u>Description</u>	<u>Docket</u>	<u>Impact of New Rates on Monthly Bill: Increase/(Decrease)</u>
SUPPLY CHARGE		
Last Resort Service Supply – Winter Rate	23-01-EL	\$32.29 *
DELIVERY CHARGES		
Renewable Energy Growth Factors & Reconciliation Factors	23-24-REG	\$2.54
Electric Infrastructure, Safety, & Reliability Factors	5209	(\$0.23)
Electric Pension Adjustment Factor	23-27-EL	(\$1.23)
	Net Monthly Increase:	\$33.38

* The Last Resort Service Supply bill impact includes the reduction of the customer charge from \$12.00 to \$6.00 a month for typical residential customer effective October 1, 2023.

The impact on typical residential LRS customer using 500 kWh per month is an increase of \$33.38 from \$134.24 to \$167.62, or 24.9% on the total bill. For non-residential customers, the impacts will vary depending upon the rate class and usage.

Rhode Island Energy also is proposing changes to gas rates that would take effect November 1, 2023. Table 2 estimates the annual impact of the proposed gas rates on a typical residential heating customer’s bill.

Table 2: Annual Bill Impact of Proposed Gas Rate for a Typical Residential Heating Customer (845 therms/year)

<u>Description</u>	<u>Docket</u>	<u>Impact of Rate Decrease on Annual Bill</u>
SUPPLY CHARGE		
Gas Cost Recovery Charge	23-23-NG	(\$23.02)
DELIVERY CHARGE		
Distribution Adjustment Charge	23-23-NG	(\$34.30)
	Net Annual Decrease:	(\$57.32)

The impact on an average residential heating customer using 845 therms annually is an annual decrease from \$1,753.55 to \$1,696.23, or 3.3%. The impact on other customer rate classes will vary depending upon the rate class and usage.

The proposals are available for examinations at the PUC's office. The proposals can also be accessed on the PUC's website at <http://www.ripuc.ri.gov>, Docket Menu, Docket Nos. 23-01-EL, 23-24-REG, 23-27-EL, 5209 and 23-23-NG. Reference is made to Chapters 39-1, 39-3 and 42-35 of the Rhode Island General Laws.

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.

Luly E. Massaro, Commission Clerk
September 3, 2023