

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

Public Utilities Commission

Minutes of Open Meeting Held May 7, 2014

Attendees: Chairperson Margaret Curran, Commissioner Herbert DeSimone, Patricia Lucarelli, Cindy Wilson-Frias, Amy D'Alessandro, Sharon Colby Camara, Alan Nault and Todd Bianco. Commissioner Paul Roberti and Luly Massaro were not present.

Chairperson Curran called the open meeting to order at 1:00 P.M. in the first-floor hearing room of the Public Utilities Commission. A quorum was present.

Renewable Energy Resources Eligibility Generation Units Dockets

The following renewable energy resources eligibility applications were submitted. PUC Consultant's filed a recommendation to approve the applications in dockets:

- 4438 – Noble Clinton Windpark I, LLC - Application seeking certification for the Noble Clinton Windpark I, LLC Generation Unit, a 100.5 MW wind energy generation unit located in Churubusco, New York, as an eligible New Renewable Energy Resource.
- 4439 – Noble Ellenburg Windpark, LLC- Application seeking certification for the Noble Ellenburg Windpark, LLC Generation Unit, an 81 MW wind energy generation unit located in Churubusco, New York, as an eligible New Renewable Energy Resource.
- 4440 – Noble Bliss Windpark, LLC. - Application seeking certification for the Noble Bliss Windpark, LLC Generation Unit, a 100.5MW wind energy generation unit located in Bliss, New York, as an eligible New Renewable Energy Resource.

After review, Commissioner DeSimone moved to approve the applications. Chairperson Curran seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 2-0.**

2379(E3) – Diversegy, LLC - Diversegy, LLC filed on April 9, 2014, an application for authority to transact as a gas marketer in Rhode Island. The Division filed a recommendation to approve the application. After review, Commissioner DeSimone moved to approve the application. Chairperson Curran seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 2-0.**

4434 – United Water Rhode Island – The PUC reviewed the record regarding United Water's rate application and the Settlement Agreement between United Water Rhode Island and the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers. Commissioner DeSimone supported approval of the Settlement Agreement with two modifications to the revenue requirements. First modification is to exclude \$2500 holiday party expense from rate year expense. Second modification relates to the utility's request for \$10,000 to paint hydrants resulting from corrosion near the ocean. Commissioner DeSimone noted that the utility did not establish that there was corrosion. He supported authorizing \$5,000 for summer help to paint hydrants. Chairperson Curran concurred cutting the amount in half noting need for more information in the future regarding corrosion control, particularly where there is shoreline corrosion. The PUC expressed concern with employee yearly salary increases, overtime expense and bonuses finding it troubling given the continued

economic condition of state. The utility might consider the multi-year plan process to mitigate significant rate increases.

After review, Commissioner DeSimone moved to accept and approve the Settlement Agreement with two modifications: 1) exclude \$2500 holiday party expense at Spain Restaurant from rate year revenues and 2) authorize \$5000 to hire outside help for hydrant painting in lieu of \$10,000 in the Settlement Agreement. Chairperson Curran seconded the motion and the motion unanimously passed. **Vote 2-0.** Compliance filing shall be due May 9, 2014.

The open meeting adjourned at 1:21 P.M.