



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

NOTICE OF FILING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

D.P.U. 20-115

October 5, 2020

Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a/ National Grid for a waiver of a provision contained in the Company's tariff, M.D.P.U. No. 17.3, High Load Factor General Service Rate – Extra Large Classification No. G-54B.

On June 30, 2020, Boston Gas Company d/b/a/ National Grid ("Company") filed a petition ("Petition") with the Department of Public Utilities ("Department") requesting a waiver of a provision contained in the Company's tariff, M.D.P.U. No. 17.3, High Load Factor General Service Rate – Extra Large Classification No. G-54B ("Tariff"). The Department has docketed this matter as D.P.U. 20-115.

Under the Tariff, the G-54B rate is available to commercial, industrial, and institutional customers ("G-54B Customers") whose metered use in the most recent peak period of November through April is less than seventy percent of the metered use for the most recent twelve consecutive months of September through August, and whose maximum hourly meter capacity is greater than 12,000 cubic feet per hour. As a provision of the Tariff, G-54 Customers are charged a Maximum Daily Contract Quantity ("MDCQ") for the peak (November through April) and off-peak (May through October) season using the prior season's actual historical usage. The provision requires an annual recalculation of the MDCQ using a customer's billing history for the previous peak and off-peak seasons.

The Company requests a waiver of the MDCQ provision of the Tariff for one of its G-54B Customers, General Electric Company ("Customer"). According to the Company, the Customer, who operates an aviation parts production plant in Lynn, MA, has made material changes and improvements to its equipment at the plant, resulting in increased efficiency and reduced gas usage. The Company states that the Customer's plant equipment changes were operational before April 1, 2020, but under the current MDCQ provision, the Customer would not receive the benefit of its reduced load until the redetermination of the off-peak and peak MDCQs effective on May 2021 and November 2021, respectively. As such, the Customer has requested that the Company adjust its MDCQ values used for billing to reflect the reduced usage currently consumed at the plant. Specifically, the Company proposes to deviate from the Tariff's MDCQ provision by determining the Customer's MDCQ for the 2020 off-peak season (May through October 2020), and 2020-2021 peak season (November 2020 through April 2021) for billing purposes using the estimated gas consumption provided by the Customer rather than the previous seasons' actual usage.

The Department will accept written comments on the Company's Petition. Any person interested in commenting on this matter may submit written comments no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **October 15, 2020**. At this time, all filings will be submitted only in electronic format in recognition of the difficulty that parties and the Department may have filing and receiving original copies. On March 10, 2020, Governor Baker issued a state of emergency related to COVID-19 for the entire Commonwealth. 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. Importantly, all large files submitted must be broken down into electronic files that do not exceed 20 MB.

In addition, one copy of all written comments should be emailed to the Company's attorney, Andrea Keeffe, Esq. at Andrea.Keeffe@nationalgrid.com.

All documents must be submitted to the Department in **pdf format** by e-mail attachment to peter.ray@mass.gov and Stephanie.Mealey@mass.gov. The text of the e-mail must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 20-115); (2) the name of the person or company submitting the filing; and (3) a brief descriptive title of the document. All documents submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's website as soon as practicable at <http://www.mass.gov/dpu>. 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 (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format) for people with disabilities contact Department's ADA coordinator at DPUADACoordinator@state.ma.us.

The Company's 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 soon as is practicable at <https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/DPU/Fileroom/dockets/bynumber> (insert "20-115"). 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. Any person desiring further information regarding the Company's filing or a paper copy of the filing should contact Andrea Keeffe, Esq., at 781-907-2123 or Andrea.Keeffe@nationalgrid.com. For further information regarding this notice, please contact Stephanie Mealey, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at Stephanie.Mealey@mass.gov.