



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

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*Patrick C. Lynch, Attorney General*

November 5, 2007

Cynthia G. Wilson-Frias, Esq.  
Senior Legal Counsel  
Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission  
89 Jefferson Blvd.  
Warwick, RI 02888

Re: **Docket No. 3876/ Request for Legal Opinion**

Dear Ms. Wilson-Frias:

Thank you for your letter dated October 16, 2007 addressed to the Attorney General Patrick C. Lynch in which you request a legal opinion concerning the legality of certain provisions contained in the Commission's Rules and Regulations Governing the Termination of Residential Electric, Gas and Water Utility Services. As the Attorney General has entered an appearance before the Public Utilities Commission in the above-entitled docket, and is also providing separate legal counsel to the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers, the Department believes it would be inappropriate to provide the Commission with the legal opinion that has been requested in your letter dated October 16, 2007. See Providence Gas Company v. Burman, 376 A.2d 687, 701 (R.I. 1977). For the Department's position as the representative of the public with respect to each of the issues raised by the proposed rules, please refer to the comments that we have filed today with the Commission.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

Paul Roberti  
Assistant Attorney General  
Chief, Regulatory Unit

Copy: Service List in Docket No. 3876