



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

### NOTICE OF FILING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

D.P.U. 22-101

August 19, 2022

Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for approval of its Revenue Decoupling Adjustment Factors for the 2022 Peak Period, November 1, 2022, through April 30, 2023.

On August 3, 2022, Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid (“Company”) filed a petition with the Department of Public Utilities (“Department”) for approval of its revenue decoupling adjustment factors (“RDAFs”), for effect November 1, 2022. This filing was made pursuant to: Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company, D.P.U. 17-170 (2018); Boston Gas Company, D.P.U. 20-120 (2021); and the Company’s revenue decoupling adjustment clause (“RDAC”) tariff, M.D.P.U. No. 62.2. In 2008, the Department developed revenue decoupling by establishing a mechanism through the RDAC that allows the Company to modify, on a semi-annual basis, its base distribution rates as a result of changes in customer usage. Revenue decoupling severs the link between sales and revenues, and instead provides gas and electric utility companies with a target revenue level, thus removing the disincentive of implementation of energy efficiency and demand reduction programs that encourage customers to lower energy usage and demand. See generally Revenue Decoupling, D.P.U. 07-50-A (2008); see also Boston Gas Company/Essex Gas Company/Colonial Gas Company, D.P.U. 10-55, at 40-42 (2010). The Department has docketed this petition as D.P.U. 22-101.

The Company proposes the following charges for Boston Gas Company and the former Colonial Gas Company customers, effective November 1, 2022, through April 30, 2023:

<b>Boston Gas Company and former Colonial Gas Company</b>	
<b>Customer Class</b>	<b>RDAF charges (\$ per therm)</b>
Residential	\$0.0525
Small Commercial and Industrial (“C&I”)	\$0.0348
Medium C&I	\$0.0323
Large C&I	\$0.0275
	<b>RDAF charges (\$ per maximum daily contract quantity in therms)</b>
X-Large C&I (G-44)	\$0.4033
X-Large C&I (G-54B)	\$0.4688
X-Large C&I (G-53E)	\$0.4688

As a result of the proposed changes to the RDAF, the average Boston Gas Company residential heating customer (customer class R-3) using on average 128 therms per month during the peak period will experience a bill increase of \$5.41 or 2.14 percent from the previously effective peak period RDAF. The average former Colonial Gas residential heating customer (customer class R-3) using on average 114 therms per month will experience a bill increase of \$4.83 or 2.33 percent from the previously effective peak period RDAF. The Company states that the average monthly bill impact during the peak season for all Boston Gas Company and former Colonial Gas Company rate classes at each class's average usage will range from increases of between 1.50 percent and 2.33 percent as compared to the previously effective peak period RDAFs. For specific bill impacts, please contact the Company as shown below.

In addition, in accordance with the settlement agreement between the Company and the Attorney General of the Commonwealth in National Grid USA, D.P.U. 21-60, the Company will provide a one-time bill credit in the amount of \$3,720,401 to its electric customers. As approved by the Department in D.P.U. 21-60, the Company will provide this credit through its 2022 Peak Period RDAFs. National Grid USA, D.P.U. 21-60 (July 26, 2022).

Any person who desires to comment on this matter may submit written comments no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Friday, September 30, 2022**. At this time, all filings will be submitted only in electronic format consistent with the Commission's June 15, 2021 directive related to modified filing requirements. Ordinarily, all parties would follow Sections B.1 and B.4 of the Department's Standard Ground Rules (D.P.U. 15-184-A, App. 1 (March 4, 2020)); however, until further notice, parties must retain the original paper version and the Department will later determine when the paper version must be filed with the Department Secretary.

All written comments or other documents should be submitted to the Department in **.pdf format** by e-mail attachment to [dpufiling@mass.gov](mailto:dpufiling@mass.gov), [stephanie.mealey@mass.gov](mailto:stephanie.mealey@mass.gov), and [christine.dowling2@mass.gov](mailto:christine.dowling2@mass.gov). In addition, all written comments should be emailed to the Company's attorney, Meabh Purcell, Esq., at [meabh.purcell@nationalgrid.com](mailto:meabh.purcell@nationalgrid.com). The text of the e-mail must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 22-101); (2) the name of the person or company submitting the filing; and (3) a brief descriptive title of the document. The e-mail must also include the name, title, and telephone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing. The electronic file name should identify the document but should not exceed 50 characters in length. Importantly, all large files submitted must be broken down into electronic files that do not exceed 20 MB. All documents submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's website through our online File Room as soon as practicable (enter "22-101") at: <https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/DPU/Fileroom/dockets/bynumber>.

At this time, a paper copy of the filing will not be available for public viewing at the Company's offices or the Department due to certain ongoing safety measures and precautions relating to in-person events as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The filing and all subsequent related documents, pleadings and/or filings submitted to the Department and/or issued by the Department will be available on the Department's website as referenced above as soon as is practicable. To the extent a person or entity wishes to submit comments in accordance with this Notice, electronic submission, as detailed above, is sufficient. To request materials in accessible

formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), contact the Department's ADA coordinator at [DPUADACoordinator@mass.gov](mailto:DPUADACoordinator@mass.gov).

For further information regarding the Company's filing, please contact the Company's attorney, Meabh Purcell, Esq., at [meabh.purcell@nationalgrid.com](mailto:meabh.purcell@nationalgrid.com) or (781) 907-1789. For further information regarding this Notice, please contact Stephanie Mealey and Christine Dowling, Hearing Officers, Department of Public Utilities, at [stephanie.mealey@mass.gov](mailto:stephanie.mealey@mass.gov) and [christine.dowling2@mass.gov](mailto:christine.dowling2@mass.gov).