

**State of Rhode Island**

**Public Utilities Commission**

**Minutes of Open Meeting Held on December 23, 2025**

An Open Meeting of the Public Utilities Commission (Commission or PUC) was held December 23, 2025, at 10:00 A.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, Todd Bianco, Cynthia Wilson-Frias, Alan Nault, Jordan Sasa, Ryan Coyne, Theodore Smith, Christopher Caramello and Stephanie De La Rosa

- I. Chairman Gerwatowski called the Open Meeting to order at 10:01 A.M. A quorum was present.
- II. Approval of Open Meeting Minutes from 10/27/25 (Emergency Open Meeting), 10/27/25 (scheduled Open Meeting) 11/13/25, 11/24/25.

The vote to approve the Open Meeting Minutes from 10/27/25 (Emergency Open Meeting), 10/27/25 (scheduled Open Meeting) 11/13/25, and 11/24/25 were postponed to the next Open Meeting

- III. **Docket No. 25-28-EL – The Narragansett Electric d/b/a Rhode Island Energy (Company)** - This docket relates to options for mitigating winter price volatility for the Winter of 2025-2026. This docket was initiated by the Commission on July 21, 2025, at the request of the Governor, to consider options for mitigating winter rate volatility. On December 1, 2025, the Commission issued a series of decisions to provide residential electric customers a \$23.54 monthly bill credit in January, February, and March 2026. At this Open Meeting, the Commission reviewed Rhode Island Energy’s Compliance Tariff, and a vote was taken.

No further discussion was required, Commissioner Bradbury moved to approve Rhode Island Energy’s Tariff R.I.P.U.C No. 2280 Mitigation of Winter Price Volatility for the Winter of 2025-2026. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

- IV. **Docket No. 25-31-EL – The Narragansett Electric d/b/a Rhode Island Energy (Company)** – This docket relates to a proposal by the Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a Rhode Island Energy seeking approval of a Revised Request for Proposal (RFP) for Long-Term Contracts for Renewable Energy Projects to be used to solicit proposals from renewable energy developers in accordance with Rhode Island Gen. Laws § 39-26.1-1 et seq. and PUC’s Rules and Regulations Governing Long-Term Contracting Standards for Renewable Energy (LTCS), 810- RICR-40-05-1. The Revised RFP included changes to the timetable and method for solicitation and execution of long-term contracts for renewable energy and renewable energy credits and related attributes (RECs) with a nameplate capacity

of at least 20 megawatts (MW) and up to 300 MW of newly developed renewable energy resources. Rhode Island Energy sought to issue the RFP to satisfy its remaining obligation under the LTCS rules. Public comment and Evidentiary hearings were held on December 2, 2025. On December 4, 2025, the Company submitted a revised RFP in response to issues raised at the hearing. At this Open meeting the Commission reviewed the filings, and a vote was taken.

After brief discussion, Commissioner Anthony moved to approve Rhode Island Energy's revised RFP for Ling Term Contracts for Renewable Energy which was filed on December 4, 2025. Commissioner Bradbury seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

- V. Docket No. 25-40-WW – The Narragansett Bay Commission (Company) –** This docket relates to Narragansett Bay Commission seeking additional revenue in the amount of \$7,897,138 to cover debt service and debt service coverage expenses to fund NBC's ongoing capital improvements. Rate relief will be effective July 1, 2026 to effectuate proposed borrowing with the Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank. At this Open Meeting the Commission reviewed the Compliance filing and votes were taken.

After discussion. Chairman Gerwatowski moved to approve NBC's proposed debt service increase of \$4,052,767. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Chairman Gerwatowski moved to deny the request to increase debt service coverage to 30%, without prejudice for NBC to address the debt service coverage issue in NBC's pending general rate filing in docket 25-32-WW. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Chairman Gerwatowski moved to approve the increased debt service coverage of 25% of the \$4,052,767 of the new debt service which results in a debt service coverage increase of \$1,013,192 (i.e.,  $\$4,052,767 \times 25\% = \$1,013,192$ ). Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Chairman Gerwatowski moved to approve a revenue requirement increase of \$5,065,959 (i.e.,  $\$4,052,767 \text{ plus } \$1,013,192 = \$5,065,959$ ), for a new total revenue requirement of \$132,462,867. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

- VI. Docket No. 25-48-EL – Clear River Electric & Water District (Company) –** This Docket relates to Clear River Electric & Water District's (CREW) proposed rate changes arising out of the reconciliation of its tariff adjustment provisions for the Power Supply Service, Transmission Charge and Purchase Power Restricted Fund Credit Reconciliation effective for consumption January 1, 2026. As required by R.I. Gen Laws § 39-1-27.8, CREW included its annual supply procurement plan for approval in this docket. An evidentiary Hearing took place on Tuesday

December 16, 2025. At this Open Meeting the Commission reviewed the filing and votes were taken.

No further discussion was required. Chairman Gerwatowski moved to approve Clear River Electric and Water District's Power Supply Service Charge of \$0.071499 per kWh for usage on and after January 1, 2026. Commissioner Bradbury seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Chairman Gerwatowski moved to approve Clear River Electric and Water District's Transmission Charge of \$0.053239 per kWh for usage on and after January 1, 2026. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Chairman Gerwatowski moved to approve Clear River Electric and Water District's Purchase Power Restricted Fund rate credit of (\$0.000683) per kWh usage effective January 1, 2026. Commissioner Bradbury seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Chairman Gerwatowski moved to approve Clear River Electric and Water District's supply procurement plan as required by R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-1-27.8. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

**VII. Docket No. 25-49-EE – Clear River Electric & Water District (Company) –** This Docket relates to Clear River Electric & Water District's (CREW) Demand Side Management Program (DSM) for calendar year 2026 with an annual budget of \$207,299 to implement energy efficiency programs to its customers. The budget included the continuation of the legislative mandated charge of \$0.0033 per kWh, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §39-2-1.2(b), for application in the billing months of January 2026 through December 2026 to fund the DSM programs. At this Open Meeting the Commission reviewed the filing and votes were taken.

No further discussion was required. Commissioner Anthony moved to approve CREW's 2026 Demand Side Management Programs and associated budget. Commissioner Bradbury seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Chairman Gerwatowski moved to approve a factor of \$0.0033 per kilowatt-hour is hereby approved in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws §39-2-1.2, with \$0.003 per kilowatt-hour to be applied to the Demand Side Management Programs herein and \$0.0003 per kilowatt-hour to be applied to the program administered by the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation for renewable energy programs. This rate shall apply to energy consumed on or after January 1, 2026. Commissioner Bradbury seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

**VIII. Docket No. 25-50-EL – The Narragansett Electric d/b/a Rhode Island Energy (Company)** - This docket pertains to the Company’s tariff advice filing to amend the Net Metering Provision to incorporate 2025 legislative changes. The requested effective date is January 1, 2026. At this Open Meeting, the Commission reviewed the filings, and a vote was taken to suspend the amended tariff from taking effect.

After brief discussion, Commissioner Anthony moved to suspend the tariff advice filing to amend the Net Metering Provision to incorporate 2025 legislative changes. Commissioner Bradbury seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

**IX. Docket No. 25-51-EL – The Narragansett Electric d/b/a Rhode Island Energy (Company)** - This docket relates to Rhode Island Energy’s Long-Term Contracting for Renewable Energy Recovery Provision (“LTC Recovery Provision”), Rhode Island Energy’s proposed Long-Term Contracting for Renewable Energy Recovery Factor for the period January 2026 through December 2026. The Company proposed a recovery factor that is a charge of 0.504¢ per kilowatt-hour, applicable to all customers, effective for usage on and after January 1, 2026. The proposed LTC Recovery Factor is designed to charge the estimated above-market cost of the Company’s executed long-term contracts for the Pricing Period and recover the estimated administrative costs the Company will incur to bid the capacity of qualified customer-owned distributed generation facilities into the ISO New England Forward Capacity Market. The impact of the proposed LTC Recovery Factor on a typical residential customer using 500 kWhs per month is a decrease of \$0.79 per month, or 0.49%, from \$161.06 to \$160.27. At this Open meeting the Commission reviewed the filing, and a vote was taken.

After brief discussion. Commissioner Bradbury moved to approve the Company’s revised LTCRER Factor of \$0.00528/kWh for effect January 1, 2026. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

**X. Docket No. 25-56-EL – Block Island Utility District d/b/a Block Island Power Company** – This docket pertains to the Block Island Utility District d/b/a Block Island Power Company annual reconciliation of Last Resort and transmission charges and proposed rate changes effective January 1, 2026. For a residential customer taking Last Resort Service and using 500 kWh per month, the bill impact would be an increase of \$2.25 (\$141.75 to \$144.00) for the months of November through April, an increase of \$2.25 (from \$168.25 to \$170.50) for the months of May, June, September, and October, and an increase of \$2.25 (from \$239.50 to \$241.75) for the months of July and August. At this Open Meeting, the Commission reviewed the filings, votes were taken.

No further discussion was required. Chairman Gerwatowski moved to approve Block Island Utility District’s 2026 Power Supply Procurement Plan. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Chairman Gerwatowski moved to approve Block Island Utility District's proposed Last Resort Service charge of \$0.00949/kWh for usage on or after January 1, 2026. Commissioner Bradbury seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Chairman Gerwatowski moved to approve Block Island Utility District's proposed Transmission charge of \$0.0836/kWh for usage on or after January 1, 2026. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Chairman Gerwatowski moved to approve Block Island Utility District's proposed tariffs submitted as part of David Bebyn's supplemental testimony on December 11, 2025 for usage on or after January 1, 2026. Commissioner Bradbury seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

- XI. Docket No. 25-57-GE – The Narragansett Electric d/b/a Rhode Island Energy (Company)** - This docket pertains to the Company's Petition to amend the Commission's Termination Rules. The Company requested that the Commission eliminate, modify, or waive the requirement for field representatives to accept cash payments from customers seeking to avoid termination of service. The Commission issued a notice to solicit public comment from stakeholders. At this Open Meeting, the Commission reviewed the filings and public comments, and a vote was taken. The Commission also considered the Company's alternative request to grant other relief from the requirement for the Company's field representative to accept cash payments at a residential customer's premises under Termination Rule 1.8(C).

Chairman Gerwatowski, Commissioner Anthony and Commissioner Bradbury provided comments. Commissioner Anthony moved to deny the company's petition to amend the Commission's Termination rules governing the termination of Residential Electric, Gas, and Water utility service. Commissioner Bradbury seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Commissioner Bradbury moved to deny the Company's waiver request. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

- XII. Docket No. 25-19-EL – The Narragansett Electric d/b/a Rhode Island Energy (Company)** - This docket pertains to the Company's compliance filing stemming from its Advanced Metering Functionality Business Case in Docket No. 22-49-EL. On December 12, 2025, the Company filed a Motion to Strike Testimony that was filed by Mission:Data Coalition, who intervened in this docket. At this Open Meeting, the Commission Postponed a vote on the Company's motion.

Chairman Gerwatowski stated that any discussion and vote for Docket 25-19-EL has been postponed and will be taken at a later Open Meeting. PUC counsel

indicated to parties that this docket would not be discussed and voted on at this Open Meeting.

**XIII. Docket No. 25-37-EE – The Narragansett Electric d/b/a Rhode Island Energy (Company) -** This docket pertains to the Company’s 2026 Energy Efficiency Annual Plan. The Company’s proposed budget was approximately \$62.6 million for its electric energy efficiency programs, which would result in an energy efficiency charge of up to \$0.01032/kWh to be collected from ratepayers. The Company’s proposed budget for its gas energy efficiency programs was approximately \$33.0 million, which would result in a gas energy efficiency charge of up to \$1.404/MMBtu for residential customers and \$0.142/MMBtu for non-residential customers.

After a lengthy discussion along with comments from Chairman Gerwatowski, Commissioner Anthony and Commissioner Bradbury the following votes were taken.

Commissioner Anthony moved to direct the Company to transfer \$1.5 million from the C&I Electric Revolving Loan Fund identified in response to Record Request 12 to the 2026 electric portfolio fund balance in Table E-1C from the Company’s December 5, 2025 filed corrections and updates. Commissioner Bradbury seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Chairman Gerwatowski moved that regarding the \$1.375 million from the C&I Gas Revolving Loan Fund identified in response to Record Request 12, the Company is authorized to transfer \$1.375 million from the C&I Gas Revolving Loan Fund to the 2026 gas portfolio C&I fund balance. Commissioner Bradbury seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Chairman Gerwatowski moved to approve the EERMC’s budget request of \$891,900. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Commissioner Anthony moved to approve the Company’s proposed budgets and savings targets for the electric and natural gas portfolios as they appear in the Company’s December 5, 2025 filed corrections and updates. Commissioner Bradbury seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Chairman Gerwatowski moved to direct the Company to make a compliance filing consistent with Item III from the Company’s compliance filing in Docket No. 25-28-GE for rates to be collected from electric ratepayers for the months of April through December 2026. Commissioner Bradbury seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Chairman Gerwatowski moved to direct the Company to implement the market and income-eligible residential gas rates as updated on December 5, but to file a compliant updated rate for C&I. Commissioner Bradbury seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Chairman Gerwatowski moved to direct the Company to exclude any PIM-eligible costs and benefits achieved from the Organic Rankine Cycle (ORC) Engine project referenced in the Company's response to Record Request 1 when calculating the achieved 2026 program year achievement. This means that if the Company does provide incentives for this project in 2026, those incentives and savings associated with the project are excluded from the PIM calculation. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Chairman Gerwatowski moved to direct the Company that "Notification of Large Customer Incentive" requirements in Section 8.2.7 of the Plan shall be required of all incentive offers of \$1 million or greater per measure. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Commissioner Anthony moved that the Performance Incentive Mechanism design be adjusted such that Threshold 1 for low achievement is from 0% to 35% of planned net benefits and the adjustment rate is 0. The Company receives no cash incentive for performance in that band.

Payout rate threshold 2 is equal to or greater than 35% to less than 60% and the payout rate is the actual percentage achieved. For example, for 50% achievement of planned net benefits, the Company gets 50% of 7%, or 3.5 cents for every dollar, not 7 cents. Threshold 3 is equal to or greater than 60% and less than 85%, and it will be the actual achievement plus 10%. So, 65% achievement gets the Company 75% of 7%, which is 5.25 cents for every dollar, not 7 cents.

The final threshold for high achievement is equal to or greater than 85%. At that point, the Company gets the full 7%, or 7 cents for every dollar in net benefits achieved. Commissioner Bradbury seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Chairman Gerwatowski moved to authorize the Company to implement the programs described in the 2026 Plan, subject to the revisions made through other Motions. Commissioner Bradbury seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

- XIV. Consent Agenda** – All items listed within the Consent Agenda are to be considered routine by the Commission and will ordinarily be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a member of the Commission requests, in which event the item will be removed for separate consideration later on the agenda. As noted below, the agenda includes applications for eligibility as a Renewable Energy Resource and PUC consultant's recommendation on the applications as well as proposed water taxi rates for approval.

**XV.**

Docket #	Applicant	Filing
RES-23-30	IGS USB VII, LLC	Application to add 107 customer sited Generation Units to its IGS Solar, LLC – 23RI-2T2QK for eligibility as New Renewable Energy Resources. The Generation Units are located in Rhode Island and have achieved operations and have a total combined capacity of 0.81847 MW AC (.940875 MW DC). PUC consultant recommends approval.
25-42-FR	NCG Launch Services, LLC	NCG Launch services LLC, filed proposed water taxi rates for the 2026 season on October 7, 2025. At the Open Meeting the Commission will vote to approve the \$0 dollar rate proposed for ridership effective May 22, 2026.

No further discussion was required. Commissioner Bradbury moved to approve the item on the Consent Agenda, Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

**XVI.** Chairman Gerwatowski adjourned the Open Meeting at 12:12 P.M. A web video of the Open Meeting discussions can be accessed at <https://video.ibm.com/recorded/134643760> & <https://video.ibm.com/recorded/134643765>