

State of Rhode Island

Public Utilities Commission

Minutes of Open Meeting Held on June 24, 2021

An Open Meeting of the Public Utilities Commission (Commission or PUC) was held Thursday, June 24, 2021 at 2:00 P.M. in Hearing Room A, 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island to discuss, deliberate, and/or vote on the following dockets.

In attendance: Chairman Ronald Gerwatowski, Commissioner Abigail Anthony, Commissioner John Revens, Cynthia Wilson-Frias, Todd Bianco and Luly Massaro.

- I. Chairman Gerwatowski called the Open Meeting to order at 2:30 P.M. A quorum was present.

- II. **Docket No. 5022 - Suspension of Service Terminations and Certain Collections Activities During the COVID-19 Emergency** – On March 19, 2021, the Commission extended the utility termination moratorium as defined by the Commission’s Rules and Regulations Governing the Termination of Residential Electric, Gas, and Water Utility Service (“Termination Rules”) through June 25, 2021, the last day of school on the statewide school calendar, for protected status customers (including those on Rates A-60 and R-13) of The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid (electric and gas). The moratorium was not extended for any other class of customers or any other regulated utility covered by the Termination Rules. On June 14, 2021, the George Wiley Center inquired whether the Commission would further extend the protections. The Commission received comments from National Grid, the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers and the George Wiley Center. After a summary and travel of the termination moratorium and review of the comments received, Chairman Gerwatowski moved that the moratorium on terminations now in effect for National Grid protected status customers, including customers on National Grid’s low-income rate, be extended through July 25, 2021, and there will be no further extensions unless there is substantial evidence of a major resurgence of the COVID-19 pandemic. **Vote 3-0.**

- II. There being no further business to discuss, the Open Meeting adjourned at 2:18 P.M.