

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

IN RE: RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING  
THE TERMINATION OF RESIDENTIAL ELECTRIC,  
GAS AND WATER UTILITY SERVICE

DOCKET NO. 3876

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTICE OF RULEMAKING**

Pursuant to the provisions of Rhode Island General Laws §§39-1 and 42-35 of the Rhode Island General Laws, as amended, the Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) hereby gives notice that it has issued additional proposals to amend its Rules and Regulations Governing the Termination of Residential Electric, Gas and Water Utility Service (“Termination Rules”) adopted by the Commission on May 1, 2002, as amended January 10, 2007. These additional proposals are in response to comments received on original proposed changes for which the Commission took public comment from September 28, 2007 through November 5, 2007.

The additional proposed amendments affect the following provisions:

(1) adds “infant protection” to Protected Status Customer definition and adds verification of “very low income customer” by the Office of Energy Resources and extend the timeframe to notify customers of the termination of the infant protection. Adds infant protection to Termination Notice Requirements;

(2) includes language allowing customers to have “legal counsel or another person in accordance with Rhode Island state law” at Division hearings;

(4) restores a provision which allows utility companies to offer more lenient payment plans than those allowed by the Termination Rules;

(5) restores a provision allowing the Commission to order immediate restoration of service but only if the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers is unavailable to consider the request and reinserting the requirement that an immediate order be issued and includes factors

the Commission will consider in reaching its decision;

(6) adds new language to clarify that customers may only enter into one payment plan with no down payment and clarifying when a customer can re-enroll in the same payment plan from which he or she became disenrolled or when a customer must advance to the next step.

The regulations will apply to all residential customers of regulated electric, gas and water utility service.

The rules and regulations, in both form existing and proposed in a redacted version specifying additions are on file at the Clerk's office and may be examined there. Copies of the proposed regulations may be obtained in person at the Commission's office, by mail by calling 941-4500, ext. 107, or may be accessed at [www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/proposedregs.html](http://www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/proposedregs.html).

Interested parties and members of the public wishing to offer data, views or arguments regarding the amended regulations may do so in writing to Luly E. Massaro, Commission Clerk, Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission, 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, RI 02888 until 4:00 P.M. on January 4, 2008. An original and nine (9) copies of written comments must be filed with the Clerk.

Reference is also made to Chapters 42-35 and 39-1 of the Rhode Island General Laws. Specifically Sections, 42-35-1, 42-35-2, 43-35-3, 42-35-4, 42-35-5, 39-1-1, 39-1-3, 39-1-11, 39-1-18 and 39-1-38.

Luly E. Massaro  
Commission Clerk  
December 5, 2007