



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

### NOTICE OF FILING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

D.P.U. 21-84

September 1, 2021

Petition of Boston Gas Company, d/b/a National Grid, pursuant to M.D.P.U. No. 3.12, for Approval of Calendar Year 2020 Gas Business Enablement Program Costs and Gas Business Enablement Factors.

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On August 2, 2021, Boston Gas Company, d/b/a National Grid (“National Grid” or “Company”) filed with the Department of Public Utilities (“Department”) a petition for approval of gas business enablement (“GBE”) factors for effect November 1, 2021. The Company states that the filing is made in accordance with the directives of the Department in Boston Gas Company/Colonial Gas Company, D.P.U. 17-170 (2018) and M.D.P.U. No. 3.12. The Department docketed this matter as D.P.U. 21-84.

The Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (“Attorney General”) filed a notice to intervene in this matter pursuant to G.L. c. 12, § 11E(a). Further, on August 20, 2021, pursuant to G.L. c. 12, § 11E(b), the Attorney General filed a notice of intent to retain expert consultants to assist her investigation of the Company’s filing and has requested Department approval to spend up to \$150,000 in this regard. Pursuant to G.L. c. 12, § 11E(b), the costs incurred by the Attorney General relative to her retention of experts and consultants may be recovered in the Company’s rates. Any person who desires to comment on the Attorney General’s notice of intent to retain experts and consultants may submit written comments to the Department not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Wednesday, September 29, 2021**.

National Grid reports total cost allocations from its service company, National Grid USA Service Company, Inc., for calendar year 2020 of \$6,770,698 and \$1,971,513 for the Boston Gas Division and the Colonial Gas Division, respectively. The Company removed the costs previously included in base distribution rates and added the prior-year under-recovery amounts, resulting in a total to be recovered through rates of \$6,505,120 and \$1,901,034 for the Boston Gas Division and the Colonial Gas Division, respectively. If approved, the costs will be recovered from National Grid’s customers through the gas business enablement factors (“GBEFs”) for effect November 1, 2021.

The Company proposes the following GBEFs by rate class:

	Boston Gas Division	Colonial Gas Division
Rate Class	\$/Therm	\$/Therm
Residential	\$0.0074	\$0.0088
Small Commercial & Industrial (“C&I”)	\$0.0057	\$0.0062
Medium C&I	\$0.0049	\$0.0046
Large C&I	\$0.0040	\$0.0035
Extra Large C&I	\$0.0030	\$0.0000

The bill impacts are estimated to be near zero for all rate classes.

Any person interested in commenting on this matter may submit written comments no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Wednesday, September 29, 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. Written comments from the public may be sent by email to [DPU.efiling@mass.gov](mailto:DPU.efiling@mass.gov), [Jessica.Ellis@mass.gov](mailto:Jessica.Ellis@mass.gov), and the Company’s attorney, Stacey M. Donnelly, at [Stacey.donnelly@nationalgrid.com](mailto:Stacey.donnelly@nationalgrid.com). The Department strongly encourages public comments to be submitted by email. If, however, a member of the public is unable to send written comments by email, a paper copy may be sent to Mark D. Marini, Secretary, Department of Public Utilities, One South Station, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110, as well as to the Company’s attorney, Stacey M. Donnelly, Senior Counsel, National Grid, 30 Sylvan Road, Waltham, Massachusetts, 02451.

Any person who desires to participate in the evidentiary phase of this proceeding must file a written petition for leave to intervene or to participate in the proceeding no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Wednesday, September 29, 2021**. 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. Petitions for leave to intervene or participate should be submitted electronically to [DPU.efiling@mass.gov](mailto:DPU.efiling@mass.gov), [Jessica.Ellis@mass.gov](mailto:Jessica.Ellis@mass.gov), and the Company's attorney, Stacey M. Donnelly, at [Stacey.donnelly@nationalgrid.com](mailto:Stacey.donnelly@nationalgrid.com).

All documents must be submitted to the Department in **.pdf format**. Documents provided to the Department must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 21-84); (2) the name of the person or company submitting the filing; (3) a brief descriptive title of the document; and (4) the name, title, email address, 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 "21-84") 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 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 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](mailto:DPUADACoordinator@mass.gov).

For further information regarding the Company's petition, please contact counsel for the Company, Stacey M. Donnelly, Senior Counsel, National Grid, at 30 Sylvan Road, Waltham, Massachusetts, 02451, or by email at [Stacey.donnelly@nationalgrid.com](mailto:Stacey.donnelly@nationalgrid.com). For further information regarding this notice, please contact Jessica L. Ellis, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at [jessica.ellis@mass.gov](mailto:jessica.ellis@mass.gov).