



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

NOTICE OF FILING, PUBLIC HEARING, AND EVIDENTIARY HEARING

D.P.U. 17-37

March 8, 2017

Petition of Colonial Gas Company d/b/a National Grid for authorization and approval to issue long-term debt in the principal amount of up to \$200 million, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, §14; for an exemption from the competitive solicitation and advertising requirements of G.L. c. 164, § 15; and for an exemption from the face value requirements for long-term debt of G.L. c. 164, § 15A.

On February 16, 2017, Colonial 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 \$200 million, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 14. The Company states that the purpose of the proposed financing 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 and consisting of taxable bonds, medium or long-term notes, revolving credit loans, and term or bank loans and similar securities. The Company proposes to issue the new debt 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 of three years after the date of the Department’s approval, with an option to extend that term for an additional two years. The Company also seeks exemptions from the competitive solicitation and advertising requirements of G.L. c. 164, § 15; and for an exemption from the face value requirements for long-term debt of G.L. c. 164, § 15A. The Department docketed this matter as D.P.U. 17-37.

The Department will conduct a public hearing to receive comments on the Company’s petition. The hearing will take place on **Thursday, April 20, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.** at the Department’s offices, One South Station, 5th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110. An evidentiary hearing will take place immediately following the public hearing. Any person who desires to comment may do so at the time and place noted above or submit written comments to the Department not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Thursday, April 20, 2017.**

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, March 30, 2017**. A petition for leave to intervene must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 220 C.M.R. § 1.03, including a description of the manner in which the petitioner is substantially and specifically affected by this proceeding. 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 C.M.R. § 1.01(4). To be allowed, a petition under 220 C.M.R. § 1.03(1) must satisfy the standing requirements of G.L. c. 30A, § 10.

One original and three (3) copies of all written documents must be filed with Mark D. Marini, Secretary, Department of Public Utilities, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts 02110. In addition, one (1) copy of written documents should be sent to the Company's attorney, Camal O. Robinson, Esq., National Grid, 40 Sylvan Road, Waltham, Massachusetts 02451.

All documents should also be submitted to the Department in electronic format using one of the following methods: (1) by e-mail attachment to dpu.efiling@state.ma.us and the Hearing Officer jeffrey.leupold@state.ma.us or (2) on a 3.5" disk or CD-ROM. The text of the e-mail, disk label, or CD-ROM must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 17-37); (2) the name of the person or company submitting the filing; and (3) a brief descriptive title of the document. The electronic filing should also include the name, title, and telephone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing. All documents submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's website (insert docket number 17-37) at: <http://web1.env.state.ma.us/DPU/FileRoom/Dockets/DocketbyNumber>.

The Company's petition is available at the Department's offices, One South Station - 5th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110 for public viewing during business hours and on the Department's website as referenced above. To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), contact Theresa Kelly at Theresa.Kelly@state.ma.us or (617) 305-3642. A copy is also on file for public view during regular business hours at Company's offices, 40 Sylvan Road, Waltham, Massachusetts 02451. Any person desiring further information regarding the petition should contact counsel for the Company, Camal O. Robinson Esq, at (781) 907-3336. Any person desiring further information regarding this notice should contact Jeffrey Leupold, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at (617) 305-3500.

Reasonable accommodations at public or evidentiary hearings for people with disabilities are available upon request. Include a description of the accommodation you will need, including as much detail as you can. Also include a way the Department can contact you if we need more information. Please provide as much advance notice as possible. Last minute

requests will be accepted, but may not be able to be accommodated. Contact Theresa Kelly at Theresa.Kelly@state.ma.us or (617) 305-3642.