



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

NOTICE OF FILING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

D.P.U. 20-78

September 9, 2020

Petition of Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company d/b/a National Grid, pursuant to M.D.P.U. No. 3.12, for Approval of Calendar Year 2019 Gas Business Enablement Program Costs and Gas Business Enablement Factors.

On August 3, 2020, Boston Gas Company (“Boston Gas”) and Colonial Gas Company (“Colonial Gas”), d/b/a National Grid (“National Grid” or “Company”) filed with the Department of Public Utilities (“Department”) a petition for approval of gas business enablement (“GBE”) factors for effect November 1, 2020. The Company states that the filing is made in accordance with the directives of the Department in Boston Gas Company/Colonial Gas Company, D.P.U. 17-170 (2018) and M.D.P.U. No. 3.12. The Department has docketed this matter as D.P.U. 20-78.

The Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (“Attorney General”) has filed a notice to intervene in this matter pursuant to G.L. c. 12, § 11E(a). Further, pursuant to G.L. c. 12, § 11E(b), the Attorney General filed a notice of intent to retain experts and consultants to assist her investigation of the Company’s filing and has requested Department approval to spend up to \$150,000 in this regard. Pursuant to G.L. c. 12, § 11E(b), the costs incurred by the Attorney General relative to her retention of experts and consultants may be recovered in the Company’s rates. Any person who desires to comment on the Attorney General’s notice of intent to retain experts and consultants may submit written comments to the Department not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Wednesday, September 30, 2020**.

National Grid reports total cost allocations from its service company, National Grid USA Service Company, Inc., for calendar year 2019 of \$7,328,245 and \$2,130,231 for Boston Gas and Colonial Gas, respectively. The Company removed the costs previously included in base distribution rates and as a result propose to include in rates \$6,123,795 and \$1,860,795 for Boston Gas and Colonial Gas, respectively. If approved, the costs will be recovered from National Grid’s customers through the gas business enablement factors (“GBEFs”) for effect November 1, 2020.

The Company proposes the following GBEFs by rate class:

	Boston Gas	Colonial Gas
Rate Class	\$/Therm	\$/Therm
Residential	\$0.0077	\$0.0093
Small Commercial and Industrial (“C&I”)	\$0.0055	\$0.0060
Medium C&I	\$0.0048	\$0.0047
Large C&I	\$0.0039	\$0.0040
Extra Large C&I	\$0.0031	N/A

If the Company’s filing is approved as proposed, the estimated bill impacts are as follows:

	Boston Gas			Colonial Gas		
	Monthly Therms	Bill Increase	Percent Increase	Monthly Therms	Bill Increase	Percent Increase
<i>Peak</i>						
Residential Heating	130	\$0.33	0.2%	115	\$0.38	0.2%
Non-Residential Heating	16	\$0.04	0.1%	15	\$0.05	0.1%
<i>Off-Peak</i>						
Residential Heating	27	\$0.07	0.2%	26	\$0.09	0.3%
Non-Residential Heating	9	\$0.02	0.1%	11	\$0.03	0.1%

On March 10, 2020, Governor Baker issued Executive Order No. 591, Declaration of a State of Emergency to Respond to COVID-19, which required the closing of certain brick and mortar premises, including the Department's offices, and limited gatherings of more than ten people. Any person interested in commenting on this matter may submit written comments no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Wednesday, September 30, 2020**. Written comments from the public may be sent by email to peter.ray@mass.gov, Jessica.Ellis@mass.gov, and the Company's attorney, Stacey M. Donnelly, at stacey.donnelly@nationalgrid.com. The Department strongly encourages public comments to be submitted by email. If, however, a member of the public is unable to send written comments by email, a paper copy may be sent to Mark D. Marini, Secretary, Department of Public Utilities, One South Station, 5th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts, 02110, as well as to the Company's attorney, Stacey M. Donnelly, Senior Counsel, National Grid, 30 Sylvan Road, Waltham, Massachusetts 02451.

Any person who desires to participate in the evidentiary phase of this proceeding must file a written petition for leave to intervene or to participate in the proceeding no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Wednesday, September 30, 2020**. A petition filed late may be disallowed as untimely, unless good cause is shown for waiver under 220 CMR 1.01(4). To be allowed, a petition under 220 CMR 1.03(1) must satisfy the standing requirements of G.L. c. 30A, § 10. Petitions for leave to intervene or participate should be submitted electronically to peter.ray@mass.gov, Jessica.Ellis@mass.gov, and the Company's attorney, Stacey M. Donnelly, at stacey.donnelly@nationalgrid.com.

Documents provided to the Department must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 20-78); (2) the name of the person or company submitting the filing; (3) a brief descriptive title of the document; and (4) the name, title, email address, and telephone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing.

The Company's filing and all related documents submitted to the Department or issued by the Department will be available on the Department's website as soon as is practicable at <https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/DPU/Fileroom/dockets/bynumber> (enter "20-78"). A paper copy of the filing will not be available for public viewing at the Company's offices or the Department due to the State of Emergency. To request materials in accessible formats (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format) for people with disabilities, contact the Department's ADA coordinator at DPUADACoordinator@state.ma.us.

Any person desiring further information regarding the Company's filing or a paper copy of the filing should contact counsel for the Company, Stacey M. Donnelly, at (781) 907-1833 or stacey.donnelly@nationalgrid.com. For further information regarding this notice, please contact Jessica L. Ellis, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at Jessica.Ellis@mass.gov.