

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN RE: THE NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC :
COMPANY d/b/a NATIONAL GRID'S :
MOTION TO AMEND ITS 2016 AND : DOCKET NOS. 4556 and 4605
2017 RENEWABLE ENERGY STANDARD :
PROCUREMENT PLANS :

ORDER

On February 23, 2017, The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid (National Grid) filed with the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) a Motion to Amend Its 2016 and 2017 Renewable Energy Standard (RES) Procurement Plans to incorporate changes to the Renewable Energy Growth Program legislation passed in 2016.¹ Specifically, the legislative change allows National Grid to either sell the Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) created through the Renewable Energy Growth Program or to use them to serve customers who take standard offer service. Prior to the legislative change, National Grid could only sell the RECs. The change aligned the treatment of RECs created through the Renewable Energy Growth Program with those created through the Distributed Generation Standard Contracts program. Allowing National Grid to use the RECs this way -- to meet the RES related to the standard offer service load -- reduces transaction costs, benefiting all customers.²

According to National Grid, the RECs produced in the first quarter of 2016 were minted after the passage of the legislative change. Therefore, National Grid requested approval to amend both its 2016 and 2017 RES Procurement Plans in order to use the RECs produced through the

¹ The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid's Motion to Amend Its 2016 and 2017 Renewable Energy Standard Procurement Plans; http://www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/docket/4556-4605-NGrid-AmendRES_2-23-17.pdf.

² *Id.* at 2.

Renewable Energy Growth Program to meet its 2016 RES obligation.³ National Grid represented that it had consulted with the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers and the Office of Energy Resources, neither of which objected to the motion.⁴

At an Open Meeting held on March 10, 2017, the PUC reviewed the filing and the legislative change. It approved the motion as filed, noting that no objection had been received from any party and that the filing properly incorporated the 2016 legislative change to the Renewable Energy Growth Program. The first quarter 2016 RECs were minted after the legislative change and may be used to satisfy National Grid's RES obligation arising from the provision of standard offer service to customers.

³ The 2016 Renewable Energy Standard Procurement Plan was approved by the PUC on July 1, 2015 (Order No. 22444). The 2017 Renewable Energy Standard Procurement Plan was approved by the PUC on June 27, 2016 (Order No. 22677).

⁴ On March 2, 2017, by email, legal counsel to the PUC reminded the parties to both dockets that the objection period for the Motion to Amend would run on March 6, 2017.

Accordingly, it is hereby

(22744) ORDERED:

The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid's Motion to Amend Its 2016 and 2017 Renewable Energy Standard Procurement Plans is hereby approved as filed.

EFFECTIVE AT WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND PURSUANT TO AN OPEN MEETING
DECISION ON MARCH 10, 2017. WRITTEN ORDER ISSUED MARCH 23, 2017.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Margaret E. Curran, Chairperson

Herbert DeSimone, Commissioner

Marion S. Gold, 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 (7) 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.