

May 26, 2016

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

In Re: Investigation into the Changing Distribution System and the Modernization of Rates if Light of the Changing Distribution System – Docket No. 4600

Dear Ms. Massaro:

Enclosed for filing are an original and nine (9) copies of the George Wiley Center's Application for Membership on the Stakeholder committee in this matter.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our legal counsel on this matter, the Rhode Island Center for Justice, at (401) 490-1101.

Sincerely,

Camilo Viveiros Lead Organizer May 26, 2016

Chairperson Margaret Curran Commissioners Roberti and DeSimone Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission 89 Jefferson Boulevard Warwick, RI 02888

Re: Application to participate in stakeholder committee in Docket 4600

Dear Chairperson Curran, Commissioner Roberti, and Commissioner DeSimone:

Thank you for the opportunity to apply to participate in the stakeholder process in Docket 4600, Investigation into the Changing Distribution System and the Modernization of Rates in Light of the Changing Distribution System. The George Wiley Center ("GWC") applauds this important and forward thinking step in achieving "rate modernization" and ensuring that utility rates fully incorporate public policy goals, protect all Rhode Island utility consumers, and provide safe, reliable, and affordable service.

GWC is writing in response to the March 18, 2016 Notice of Commencement of Docket and Invitiation for Stakeholder Participation for Docket 4600. GWC requests membership on the stakeholder committee. GWC respectfully submits that the Stakeholder Committee, as currently constituted, is without a Member directly focused on representing the interests of low-income utility consumers, and that the interests of this important group of Rhode Island utility consumers cannot adequately be represented by other Committee Members. GWC, therefore, respectfully requests membership on the Stakeholder Committee. Below, we answer the questions laid out in the March 18 Notice.

I. Name of Applicant and description of the interests such person shall represent

GWC respectfully requests to be added as a participant in this Stakeholder Committee. GWC will be primarily represented by its Lead Organizer, Camilo Viveiros. Additionally, GWC will be represented by the Rhode Island Center for Justice as its legal counsel in this matter. Attorney John Willumsen-Friedman will be the primary point of contact for the Center for Justice. (Please see attached Authorization Letter.)

Since our inception in 1981, the GWC has focused on Utility Justice and advocating for low-income utility consumers in Rhode Island. Dedicated to organizing around utility access for over 30 years, GWC has had a vigilant presence in Rhode Island as well as been a leader organization nationwide. GWC staff have also played an important role in supporting others interested in Utility Justice organizing, offering coaching, strategy, and alliance with grassroots groups around the country. GWC has been the lead, and often sole, representative of the interests of low-income utility consumers in Rhode Island over the course of numerous campaigns and policymaking proceedings. GWC seeks to represent the interests of this same group of Rhode Island utility consumers in Docket 4600.

II. Evidence that the applicant or nominee is authorized to represent parties related to the interests the person proposes to represent

GWC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit membership organization. GWC staff regularly represents the interests of low-income utility consumers in regulatory, policymaking, and legislative forums. GWC has a well-developed process for obtaining community-member input on policy matters and regularly holds meetings to solicit feedback and direction directly from the community. GWC brings decades of experience of working with and fighting for low-income utility consumers and a wealth of knowledge gained throughout the course of many important campaigns.

III. A written commitment that the applicant or nominee shall actively participate in good faith in the development of recommendations on issues under consideration in the docket

GWC will be an active participant in the development of recommendation in this docket, both directly and through counsel. GWC will also regularly consult impacted community-members to ensure that we are getting their input and representing their views as appropriate.

IV. The reasons that the interests of the person submitting the application or nomination cannot be adequately represented by other representatives

There is no other organization currently on the stakeholder committee whose mission is to represent the interests of low-income utility consumers, and no other organization is as well equipped to represent these interests as GWC. With a dedication to representing the interests of low-income utility consumers as a core element of GWC's mission, more than thirty years of experience in, and well established mechanisms for consulting directly with affected communities, GWC is uniquely well positioned to represent these interests in Docket 4600.

Thank you for your consideration and for your foresight and leadership in convening this committee to investigate this important issue. We look forward to participation and are available to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

cc:

Camilo Viveiros Lead Organizer



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In Re: Investigation into the Changing Distribution System and the Modernization of Rates if Light of the Changing Distribution System – Docket No. 4600

Dear Ms. Massaro:

I write to inform the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission that the George Wiley Center will be represented by the Rhode Island Center for Justice as its legal counsel on all matters related to Docket 4600. The Center for Justice is authorized to represent the George Wiley Center in relation to this Docket and matters related to it. The George Wiley Center will primarily be represented by attorney John Willumsen-Friedman (#9592) in this matter.

This letter serves as evidence that the Center for Justice has authority to act in a representative capacity for the George Wiley Center in appearing before or transacting business with the Commission on behalf of the George Wiley Center in accordance with Public Utilities Commission Rules of Practice and Procedure 1.4(a)(4).

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Camilo Viveiros Lead Organizer