



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

### **NOTICE OF FILING, PUBLIC HEARING, STAKEHOLDER MEETING, AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS**

D.P.U. 23-85

November 14, 2023

Petition of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company each d/b/a National Grid for Approval to Offer Optional Electric Vehicle Time-of-Use Rates.

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On August 11, 2023, Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company, each d/b/a National Grid (“Company” or “National Grid”), filed with the Department of Public Utilities (“Department”) a petition for approval of its optional electric vehicle (“EV”) time-of-use (“TOU”) rates proposal. The Company filed its EV TOU rates proposal pursuant to Chapter 179 of the Acts of 2022, An Act Driving Clean Energy and Offshore Wind. The Department docketed this petition as D.P.U. 23-85.

In its petition, National Grid proposes to offer a Rate EV-1 rate class to residential and small commercial customers with EV chargers and to owners of public EV charging stations with metered demand less than or equal to 200 kilowatts. National Grid states that: (1) the Company designed the proposed Rate EV-1 rate class to offer distribution and supply (*i.e.*, basic service) rate components that incentivize EV charging during off-peak hours; and (2) the proposed Rate EV-1 rate class applies only to electricity used to charge an EV. As proposed, customers who opt-in to the Rate EV-1 rate class must have a separately metered EV charger to meter EV load. The Company submitted an exemplar tariff for the proposed Rate EV-1 rate class.

The Company’s proposed Rate EV-1 employs a TOU rate design with three components: (1) a fixed customer charge; (2) volumetric TOU energy rates for distribution; and (3) volumetric TOU energy rates for basic service. Additionally, the Company proposes to apply reconciling rates as currently structured to the Rate EV-1 rate class based on the general service, small commercial and industrial retail delivery service G-1 rate class. The Company designed the EV TOU rates with two time periods: (1) a peak period of 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for non-holiday weekdays; and (2) an off-peak period for all other times. National Grid proposes to offer the Rate EV-1 rate class to customers no sooner than one year after it installs its first advanced

metering infrastructure meters and associated supporting systems, which the Company plans to roll out between 2025 and 2028.

If the Company's petition is approved as proposed, National Grid states that the bill impacts for EV users that opt-in to the Rate EV-1 rate class will vary based on several factors, including usage and when an EV is charged. The Company estimates that, based on current electric rates, a residential customer who charges their EV only during the off-peak period would save on average up to \$23 per month under Rate EV-1 compared to the residential Rate R-1. Lastly, National Grid states that the electric rates for customers that do not own an EV will not change as a result of the proposal.

The Department will conduct a virtual public hearing to receive comments on the Company's filing. The public hearing will be immediately followed by a procedural conference. The Department will conduct the hearings using Zoom videoconferencing on **Wednesday, December 13, 2023, beginning at 2:00 p.m.** Attendees can join by entering the link, <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86954605205>, from a computer, smartphone, or tablet. No prior software download is required. For audio-only access to the hearings, attendees can dial in at 1-646-931-3860 (**not toll free**) and then enter the **Meeting ID# 869 5460 5205**. If you anticipate providing comments via Zoom during the public hearing, please send an email by **Tuesday, December 12, 2023**, to [Scott.Seigal@mass.gov](mailto:Scott.Seigal@mass.gov) and [Kevin.Crane@mass.gov](mailto:Kevin.Crane@mass.gov) with your name, email address, and mailing address.

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, December 13, 2023**. Written comments from the public may be sent by email to [dpu.efiling@mass.gov](mailto:dpu.efiling@mass.gov), [Scott.Seigal@mass.gov](mailto:Scott.Seigal@mass.gov), [Kevin.Crane@mass.gov](mailto:Kevin.Crane@mass.gov), and the Company's attorneys, Bonnie Raffetto, Esq., at [Bonnie.Raffetto@nationalgrid.com](mailto:Bonnie.Raffetto@nationalgrid.com), John Habib, Esq., at [jhabib@keeganwerlin.com](mailto:jhabib@keeganwerlin.com), and Michael Hershberg, Esq., at [mhershberg@keeganwerlin.com](mailto:mhershberg@keeganwerlin.com). Please note that, in the interest of transparency, any comments will be posted to our website as received and without redacting personal information, such as addresses, telephone numbers, or email addresses. As such, consider the extent of information you wish to share when submitting comments. 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, Boston, Massachusetts, 02110.

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 **Wednesday, December 6, 2023**. A petition for leave to intervene must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 220 CMR 1.03. Receipt by the Department 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 responses to

petitions to intervene must be filed by the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on the second business day after the petition to intervene was filed.

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. Further, pursuant to G.L. c. 12, § 11E(b), the Attorney General filed a notice of intent to retain experts and 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 seeks to intervene in this matter and also desires to comment on the Attorney General’s notice of intent to retain experts and consultants must submit written comments to the Department not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **Wednesday, December 6, 2023**.

Additionally, the Department has requested that National Grid convene, within 60 days of the public hearing, a stakeholder meeting to provide interested persons the opportunity to discuss the EV TOU rates proposal with the Company. Details on the stakeholder meeting will be posted on the Company’s website and the Department’s website at a later date.

All documents should be submitted to the Department in **.pdf format** by e-mail attachment to [dpu.efiling@mass.gov](mailto:dpu.efiling@mass.gov), [Scott.Seigal@mass.gov](mailto:Scott.Seigal@mass.gov), and [Kevin.Crane@mass.gov](mailto:Kevin.Crane@mass.gov). The text of the e-mail must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 23-85); (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 through our online File Room as soon as practicable (enter “23-85”) 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 attorneys, Bonnie Raffetto, Esq., at [Bonnie.Raffetto@nationalgrid.com](mailto:Bonnie.Raffetto@nationalgrid.com), John Habib, Esq., at [jhabib@keeganwerlin.com](mailto:jhabib@keeganwerlin.com), and Michael Hershberg, Esq., at [mhershberg@keeganwerlin.com](mailto:mhershberg@keeganwerlin.com).

The filing and all subsequent related documents submitted to the Department 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 [Gabriella.Knight@mass.gov](mailto:Gabriella.Knight@mass.gov).

For further information regarding the Company’s filing, please contact the Company’s attorneys, identified above. For further information regarding this Notice, please contact Scott Seigal, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at [scott.seigal@mass.gov](mailto:scott.seigal@mass.gov) or Kevin Crane, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at [kevin.crane@mass.gov](mailto:kevin.crane@mass.gov).



