



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

### NOTICE OF FILING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

D.P.U. 20-GREC-03

May 11, 2020

Petition of Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company d/b/a National Grid, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 145, for Approval of the Reconciliation of its 2019 Gas System Enhancement Plan and Review and Approval of its Gas System Enhancement Reconciliation Adjustment Factors.

On May 1, 2020, Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company d/b/a National Grid (“National Grid” or “Companies”) submitted to the Department of Public Utilities (“Department”) a reconciliation of its 2019 gas system enhancement plan (“GSEP”) to replace aging natural gas pipeline infrastructure. Based on the Companies’ reconciliation, Boston Gas Company proposes to collect \$3,996,330 from ratepayers as under-recoveries, and Colonial Gas Company proposes to collect \$255,342 to ratepayers as under-recoveries through the gas system enhancement reconciliation adjustment factors (“GSERAFs”) for the period from November 1, 2020 to October 31, 2021. The Department has docketed this matter as D.P.U. 20-GREC-03.

Boston Gas Company proposes the following GSERAFs by rate class sector for effect November 1, 2020:

Rate Class Sector	Proposed GSERAF (\$/Therm)
Residential (R-1 to R-4)	\$0.0040
Low Annual Use Commercial and Industrial (C&I) (G-41/G-51)	\$0.0037
Medium Annual Use C&I (G-42/G-52)	\$0.0037
High Annual Use C&I (G-43/G-53)	\$0.0034
Extra High Annual Use C&I (???)	\$0.0031

Colonial Gas Company proposes the following GSERAFs by rate sector for effect November 1, 2020:

Rate Class Sector	Proposed GSERAF (\$/Therm)
Residential (R-1 to R-4)	\$0.0010
Low Annual Use Commercial and Industrial (C&I) (G-41/G-51)	\$0.0009
Medium Annual Use C&I (G-42/G-52)	\$0.0007
High Annual Use C&I (G-43/G-53)	\$0.0006

National Grid states that approval of the GSERAFs for Boston Gas Company will result in an average monthly bill increase of \$0.39, or 0.2 percent, for the average residential heating customer using 130 therms per month during winter months, and an average monthly bill increase of \$0.08, or 0.2 percent, for the average residential heating customer using 27 therms per month during summer months. National Grid states that approval of the GSERAFs for Colonial Gas Company will result in an average monthly bill increase of \$0.80, or 0.5 percent, for the average residential heating customer using 115 therms per month during winter months, and an average monthly bill increase of \$0.19, or 0.6 percent, for the average residential heating customer using 26 therms per month during summer months.

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. Because of the State of Emergency, the Department is unable to accommodate a public hearing for this proceeding. To allow for public participation, the Department is providing an extended written comment period and any person interested in commenting on this matter may submit written comments no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Monday, June 22, 2020**. Written comments from the public may be sent by email to [peter.ray@mass.gov](mailto:peter.ray@mass.gov), [alice.davey@mass.gov](mailto:alice.davey@mass.gov), and the Companies' attorney at [jhabib@keeganwerlin.com](mailto:jhabib@keeganwerlin.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.

Any person who desires to participate in the evidentiary phase of this proceeding must file a written petition for leave to intervene with the Department not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Thursday, May 28, 2020**. A petition for leave to intervene must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 220 CMR 1.03. Because the State of

Emergency limits access to the Department's office, all petitions for leave to intervene must be submitted by email only to [peter.ray@mass.gov](mailto:peter.ray@mass.gov), [alice.davey@mass.gov](mailto:alice.davey@mass.gov), and the Companies' attorney at [jhabib@keeganwerlin.com](mailto:jhabib@keeganwerlin.com). Receipt by the Department, not mailing, constitutes filing and determines whether a petition has been timely filed. 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. All responses to petitions to intervene must be filed by email by the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on the second business day after the petition to intervene was filed. The Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts filed a notice to intervene in this matter pursuant to G.L. c. 12, § 11E(a).

Documents provided to the Department must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 20-GREC-03); (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 Companies' 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-GREC-03"). A paper copy of the filing will not be available for public viewing at the Companies' 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](mailto:DPUADACoordinator@state.ma.us).

Any person desiring further information regarding the Companies' filing or a paper copy of the filing should contact counsel for the Companies, Jack Habib at (617) 951-1400 or [jhabib@keeganwerlin.com](mailto:jhabib@keeganwerlin.com). For further information regarding this notice, please contact Alice Davey, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at [alice.davey@mass.gov](mailto:alice.davey@mass.gov).