

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

IN RE: RENEWABLE ENERGY (RE) GROWTH :
PROGRAM CERTIFYING THE SMALL-SCALE :
SOLAR AGGREGATION AS AN ELIGIBLE : **DOCKET NO. 4536-C**
RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCE :

ORDER

On June 26, 2015, The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid (National Grid or Company) filed with the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) an application seeking certification as an eligible New Renewable Energy Resource for its National Grid Renewable Energy (RE) Growth Small Scale Solar Aggregation, with a 12 MW maximum capacity.¹ National Grid's filing simplified the process of certifying customer-sited, behind-the meter, small-scale solar distributed generation projects that enroll in the RE Growth Program.² At an Open Meeting on July 31, 2015, the PUC granted the Company's request to certify aggregation over the RE Growth program period up to the stated 12 MW installed capacity cap.³

On February 28, 2018, National Grid filed with the PUC a request to amend the certification for the RE Growth Small Scale Solar Aggregation by increasing the 12 MW maximum capacity to 140 MW.⁴ National Grid asserted that the increase was necessary due to the

¹ The application for certification was made in accordance with the PUC's Rules and Regulations Governing the Implementation of the Renewable Energy Standard; http://www.ripuc.org/rulesregs/commrules/RES_Rules.pdf; and R.I. Gen. Laws ch. 39-26.

² Established in 2014, the Renewable Energy Growth Act created a five-year, 160 MW tariff-based financing program for renewable distributed generation systems, expressly subject to review and supervision of the PUC. R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 39-26.6. In 2017, the program was expanded with an additional 400 MW of renewable energy over 10 years. See 2017-H 5274 Sub A; <http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/BillText/BillText17/HouseText17/H5274A.pdf>; 2017-S 112 Sub A; <http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/BillText/BillText17/SenateText17/S0112A.pdf>.

³ See PUC Order No. 22015 (Docket No. 4536-C) (July 31, 2015); http://www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/docket/4536C-NGrid-Ord22015_7-31-15.pdf.

⁴ All filings in this docket are available at the PUC offices, located at 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, R.I. or at <http://www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/docket/4536Cpage.html>.

strong participation in the small-scale renewable energy class and the extension of the RE Growth Program beyond the initial five-year pilot.⁵

At an Open Meeting held on April 3, 2018, the Commission voted unanimously to approve National Grid's request to amend the certification for the RE Growth Small Scale Solar Aggregation by increasing the capacity to 140 MW. The Commission found National Grid's request to be reasonable and noted that it had received no objections.

Accordingly, it is hereby

(23095) ORDERED:

The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid's request to amend the certification for the RE Growth Small Scale Solar Aggregation by increasing the 12 MW maximum capacity to 140 MW is approved.

EFFECTIVE AT WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND ON APRIL 3, 2018 PURSUANT TO AN OPEN MEETING DECISION. WRITTEN ORDER ISSUED APRIL 5, 2018.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION



Handwritten signature of Margaret E. Curran in blue ink.

Margaret E. Curran, Chairperson

Handwritten signature of Marion S. Gold in blue ink.

Marion S. Gold, Commissioner

Handwritten signature of Abigail Anthony in blue ink.

Abigail Anthony, Commissioner

NOTICE OF RIGHT OF APPEAL: Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §39-5-1, any person aggrieved by a decision or order of the PUC may, within seven days from the date of the order, petition the Supreme Court for a Writ of Certiorari to review the legality and reasonableness of the decision or order.

⁵ Letter of Raquel J. Webster (Feb. 28, 2018); [http://www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/docket/4536C-NGrid-AggregationAmendment\(2-28-18\).pdf](http://www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/docket/4536C-NGrid-AggregationAmendment(2-28-18).pdf).