

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

IN RE: BLOCK ISLAND POWER COMPANY : DOCKET NO. 4606
WAIVER REQUEST UNDER TO R.I.G.L. § 39-1-27(g) :

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §39-1, the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) will conduct a hearing on **Thursday, May 12, 2016 @ 10:30 A.M.** in the Council Chambers, New Shoreham Town Hall located at 16 Old Town Road, New Shoreham, Rhode Island. The purpose of the hearing is to solicit comments regarding the Block Island Power Company's (BIPCo) Waiver Request Under R.I.G.L. § 39-1-27(g) submitted to the PUC on March 7, 2016. The evidentiary hearing will continue on **Tuesday, August 9, 2016 @ 10:00 A.M.** in Hearing Room A at the PUC's office located at 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island.

The PUC exempted the Block Island Power Company from the Utility Restructuring Act of 1996 (URA) and that the exemption remain in effect until six (6) months after an undersea cable connecting Block Island to the mainland electric grid was installed and operational. An undersea electric cable is expected to be operational on or about December 31, 2016. In this docket, the PUC will examine the propriety of Block Island Power Company's petition for a waiver from certain requirements of the URA under R.I.G.L. §39-1-27(g), specifically for exemption (1) from the requirement to transfer ownership of generation facilities to an affiliated company, (2) from the prohibition against selling electricity at retail and (3) from certain standards of conduct. If the waiver is granted, BIPCo maintains that it will continue to own its generation facilities and use them to provide backup and safety in the case of any discontinuance or loss of power from the mainland. BIPCo also maintains that rates, tolls and charges will remain reasonable.

The petition is available for examination at the PUC's office. The docket can also be accessed at www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/docket/4606page.html. Reference is made to Chapters 39-1, 39-3 and 42-35 of the Rhode Island General Laws.

These buildings are accessible to the handicapped. Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must notify the Commission Clerk's office at 780-2107, seventy-two hours in advance of hearing date.

Luly E. Massaro, Commission Clerk
April 29, 2016