Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities and Carriers 89 Jefferson Blvd. Warwick RI 02888 (401) 941-4500

January 19, 2018

Luly Massaro, Commission Clerk Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission 89 Jefferson Blvd. Warwick, R.I. 02888

In Re: Docket No. 4763 – National Grid - Standards for Connecting Distributed Generation, RIPUC No. 2180

Dear Luly,

Please find for filing with the Commission, the State of Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities and Carriers, (the "Division") Responses to the Commission's First Set of Data Requests addressed to the Division in the above captioned docket.

I appreciate your anticipated cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours,

Jon G. Hagopian, Esq.

Deputy Chief Legal Counsel

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN RE: THE NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC COMPANY

d/b/a NATIONAL GRID'S STANDARDS FOR CONNECTING : DOCKET NO. 4763

DISTRIBUTED GENERATION

RESPONSE OF THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC UITILTIES AND CARRIERS TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION'S FIRST SET OF DATA REQUESTS DIRECTED TO THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS

(Issued January 9, 2018)

1-1. Please explain what activities the Division has been engaged in over the past year to address distributed generation interconnection issues between National Grid and developers, including any meetings or data collection activities.

RESPONSE:

The Division has monitored the interconnection activities of National Grid and developers, including being a party to this Docket 4763, which relates to amendments to Narragansett Electric's electric tariff entitled Standards for Connecting Distributed Generation, R.I.P.U.C. 2180 required based upon amendments to the renewable energy interconnection standards setforth in R.I., Gen. Laws § 39-26.3-4.1 *et seq.*, entitled Distributed Generation Interconnection; as well as, monitored National Grid's quarterly interconnection seminars relating to the renewable energy market;

Since the enactment of the 2017 amendments to the DG Interconnection statute, the Division and the OER staff have attended meetings with National Grid on a quarterly basis to monitor renewable energy project interconnection activity and the DG Interconnection statute implementation.

The Division received the attached Responses to Division and OER Informal Questions submitted on July 24, 2017 in advance of the July 25, 2017, quarterly DG Interconnection Review Meeting at the offices of Narragansett Electric d/b/a National Grid, 280 Melrose Street, Providence, R.I.

Prepared by or under the supervision of: Division Staff supervised by Division Legal Counsel

State of Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities and Carriers

By its attorney,

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me, c

Dated: January 19, 2018

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 19th day of January, 2018, that I transmitted an electronic copy of the within Data Responses to the attached service list and to Luly Massaro, Commission Clerk via electronic mail and regular mail.

Service List updated 12/27/17

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1. As of June 30th, how many residential solar applications (net metering and REG tariffs) have been filed and are currently under review by the company? What's the total MW capacity under review?

	Total Applications Submitted	Applications Currently Under Review	Total MW	MW Under Review
RIRE				
Growth	1810	567	11	3.5
Net Metering	1824	199	10.8	1.2

2. As of June 30th, how many 250 kW to 1 MW solar interconnection applications (net metering and REG tariffs) have been filed and are currently under review by the company? What's the total MW capacity under review?

	Total Applications Submitted: 250kW-1MW	Applications Currently Under Review	Total MW	MW Under Review
RI RE	2.5	2.5	10.6	10.6
Growth Net	25	25	18.6	18.6
Metering	28	21	14.6	11.9

3. As of June 30th, how many 1 to 5 MW renewable energy interconnection applications (virtual net metering and REG tariffs) have been filed and are currently under review by the company? What's the total MW capacity under review?

	Total Applications Submitted: 1MW - 5MW	Applications Currently Under Review	Total MW	MW Under Review
RI RE				
Growth	40	37	114.7	105
Virtual				
Net				
Metering	35	32	115.5	108.4

4. As of June 30th, how many 5 to 10 MW renewable energy interconnection applications (virtual net metering) have been filed and are currently under review by the company? What's the total MW capacity under review?

	Total Applications Submitted: 5MW -10MW	Applications Currently Under Review	Total MW	MW Under Review
Virtual Net Metering	15	15	114.6	114.6

5. As of June 30th, how many multi-separate 10 MW renewable energy applications (virtual net metering, example: URI/South Kingstown/Narragansett) have been filed and are currently under review by the company? What's the total MW capacity under review?

	MW
	Under
Number of Multi-separate 10 MW Projects	Review
21	100.3

6. As of June 30th, how many Interconnection Service Agreements have been issued by the company for 1 to 10 MW renewable projects for signature/deposits by a renewable energy developer? What's the total MW capacity?

Number of Interconnection Service Agreements	
Issued for 1MW-10MW	MW
48	118.4

7. As of June 30th, how many Interconnection Service Agreements for 1 to 10 MW projects have been executed and signed between the company and renewable energy developers? What's the total MW capacity?

Number of Interconnection Service Agreements	
Executed for 1MW-10MW	MW
44	111.1

8. As of June 30th, how many renewable energy applications have been filed and are currently under review by the company for the 30 MW Community Remote Net Metering Program that is available to affordable housing and community residential? If any applications have been submitted, what's the total MW capacity under review?

MW Available	Reserved	Interconnected
30 MW	0 kW	0 kW

With the passage of the interconnection deadlines and renewable energy growth program
extension bills, is the company planning to hire any additional internal personnel within the RI
National Grid interconnection team and/or hiring additional qualified subcontractors to assist the
company with interconnection applications? Here are links to the 2 enacted bills:
Interconnection - http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/BillText/BillText17/SenateText17/S0637A.pdf
REG Program - http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/BillText/BillText17/HouseText17/H5274A.pdf

National Grid is currently holding internal stakeholder meetings to determine how the new interconnection deadline requirements can be met. The Company has not yet made any final determinations regarding the hiring of new personnel.

10. What differences between December 2016 and June 2017 has the company made or plans to make (if any) internally or through your interconnection sub-contractors, when dealing with renewable energy interconnection applications and the new interconnection law?

National Grid is/has:

- Increased its focus on conducting bi-weekly meetings with key DG developers to review the current status of their DG Interconnection Application Portfolio.
- Conducted internal meetings to inform stakeholders of DG legislation details and potential impacts. Continuous process improvement sessions are regularly conducted to compress timelines and enhance customer experience.
- Conducted a National Grid Customer Application Portal (nCAP) demonstration for DG developers on June 7, 2017.
- Conducted a Ways of Working session with key DG developers and National Grid
 Distribution Planning & Asset Management and Customer Energy Integration teams on June
 21st in Providence. During the session the Company discussed process pain points with
 customers and will followed up on actionable items.
- Continued its development of a Customer Application Portal for interconnection services.
- Developing Forecasting Models for end of year interconnection requirements.
- Provided 3V0 exceptions; based on circuit, substation and project specifics, for certain interconnection service applications allowing them to interconnect prior to completion of 3V0 installation at the substation.