

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 :

**OFFICE OF ENERGY RESOURCES' RESPONSE TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES
COMMISSION'S FIRST SET OF DATA REQUESTS**

1-1. Please explain what activities the OER 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: Over the past few years , the Office of Energy Resources (“OER”) has monitored the interconnection activities of National Grid and developers, to include status update meetings with renewable companies pursuing projects; attended National Grid’s quarterly interconnection seminars relating to the renewable energy market; and worked with several parties during the 2017 legislative session to update the 2011 renewable energy interconnection standards law (R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-26.3-1 *et seq.*, entitled Distributed Generation Interconnection). Such updates were enacted into law by the General Assembly. See R.I. Pub. Laws Ch. 176 (2017).

Since the enactment of the 2017 law, staff from OER and the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (“DPUC”) have attended meetings with National Grid on a quarterly basis to monitor renewable energy project interconnection activity and the law’s implementation. In addition, OER and DPUC submitted informal questions to National Grid for purposes of obtaining data and information. The questions and answers are attached to DPUC’s Response to the Public Utilities Commission’s First Set of Data Requests Directed to the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers.

1-2. Did OER reach out to developers in determining whether to file comments in this docket? If so, what was the response?

Response: Yes, OER generally tries to keep parties informed, to the best of its ability, about renewable energy docket proceedings for stakeholders that may not necessarily monitor docket filings made to the Public Utilities Commission (“PUC”). OER notified several stakeholders about the interconnection tariff filing and technical session associated with this docket.

1-3. Please provide any documentation the OER may have issued or collected related to the pending proposed changes to National Grid’s Standards for Connecting Distributed Generation.

Response: Chris Kearns of OER issued three emails to notify potential stakeholders. Please see Attachment 1. OER does not recall receiving any comments or concerns by stakeholders after the interconnection tariff was distributed to several stakeholders.

1-4. Has OER received any recent feedback from developers regarding National Grid's distributed generation interconnection activities over the past year? Does it appear from OER's perspective the process has become more streamlined for developers? Please provide any anecdotal evidence to support OER's opinion.

Response: Overall, the residential solar market has been going very well with small solar companies and National Grid. It appears that the updates to the interconnection law helped to clarify and improve the communications, process, and expectations between renewable energy developers and National Grid regarding the larger scale renewable energy projects.

Date: January 19, 2018

Prepared by or under the supervision of: Christopher Kearns, Office of Energy Resources

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the original and ten copies of this Data Request Response were sent to the Public Utilities Commission, by regular U.S. mail. In addition, PDF copies of the Data Request Response were served electronically on the entire service list of this Docket. I certify that all of the foregoing was done on January 19, 2018.



Attachment 1

Email 1

From: Kearns, Christopher (DOA)

Sent: Monday, November 06, 2017 2:55 PM

To: 'Hannah Morini' <hm@green-ri.com>; 'Al Bucknam' <ab@green-ri.com>; 'Dan Bosley' <dbosley@necec.org>; 'Jamie Dickerson' <jdickerson@necec.org>; 'jdash@cleaneconomydevelopment.com' <jdash@cleaneconomydevelopment.com>; 'Paul Raducha' <praducha@kearsargeenergy.com>; 'Salar Naini' <snaini@tpoint-e.com>; 'Frank A. Epps' <frank@edp-energy.com>; 'Russ Maymon' <russ@edp-energy.com>; 'Carine Dumit' <cdumit@tesla.com>; 'Flanagan Stuart' <sflanagan@nptre.com>; 'Ralph Palumbo' <Ralph@southernskyre.com>; 'Peter Bay' <peter.bay@grosolar.com>; 'Erika Niedowski' <ENiedowski@acadiacenter.org>; 'Jerry Elmer' <jelmer@clf.org>; Beland, Shauna (DOA) <Shauna.Beland@energy.ri.gov>; 'Fred Unger' <unger@hrtwd.com>; 'Handy Seth' <seth@handylawllc.com>; 'CFC@PSH.com' <CFC@PSH.com>; 'Carpenter Michelle' <mc@wedenergy.com>; Janet Besser <jbesser@necec.org>; 'Hendrick, Dan' <Dan.Hendrick@nrg.com>; 'Jason Gifford' <jgifford@seadvantage.com>; Jim Kennerly <jkennerly@seadvantage.com>; 'Kat Burnham' <kat@ripower.org>; Helen Anthony <helen@handylawllc.com>

Subject: FW: National Grid - Docket No. 4763 - Tariff Advice - Distributed Generation Tariff

FYI - Updates to the Interconnection Renewable Standards law from the enacted 2017 legislation.

Thanks,

Chris

From: Massaro, Luly (PUC)

Sent: Friday, November 03, 2017 10:45 AM

To: Scanlon, Joanne M. <Joanne.Scanlon@nationalgrid.com>; Hutchinson, Jennifer <Jennifer.Hutchinson@nationalgrid.com>; OBrien, Celia <CELIA.OBRIEN@nationalgrid.com>; Donna Macrae <dmacrae@riag.ri.gov> <dmacrae@riag.ri.gov>; WilsonFrias, Cynthia (PUC) <Cynthia.WilsonFrias@puc.ri.gov>; Nault, Alan (PUC) <Alan.Nault@puc.ri.gov>; Scialabba, Steve (DPUC) <Steve.Scialabba@dpuc.ri.gov>; Hagopian, Jon (DPUC) <Jon.Hagopian@dpuc.ri.gov>; 'jmunoz@riag.ri.gov' <jmunoz@riag.ri.gov> <jmunoz@riag.ri.gov>; Bianco, Todd (PUC) <Todd.Bianco@puc.ri.gov>; Roughan, Timothy R. <Timothy.Roughan@nationalgrid.com>; Schrag, Jonathan (DPUC) <Jonathan.Schrag@dpuc.ri.gov>

Cc: seth@handylawllc.com; Ucci, Nicholas (DOA) <Nicholas.Ucci@energy.ri.gov>; Kearns, Christopher (DOA) <Christopher.Kearns@energy.ri.gov>; Marcaccio, Andrew <Andrew.Marcaccio@doa.ri.gov>; mc@wedenergy.com; Frank@edp-energy.com; jbesser@necec.org; cfc@psh.com

Subject: National Grid - Docket No. 4763 - Tariff Advice - Distributed Generation Tariff

Good morning,

I'm confirming receipt of the National Grid's tariff advice filing to amend the Standards for Connecting Distributed Generation, RIPUC No. 2180 tariff. The filing was assigned Docket No. 4763. PUC staff will hold a prehearing conference to discuss the filing and set a procedural schedule at 11:30 AM, November 7 in Hearing Room A at the PUC's office.

The docket can be accessed at <http://www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/docket/4763page.html>.

If you are unable to come to the conference, you can join by calling 877-820-7831 and participant pass code 9845174. A service list will be circulated after the conference.

Regards,
Luly

Luly E. Massaro
Commission Clerk
RI Public Utilities Commission
89 Jefferson Blvd.
Warwick, RI 02888
401-780-2107
Luly.massaro@puc.ri.gov

Email 2

From: Kearns, Christopher (DOA)

Sent: Monday, November 06, 2017 3:00 PM

To: 'Hannah Morini' <hm@green-ri.com>; 'Al Bucknam' <ab@green-ri.com>; 'Dan Bosley' <dbosley@necec.org>; 'Jamie Dickerson' <jdickerson@necec.org>; 'jdash@cleaneconomydevelopment.com' <jdash@cleaneconomydevelopment.com>; 'Paul Raducha' <praducha@kearsargeenergy.com>; 'Salar Naini' <snaini@tpoint-e.com>; 'Frank A. Epps' <frank@edp-energy.com>; 'Russ Maymon' <russ@edp-energy.com>; 'Carine Dumit' <cdumit@tesla.com>; 'Flanagan Stuart' <sflanagan@nptre.com>; 'Ralph Palumbo' <Ralph@southernskyre.com>; 'Peter Bay' <peter.bay@grosolar.com>; 'Erika Niedowski' <ENiedowski@acadiacenter.org>; 'Jerry Elmer' <jelmer@clf.org>; Beland, Shauna (DOA) <Shauna.Beland@energy.ri.gov>; 'Fred Unger' <unger@hrtwd.com>; 'Handy Seth' <seth@handylawllc.com>; 'CFC@PSH.com' <CFC@PSH.com>; 'Carpenter Michelle' <mc@wedenergy.com>; 'Janet Besser' <jbesser@necec.org>; 'Hendrick, Dan' <Dan.Hendrick@nrg.com>; 'Jason Gifford' <jgifford@seadvantage.com>; 'Jim Kennerly' <jkennerly@seadvantage.com>; 'Kat Burnham' <kat@ripower.org>; 'Helen Anthony' <helen@handylawllc.com>

Subject: RE: National Grid - Docket No. 4763 - Tariff Advice - Distributed Generation Tariff

Please let me know if you have any comments, questions or concerns with National Grid's filing. Ideally, any comments by Friday, Nov 17th.

Thanks,

Chris

Email 3 (The PUC's notice on the next page was attached with this email)

From: Kearns, Christopher (DOA)

Sent: Wednesday, November 22, 2017 3:44 PM

To: 'Hannah Morini' <hm@green-ri.com>; 'Al Bucknam' <ab@green-ri.com>; 'Dan Bosley' <dbosley@necec.org>; 'Jamie Dickerson' <jdickerson@necec.org>; 'jdash@cleaneconomydevelopment.com' <jdash@cleaneconomydevelopment.com>; 'Paul Raducha' <praducha@kearsargeenergy.com>; 'Salar Naini' <snaini@tpoint-e.com>; 'Frank A. Epps' <frank@edp-energy.com>; 'Russ Maymon' <russ@edp-energy.com>; 'Carine Dumit' <cdumit@tesla.com>; 'Flanagan Stuart' <sflanagan@nptre.com>; 'Ralph Palumbo' <Ralph@southernskyre.com>; 'Peter Bay' <peter.bay@grosolar.com>; 'Erika Niedowski' <ENiedowski@acadiacenter.org>; 'Jerry Elmer' <jelmer@clf.org>; Beland, Shauna (DOA) <Shauna.Beland@energy.ri.gov>; 'Fred Unger' <unger@hrtwd.com>; 'Handy Seth' <seth@handylawllc.com>; 'CFC@PSH.com' <CFC@PSH.com>; 'Carpenter Michelle' <mc@wedenergy.com>; 'Janet Besser' <jbesser@necec.org>; 'Hendrick, Dan' <Dan.Hendrick@nrg.com>; 'Jason Gifford' <jgifford@seadvantage.com>; 'Jim Kennerly' <jkennerly@seadvantage.com>; 'Kat Burnham' <kat@ripower.org>; 'Helen Anthony' <helen@handylawllc.com>

Subject: FW: National Grid - Docket No. 4763 - Standards for Connecting Distributed Generation

Subject: National Grid - Docket No. 4763 - Standards for Connecting Distributed Generation

Good afternoon,

Attached is the notice confirming a technical session on Tuesday, November 28 @ 9:30 AM on the above docket.

Luly E. Massaro
Commission Clerk
RI Public Utilities Commission
89 Jefferson Blvd.
Warwick, RI 02888
401-780-2107
Luly.massaro@puc.ri.gov

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 DISTRIBUTED GENERATION - DOCKET NO. 4763

NOTICE OF TECHNICAL RECORD SESSION

Pursuant to the provisions of R.I. Gen. Laws §39-3-11, as amended, the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) will conduct a technical session on **Tuesday, November 28, 2017 @ 9:30 A.M.** in Hearing Room A of the PUC's office located at 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island

In this docket The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a National Grid (Company) submitted a tariff advice to request approval of Company's electric tariff, entitled Standards for Connecting Distributed Generation, RIPUC No. 2180. Specifically, the Company seeks to amend the tariff to implement the recent amendments to the Distributed Generation Interconnection Standards pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-26.3-4.1 (DG Interconnection Standards). The amendments are designed to, *inter alia*, limit the ways in which the Company can charge renewable energy customers for system modifications to interconnect to the electric distribution system. The amended law also places certain timeframes on the Company to complete the application process and all system modifications, and enables the replacement of an existing renewable energy resource with limitations on study time and system modification costs. Accordingly, National Grid seeks to amend its electric tariff consistent with the amendments to the DG Interconnection Standards. At this technical session, National Grid will go through and explain the proposed changes to the tariff.

The proposal is available for examination at the PUC's office. The filing can also be accessed under <http://www.ripuc.org/eventsactions/docket/4763page.html>. Reference is made to Chapters 39-1, 39-3 and 42-35 of the Rhode Island General Laws.

The PUC is 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
November 21, 2017