



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

NOTICE OF FILING, PUBLIC HEARING, AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

D.P.U. 21-68

July 13, 2021

Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid, for authorization and approval (1) to issue long-term debt in the principal amount of up to \$1.5 billion, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 14; (2) for an exemption from the competitive solicitation and advertising requirements of G.L. c. 164, § 15; and (3) for an exemption from the par value requirements of G.L. c. 164, § 15A.

On June 28, 2021, Boston Gas Company, d/b/a National Grid (“Company”), filed with the Department of Public Utilities (“Department”) a petition for approval and authorization to issue long-term, unsecured debt in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$1.5 billion, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 14. The Company states that the purpose of the proposed financing and requested authorization is: (1) to refinance short-term debt with long-term debt; (2) to finance the Company’s capital needs; (3) to construct utility plant and properties; (4) to reimburse the treasury; (5) to fund maturing debt; and (6) other general corporate purposes, including but not limited to the restructuring of the Company’s capitalization that may consist of taxable bonds, medium or long-term notes, debentures, revolving credit loans, and term or bank loans and similar securities. The Company proposes to issue the new debt with maturities not to exceed 30 years from the date of issuance, at adjustable interest rates or fixed interest rates not exceeding an effective rate of seven percent per annum. The Company seeks to issue new debt from time to time for a period extending three years from the Department’s approval. The Company also seeks exemptions from the competitive solicitation and advertising requirements of G.L. c. 164, § 15, and from the face value requirement for long-term debt of G.L. c. 164, § 15A. The Department docketed this matter as D.P.U. 21-68.

Due to certain ongoing safety measures and precautions relating to in-person events due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department will conduct a virtual public hearing to receive comments on the Company’s filing. The Department will conduct the hearing using Zoom videoconferencing on **Tuesday, August 17, 2021**, beginning at 2:00 p.m. Attendees can join by entering the link, <https://zoom.us/j/95598019236>, from a computer, smartphone, or tablet. No prior software download is required. For audio-only access to the hearings, attendees can dial in at **(646) 558 8656 (not toll free)** and then enter the **Meeting ID# 955 9801 9236**. If you anticipate providing comments via Zoom during the

public hearing, please send an email by **Friday, August 13, 2021**, to kerri.phillips@mass.gov with your name, email address, and mailing address. If you anticipate commenting by telephone, please leave a voicemail message by **Friday, August 13, 2021**, at (617) 305-3611 with your name, telephone number, and mailing address.

Any person interested in commenting on the Company's filing may also submit written comments to the Department no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Tuesday, August 17, 2021**. 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.

Any person who desires to participate otherwise in the evidentiary phase of this proceeding shall file a petition for leave to intervene no later than 5:00 p.m. on **Thursday, August 5, 2021**. A petition for leave to intervene must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 220 CMR 1.03. 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 documents must be submitted to the Department in **.pdf format** by e-mail attachment to dpu.efiling@mass.gov and kerri.phillips@mass.gov. The text of the e-mail must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 21-68); (2) the name of the person or company submitting the filing; and (3) a brief descriptive title of the document. 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 "21-68") at: <https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/DPU/Fileroom/dockets/bynumber>. In addition, one copy of all written comments and petitions to intervene should be emailed to the Company's attorney, Meabh Purcell, Esq., at meabh.purcell@nationalgrid.com.

At this time, a paper copy of the filing will not be available for public viewing at the Company's offices or the Department. 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 or intervene 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.

For further information regarding the Company's filing, please contact the Company's attorney, Meabh Purcell, Esq., at (781) 907-1789 or meabh.purcell@nationalgrid.com. For further information regarding this Notice, please contact Kerri DeYoung Phillips, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at kerri.phillips@mass.gov.