
State of Rhode Island

Public Utilities Commission

Minutes of Open Meeting Held on June 23, 2025

An Open Meeting of the Public Utilities Commission (Commission or PUC) was held June 23, 2025, at 1:00 P.M. in Hearing Room A, 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island to discuss, deliberate, and/or vote on the following dockets.

In attendance: Chairman Ronald Gerwatowski, Commissioner Abigail Anthony, Commissioner Karen Bradbury, Patricia Lucarelli, Todd Bianco, Cynthia Wilson-Frias, Alan Nault, Herbert DeSimone, Jordan Sasa, Christopher Caramello, Stephanie De La Rosa

I. Chairman Gerwatowski called the Open Meeting to order at 1:02 P.M. A quorum was present.

II. Approval of Open Meeting Minutes from 5/16/25, 5/22/25 and 6/11/25

Approval of the Open Meeting Minutes for 5/16/25, 5/22/25 and 6/11/25 will be Postponed until the Next Open Meeting.

III. Docket No. 23-30-WW – Pawtucket Water Supply Board (Company) – This Docket relates to the Pawtucket Water Supply Board’s Multi-year rate plan Compliance Filing, Petition to modify Multi-year Rate Plan and change in rate schedules pursuant to R.I.G.L. § 39-15.1-4 filed on May 8, 2025. In this filing the Pawtucket Water Supply Board sought to increase its overall cost of service by \$821,942 in order to collect additional operating revenue to support the total operating revenue of \$22,608,248. The impact on all rate classes will be a 3.8% increase. For a typical residential customer who uses 800 cubic feet of water per month the impact will result in an increase of \$23.81 per year. At this Open Meeting, the Commission reviewed the settlement agreement, and the following vote was taken.

No further discussion was required. Chairman Gerwatowski moved to approve the June 18, 2025 Settlement Agreement granting Pawtucket Water Supply Board a step two increase in the amount of \$624,240 to its cost of service to support a total operating revenue requirement of \$22,410,545. Commissioner Bradbury Seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

IV. Docket No. 24-41-WW – Narragansett Bay Commission (Company) – This Docket relates to NBC’s General Rate Relief request filed on October 2, 2024. NBC sought to change its rates primarily to cover increased Operation and Maintenance costs. The proposed increase would generate additional revenues in the amount of \$13,913,861 or 12.3% and support revenues of \$130,373,593. For an Average residential customer using HCF of water per year, the request will result in an increase of \$66.00 in their annual bill from \$ 537.12 to \$603.12. The impact of the

rate increase on all other customers will vary depending on upon the customers classification and consumption. NBC requests approval effective July 1, 2025. On May 20, 2025 a Settlement Agreement between the Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities and Carriers and The Narragansett Bay Commission was filed. At this Open Meeting the Commission reviewed the filings and the following votes were taken.

After discussion. Commissioner Anthony moved to amend the proposed settlement agreement of the parties to reduce the electric expense by \$750,329 as shown in NBC exhibit twenty. of that amount \$312,202 would be applied to insurance expenses and the remaining \$438,127 to reduce the overall revenue requirement, then apply any difference between the estimated rate case expense as presented in the settlement in the actual rate case expense to reduce the overall revenue requirement. Chairman Gerwatowski second the motion. The motion does not pass. **Vote 1-2.**

Chairman Gerwatowski moved to approve the settlement as revised at the hearing in exhibits twenty and twenty-one, provided however, when the final rate case expenses are filed with the Commission the compliance filing includes the final rate case expense for the final revenue requirement and the amortized portion of rate case expense from the previous rate case shall be excluded. Commissioner Bradbury seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 2-1.**

Chairman Gerwatowski moved that approval of the settlement agreement as revised is not to be construed as setting a precedent for the treatment of any of the expenses that were used to determine the revenue requirement which was approved by the Commission in this case. Commissioner Bradbury seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Commission requests NBC to get their staff to work with PUC staff on language and a compliance filing to be filed by Wednesday June 25th, 2025.

- V. Docket No. 24-50-REG - The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a Rhode Island Energy (Company)** - This docket relates to the Company's 2025 Renewable Energy Growth (RE Growth) Program approved by the Commission in this docket. In accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-26.6-20(b), the Company selected seven (7) medium scale solar projects and one (1) commercial scale solar project in the First Enrollment RE Growth Program Open Enrollment. The Company requested approval of the Certificate of Eligibility (COE) for the commercial scale solar projects. The Commission reviewed the filing and a vote on the Company's request was taken.

No further discussion required. Commissioner Bradbury moved to approve Certificates of Eligibility (COE) for the Commercial Scale Solar Projects. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

- VI. Docket No. 25-01-WW – City of Woonsocket Water Division (Company)** – This Docket relates to the City of Woonsocket Water Division’s (Woonsocket Water) General Rate Filing, where it is sought to implement a change in water rates. A Settlement Agreement between the Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (Division) and Woonsocket Water was filed on June 9, 2025. If the Settlement Agreement is approved, a typical residential customer using 165 gallons per day and living inside the City of Woonsocket will see an annual bill increase of \$91, and a typical residential customer using 165 gallons per day and living outside of the City of Woonsocket will see an annual bill increase of \$80. At this Open Meeting, the Commission reviewed the filings, and the following votes were taken.

After Discussion. Commissioner Anthony moved that Woonsocket Water Division amend its proposed tariff language concerning the meter testing charge to clarify when the meter testing charge will and will not apply and how a customer will be charged for meter testing. Commissioner Bradbury seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Commissioner Anthony Moved to Approve the Settlement Agreement as filed. Commissioner Bradbury Seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Chairman Gerwatowski moved to adopt the Divisions Recommendations that future water revenues and tax sale revenues distributed by the City of Woonsocket-to-Woonsocket Water Division be deposited into Woonsocket Water Divisions IFR account. Commissioner Bradbury Seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Chairman Gerwatowski moved that Woonsocket Water Division continue reporting its monthly financial position by updating the spreadsheet produced in response to PUC 5-1 until further order of the Commission. Commissioner Bradbury Seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

- VII. Docket No. 25-12-EL - The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a Rhode Island Energy (Company)** – This Docket relates to Rhode Island Energy’s proposed base Last Resort Service rates for the Industrial Group for the period of July 1, 2025, through September 30, 2025, for effect July 1, 2025. At this Open Meeting, the Commission reviewed the filings, and the following votes were taken.

After brief discussion. Chairman Gerwatowski moved to approve the company’s motion for protective treatment of Procurement summary within attachment five including ten exhibits attached to the procurement summary numbers two through eleven and two transaction confirmations in attachment six. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Commissioner Anthony moved to approve the company’s Proposed base Last Resort Service Rates for the Industrial group for the period of July 1, 2025 through

September 30, 2025 for Effect July 1, 2025. Commissioner Bradbury seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

VIII. Docket No. 25-13-REG – Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources (Company)

– This Docket relates to the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources (OER), in consultation with the Rhode Island Distributed Generation Board, (DG Board) budget request to perform Renewable Energy Growth Program Development and Ceiling Price Development for the 2026 program year. OER requested approval of a budget in the amount of \$123,616. At this Open Meeting, the Commission reviewed the filings, and the following vote was taken.

After brief discussion. Commissioner Anthony moved to approve the Office of Energy Resources (OER) in consultation with the Rhode Island Distributed Generation Board’s (DG Board) budget request to perform Renewable Energy Growth Program Development and Ceiling Price Development for the 2026 Program Year, in the amount of \$123, 616. Chairman Gerwatowski seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed (Commissioner Bradbury abstained from voting). **Vote 2-0.**

IX. Docket No. 25-14-EL - The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a Rhode Island Energy (Company)

– This Docket relates to RI Energy’s s Residential Assistance Provision (“RAP”), R.I.P.U.C. No. 2239. The RAP filing proposed a new Arrearage Management Adjustment Factor (“AMAF”) and a new Low Income Discount Recovery Factor (“LIDRF”). As a result of the proposed AMAF and the proposed LIDRF, an average residential Last Resort Service customer using 500 kWh per month will experience a combined bill decrease of \$0.15, or 0.1%. At this Open Meeting, the Commission reviewed the filings, and the following votes were taken.

After discussion. Commissioner Bradbury moved to approve the proposed Arrearage Management Adjustment Factor (AMAF) \$0.0006 kWh. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Commissioner Anthony moved to approve the proposed Low Income Discount Recovery Factor (LIDRF) \$0.00251 kWh. Commissioner Bradbury seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

X. Docket No. 25-15-EL - The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a Rhode Island Energy (Company)

– This Docket relates to RI Energy’s Annual Revenue Decoupling Mechanism (“RDM”) reconciliation for the 12-month period ending March 31, 2025. The Company submitted this filing pursuant to the Company’s electric RDM Provision, R.I.P.U.C. No. 2218, which the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission (“PUC”) approved in Docket No. 4770. Pursuant to the electric RDM Provision, the Company is required to submit its annual RDM reconciliation by May 15 of each year. The reconciliation compares the Annual Target Revenue to actual billed distribution revenue for the RDM year ending March 31, 2025.

The RDM reconciliation amount for the 12-month period ending March 31, 2025 is an under-recovery of \$1,465,963. This amount was then adjusted by: (1) the net borderline sales revenue received by the Company of \$19,929,362; (2) the Company's total penalty pursuant to its 2024 Electric Service Quality plan of \$117,371 and (3) Estimated Interest during the recovery period of \$596,744. These adjustments result in a net refund to customers of \$19,177,514 and a proposed RDM Adjustment Factor, that is a credit of \$(0.00250) per kWh applicable to all customers, effective July 1, 2025. The impact of the proposed RDM adjustment factor on a typical residential customer using 500 kWhs per month is a decrease of \$1.94, or 1.4%, from \$141.35 to \$139.41. On June 20, 2025, the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (Division) Memorandum recommended the Commission require the Company to revise its RDM reconciliation factor filing to reflect the appropriate borderline sales revenues during the month the revenues were earned and to calculate interest accordingly. Mr. Munoz also explained that the Division has not completed its review into the Company's accounting of borderline sales. The Division, therefore advised that it will continue its review and may recommend additional adjustments in future filings.

At this Open Meeting the Commission reviewed the filing the following votes were taken.

After discussion. Chairman Gerwatowski moved to require the company to revise its RDM reconciliation factor to reflect the appropriate borderline sales revenue during the month the revenues were earned and to recalculate interest accordingly and submit a compliance filing by June 25, 2025. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Chairman Gerwatowski moved to recognize the need to continue an investigation into the Borderline sales, this docket shall remain open and final approval of rates shall be deferred until an investigation is completed to determine (i) whether the proper amount of borderline sales revenue is being credited; (ii) whether there were any borderline sales arrangements that were not properly and timely billed to Massachusetts Electric Company by Narragansett Electric Company prior to June 2022 and (iii) whether there are any other issues relevant to the matter of borderline Sales that must be reviewed. The Division is requested to submit a memorandum on their final recommendation as soon as it is completed rather than in future RDM filings. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

- XI. Docket No. 25-17-FR – Interstate Navigation Company – Tariff Advice –** This Docket relates to Interstate Navigation Company's Tariff Advice Filing to add a new School Rate effective at the end of the 2024-2025 school year. Commission staff recommends suspending the effective date to accommodate an exchange of discovery.

After brief discussion. Chairman Gerwatowski moved to suspend the effective date to August 15, 2025, to accommodate an exchange of discovery. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

- XII. Consent Agenda** – All items listed within the Consent Agenda are considered routine by the Commission and are ordinarily enacted by one motion. There is no separate discussion of these items unless a member of the Commission requests, in which event the item is removed for separate consideration later on the agenda. As noted below, the agenda includes a request for waiver from a telecommunications Service Provider and applications for eligibility as a Renewable Energy Resource and PUC consultant’s recommendation on the applications. No requests were made to remove any items on the Consent Agenda.

XIII.

Docket #	Applicant	Filing
RES-25-08	Boott Hydropower, LLC	Application for eligibility of the BOOT MILLS Generation Unit, a 17.308 MW AC Small Hydro Energy facility located in Lowell, Massachusetts. PUC consultant recommends approval.
RES-25-18	ME Athens Ridge Road Solar, LLC	Application for eligibility of the ME Athens Ridge Road Solar LLC Solar Generation Unit, 2.864 MW AC (3.803 MW DC) solar energy facility located in Athens, Maine. PUC consultant recommends approval.
RES-25-19	ME Richmond Lincoln Street, LLC	Application for eligibility of the ME Richmond Lincoln Street LLC Solar Generation Unit, 1.750 MW AC (2.315 MW DC) solar energy facility located in Richmond, Maine. PUC consultant recommends approval.
RES-25-26	JT Holding, LLC	Application for eligibility of the JT Holding Solar Generation Unit, a .160 MW AC (.22001 MW DC) solar energy facility located in Westerly, Rhode Island. PUC consultant recommends Conditional approval.
RES-25-28	55 Conduit Street Realty, LLC	Application for eligibility of the JOSH WILEY 55 CONDUIT, Lincoln Rhode Island Solar Generation Unit, a .20 MW AC (.22365 MW DC) solar energy facility located in Lincoln, Rhode Island. PUC consultant recommends approval.

Docket #	Applicant	Filing
25-18-TL	Teleport Communications America, LLC	Request for Waiver of NANPA's decision denying it's request for 1,500 contiguous telephone numbers.

Commissioner Anthony moved to approve the items on the Consent Agenda, Commissioner Bradbury seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.
Vote 3-0.

- XIV.** Chairman Gerwatowski adjourned the Open Meeting at 1:52 P.M. A web video of the Open Meeting discussions can be accessed at <https://video.ibm.com/recorded/134413422>