



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

### NOTICE OF FILING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

D.P.U. 18-27

March 29, 2018

Request of Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company each d/b/a National Grid for approval of the ratemaking treatment associated with the terms of its Settlement with the Attorney General regarding the improper assessment of certain reconnection fees for non-payment of service.

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On March 9, 2018, Boston Gas Company and Colonial Gas Company, each d/b/a National Grid (“National Grid”), filed with the Department of Public Utilities (“Department”), a request for approval of the ratemaking treatment associated with the terms of a settlement agreement that National Grid entered into with the Attorney General of the Commonwealth (“Attorney General”) on March 6, 2018 (“Settlement”). The Settlement concerns certain residential natural gas customers who were disconnected for non-payment and incorrectly assessed reconnection fees between November 10, 2010 and November 4, 2016.

Among other things, the Settlement establishes a fund to repay all affected customers, with interest (“Restitution Fund”), and provides that any remaining balance in the Restitution Fund be credited to all of National Grid’s customers through its Residential Assistance Adjustment Factor (“RAAF”). The Department has jurisdiction to review the subject matter of the Settlement, including any proposed changes to the RAAF, pursuant to the Department’s general supervisory authority over natural gas distribution companies under G.L. c. 164, § 76 as well as the Department’s authority to set rates under G.L. c. 164, §§ 93, 94. The Department has docketed this filing as D.P.U. 18-27.

A copy of the filing is available for inspection during regular business hours at the Department’s offices. In addition, the filing is also available on the Department’s website at <http://web1.env.state.ma.us/DPU/FileRoom/dockets/bynumber> (enter “18-27”). 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@state.ma.us](mailto:DPUADACoordinator@state.ma.us) or (617) 305-3642.

Any persons wishing to submit written comments on this filing must do so no later than close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Tuesday, April 17, 2018**. One original and one (1) copy of all written documents must be filed with Mark D. Marini, Secretary, Department of Public Utilities, One South Station, 5th Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110. In addition, one copy of all written comments should be sent to the Company's attorney, Patricia Crowe, Esq., National Grid, 40 Sylvan Road, Waltham, Massachusetts 02451 and Matthew Saunders, Assistant Attorney General, Office of Ratepayer Advocacy, Office of the Attorney General, One Ashburton Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02108.

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](mailto:dpu.efiling@state.ma.us) and to the Hearing Officer, Jennifer Cargill, [Jennifer.Cargill@state.ma.us](mailto:Jennifer.Cargill@state.ma.us), or (2) on a CD-ROM. The text of the e-mail or CD-ROM must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 18-27); (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. The electronic file name should identify the document, but should not exceed 50 characters in length. All documents submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's website: <http://www.mass.gov/dpu>.

Any person desiring further information regarding the filing should contact Patricia Crowe, Esq., National Grid, 40 Sylvan Road, Waltham, Massachusetts 02451, (781) 907-1848 or Matthew Saunders, Assistant Attorney General, Office of Ratepayer Advocacy, Office of the Attorney General, One Ashburton Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02108, (617) 727-2200. Any person desiring further information regarding this notice should contact Jennifer Cargill, Hearing Officer at (617) 305-3500.