

March 23, 2012

**VIA HAND DELIVERY & ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Luly E. Massaro, Commission Clerk  
Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission  
89 Jefferson Boulevard  
Warwick, RI 02888

**RE: Docket 4277 - Distributed Generation Enrollment and Enrollment Process Rules Responses to Commission Data Requests (Set 5)**

Dear Ms. Massaro:

Enclosed are National Grid's<sup>1</sup> responses to the Commission's Fifth Set of Data Requests issued in the above-referenced proceeding.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions regarding this filing, please feel free to contact me at (401) 784-7667.

Very truly yours,



Thomas R. Teehan

Enclosures

cc: Docket 4277/4288 Service Lists  
Steve Scialabba  
Leo Wold, Esq.

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<sup>1</sup> The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid.

Commission 5-1

Request:

Were there any discussions among the Working Group participants about the appropriateness of retaining Section 12.0 (Direct Economic Benefits to Rhode Island) in the small project application? If so, please summarize the content of these discussions and the rationale, if any, for retaining this section in the small project application.

Response:

The Working Group, in its two meetings in January, focused on revisions to the Standard Contracts, and did not address this issue. The appropriateness of retaining Section 12.0 was discussed during the Technical Session in Dockets 4277 and 4288, and the consensus was to include it. Also, please see responses to Commission 4-3 (issued Oct 28, 2011) and Commission 1-7 (issued Oct 11, 2011).

Prepared by or under the supervision of: Corinne M. Abrams

Commission 5-2

Request:

On March 1, 2012, the Company filed a revised timetable and method for solicitation of long-term contracts (Docket 4316). In that filing, the Company proposes to allow projects to demonstrate “pricing benefits” as an alternative to direct economic benefits to the State of Rhode Island.

- a. Please explain in detail what is meant by the term “pricing benefits” in this particular context.
- b. Does the Company intend to apply this criterion to distributed generation small project applicants? Why/Why not?

Response:

- a. Projects with the lowest price bid would provide an economic benefit to Rhode Island customers through the most competitive pricing, thereby minimizing impact on rates.
- b. The “pricing benefits” criterion would not be applicable to small distributed generation projects, since under the provisions of the Distributed Generation Standard Contracts Act small projects receive ceiling prices in the program.

Prepared by or under the supervision of: Corinne M. Abrams