

**State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations**

**Public Utilities Commission**

**Minutes of Open Meeting Held May 23, 2007**

**Attendees: Chairman Elia Germani, Commissioner Robert Holbrook, Commissioner Mary Bray, Steve Frias, Patricia Lucarelli, Alan Nault, Thomas Massaro, Douglas Hartley and Luly Massaro.**

**Chairman Germani called the open meeting to order at 2:00 P.M. in the first-floor hearing room of the Public Utilities Commission. A quorum was present.**

**Minutes of Open Meeting held on May 10, 2007:** After review, Chairman Germani moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Holbrook seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

**Competitive Telecommunications Service Providers**

The following companies submitted tariff revisions. The Division reviewed the tariff filings and recommended no suspension.

2535 – Cox RI Telcom LLC (tariff filings 4/27/07)

3713 – Comtel Telcom Assets LP (tariff filing 5/2/07)

2486 – Verizon Access Transmission Services (tariff filing 5/2/07)

2618 – AT&T Communications of NE, Inc. (tariff filings 4/26, 4/27 & 5/11/07)

3647 – XO Communications Services, Inc. (tariff filing 4/30/07)

2426 – TCG Rhode Island (tariff filing 5/3/07)

3173 – Access Point, Inc. (tariff filing 5/8/07)

2262(C8) – CTC Communications Corp. (tariff filing 4/27/07)

2262(F16) – Bell Atlantic Communications, Inc. (tariff filing 5/2/07)

2262(G16) – NYNEX Long Distance (tariff filing 5/11/07)

After review, the Commission followed the Division's recommendation that the tariff filings be allowed to go into effect without suspension.

**Telecommunications Interconnection Agreements (ICAs)** – The Commission reviewed the following ICA Amendment executed between the parties. The Division filed a recommendation indicating that it had reviewed the ICA Amendment and recommended approval of:

3644 – ICA Amendment No. 1 between Verizon RI and BCN Telecom, Inc.

After review, Chairman Germani moved to approve the ICA amendment as submitted.

Commissioner Bray seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

**Renewable Energy Resources Generation Units** – The Commission reviewed the Renewable Energy Resource certification application submitted by the following entities:

3805-A – Pawtucket Hydropower LLC for its Generation Unit: Pawtucket Hydropower (existing generation)

3805-B - Pawtucket Hydropower LLC for its Generation Unit: Pawtucket Hydropower (new generation)

After review, Chairman Germani moved to certify the Pawtucket Hydropower Generation Units as existing and new Small Hydro Renewable Energy Resource. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

**3790 – National Grid (NGrid)** – The Commission reviewed the record in connection with NGrid’s proposed gas energy efficiency programs filed in compliance with legislative mandate and the Stipulation and Settlement that was jointly entered by the Division, TEC-RI, Office of Energy Resources, People's Power & Light, Environment Northeast and NGrid concerning the Company's gas energy efficiency programs for the years 2007 and 2008.

After discussion, Chairman Germani entertained a motion to approve the Settlement, including Attachment 5, with modification to: (1) eliminate funding for two internet programs costing \$296,000; and (2) reduce the shareholder incentive by (a) not basing it on funding the EERMC and (b) the reduction of \$296,000 in the operating budget, an overall reduction of approximately \$18,450. Commissioner Holbrook moved to approve the Settlement with the modification. Commissioner Bray seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

**3806 – Block Island Power Co. (BIPCO) and Pascoag Utility District (Pascoag) and 3804 – National Grid (NGrid)** – The Commission discussed the record in connection with the Affordable Energy Plans (Plan) proposed by National Grid, Block Island Power Co. (BIPCO) and Pascoag Utility District (Pascoag). After discussion, Chairman Germani entertained a motion to approve the following:

- Require all the utility Plans to: (a) allow a customer to participate in the forgiveness plan with only a notice of termination; and (b) grant customers a 60 day grace period from the bill date to pay their bill and stay on the forgiveness plan.
- Approve NGrid’s April 27, 2007 revised Plan.
- Approve BIPCO’S Plan as revised by the Division to limit BIPCO’s discount to distribution rates.
- Reject Pascoag’s request for an exemption and approve Pascoag’s Plan with the revision that the forgiveness plan be for all electric charges instead of only distribution.
- The forgiveness program would go into effect July 1, 2007.
- The discount program would go into effect November 1, 2007 and therefore, the utilities shall file tariff revisions at least 30 day prior to November 1, 2007.

Commissioner Bray moved to approve the Chairman’s motion. Commissioner Holbrook seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

The open meeting adjourned at 2:23 P.M.