

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN RE: IMPLEMENTATION OF A
RENEWABLE ENERGY STANDARD
(810-RICR-40-05-2)

DOCKET NO. 24-11-RM

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

April 11, 2024

1:01 p.m.

89 Jefferson Boulevard

Warwick, Rhode Island

- Before -

Ronald T. Gerwatowski, Chairman

Also present:

John C. Revens, Jr., Commissioner

Abigail Anthony, Commissioner

Cynthia Wilson-Frias

Todd Bianco

Janine M. Andrews, RPR

1 THE CHAIRMAN: Good afternoon. This
2 is Docket Number 24-11-RM of the Public Utilities
3 Commission offices in Warwick. Today, the
4 commissioner's conducting a hearing. It is April 11,
5 2024. We're located in our hearing room in Warwick.
6 The purpose of this hearing is to accept comments on
7 a proposed rulemaking process to amend rules entitled
8 Implementation of a Renewal Energy Standard, which is
9 810-RICR-40-05-2. This hearing is being streamed
10 live on our stream link, and is being recorded. In a
11 minute, I'm going to give some information for anyone
12 who wants to give public comment remotely. Let me go
13 to another part of the notice first.

14 The proposed rules are amended to reflect the
15 statutory changes that were enacted in June of 2022
16 by the General Assembly. The proposed amendment
17 changes the annual percentages of renewal energy
18 required to achieve a one hundred percent renewable
19 energy standard by 2033. Proposed amendments also
20 include administrative changes to provide
21 clarification, and is updated to reflect actual
22 practice. Written comments on the proposed rules can
23 still be filed no later than April 24, 2024 with the
24 Commission clerk to the following address or email to
25 Luly.Massaro@puc.ri.gov. The address, if you are

1 sending something in writing, is to Luly E. Massaro.
2 The last name is spelled M-A-S-S-A-R-O, director to
3 the Public Utilities Commission, 89 Jefferson
4 Boulevard in Warwick. The zip code is 02888. In the
5 development of the proposed regulations,
6 consideration was given to the following: One,
7 alternative approaches; two, overlap or duplication
8 with other statutory and regulatory provisions; and
9 three, significant economic impact on small
10 businesses. No alternative approach, duplication, or
11 overlap was identified based on available
12 information, and no significant economic impact on
13 small businesses was defined in Rhode Island General
14 Laws, as identified. These proposed rules are
15 available at the Commission office, and also on our
16 website under Docket Number 24-11-RM. We're going to
17 do public comments today for anyone that is present
18 with us, and we'll start with them first, but before
19 we do that, I'm going to give information for anyone
20 who may be watching on our internet link. If you
21 wish to participate, there are two ways you can do
22 that remotely. One is by Zoom link, and I'll give
23 you the information to participate that way. The
24 other is a telephone call that you can make into our
25 offices here to the hearing room. So, those who want

1 to make public comment via the Zoom link can do so by
2 clicking the link that is located on the notice in
3 our Docket 24-11-RM, and you can find that on the
4 Commission's website. However, if you don't have
5 access to the website, or wish to do it by phone, in
6 any event, you can call us, and we'll receive the
7 call here in our hearing room, and be able to hear
8 you. I'm going to give the phone number and the
9 meeting number, and I'll give those numbers twice.
10 The phone number is 929-205-6099. I'll repeat that:
11 929-205-6099, and when the call is answered, you
12 would enter the meeting number, which is 84718369423,
13 followed by the pound sign. I'll repeat that:
14 84718369423, followed by the pound symbol. If you're
15 not interested in providing comment, certainly you
16 can watch it live, and I've indicated the address to
17 which you can send any written comments. Let me
18 first start by looking out in our audience. I don't
19 see anyone, where it appears there will be any
20 comment. Ms. Hogan, do you have a comment?

21 MS. HOGAN: Mr. Chairman, members of
22 the Public Utilities Commission, Margaret Hogan for
23 the Division of Public Utilities & Carriers.
24 Division appreciates the opportunity to comment on
25 the Commission's proposed rulemaking. We have come

1 down to let you know we have received notice of the
2 rulemaking, and to the extent the Division wishes to
3 make any comment, we will do so in writing by the
4 prescribed deadline. Thank you.

5 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Ms. Hogan.
6 I don't see anyone else in the audience, other than
7 the staffers, so what we'll do right now is we'll
8 turn to the Zoom mechanism; and since I'm not as
9 technologically advanced as Dr. Bianco is, I'll let
10 you handle this, Todd.

11 MR. BIANCO: Chairman, there's one
12 member of the public in our Zoom meeting. It's Carl
13 van Warmerdam. I'm going to now unmute
14 Mr. van Warmerdam. Mr. van Warmerdam, this is Todd
15 Bianco, staff at the Public Utilities Commission. If
16 you could unmute yourself, and just spell your name
17 for the court reporter as you begin your public
18 comment. Thank you.

19 MR. VAN WARMERDAMN: I have no comment
20 at this time.

21 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

22 MR. BIANCO: Thank you.

23 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Todd, do we
24 have any other parties that are interested in making
25 a comment?

1 MR. BIANCO: No, Chair.

2 THE CHAIRMAN: What we'll do is we'll
3 wait another five minutes, approximately five
4 minutes, see if anyone else joins, and we'll go off
5 the record.

6 (OFF THE RECORD)

7 THE CHAIRMAN: So, we're back on the
8 record. Dr. Bianco, do we have anybody else in the
9 line?

10 MR. BIANCO: We don't have anybody.
11 Mr. van Warmerdam is still there, but as I
12 understand, he does not.

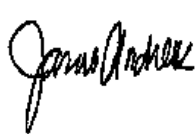
13 THE CHAIRMAN: I see no one else here
14 in the audience, and so this would complete our
15 public comment hearing. Thank you very much.

16 (HEARING CONCLUDED AT 1:12 P.M.)
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C-E-R-T-I-F-I-C-A-T-E

I, JANINE ANDREWS, do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript is true, complete and accurate, taken at the time of the above-entitled matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 22nd day of April 2024.

JANINE ANDREWS, NOTARY PUBLIC
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: OCTOBER 31, 2025