



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

NOTICE OF FILING AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

D.P.U. 24-GREC-03

May 9, 2024

Petition of Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 145, for review and approval of the reconciliation of its 2023 Gas System Enhancement Plan and its Gas System Enhancement Reconciliation Adjustment Factors.

On May 1, 2024, Boston Gas Company (“Boston Gas Division”) d/b/a National Grid (“National Grid” or “Company”) submitted to the Department of Public Utilities (“Department”) a reconciliation of its 2023 gas system enhancement plan (“GSEP”) to replace aging natural gas pipeline infrastructure. According to the Company, it calculates a revenue requirement of \$26,338,344 for the Boston Gas Division and \$1,354,584 for the former Colonial Gas Company (“Colonial Gas Division”).

For the Boston Gas Division, the Company states that its proposed revenue requirement exceeds the three-percent GSEP cap by \$24,626,140. The Company does not request a waiver from the three-percent cap. Instead, the Company proposes to defer the over-the-cap amount for recovery through the GSEP in future years or under traditional ratemaking in the Company’s next base distribution rate case. The amount allowed for recovery under the three-percent cap for the Boston Gas Division is \$1,712,205. To this amount, the Company credits the final ending balances of costs related to the repair of grade three leaks of significant environmental impact (“G3SEI”) of \$557,904 for the Boston Gas Division, resulting in a net amount of \$1,154,301 to be collected for the Boston Gas Division through the gas system enhancement reconciliation adjustment factors (“GSERAFs”) for the period from November 1, 2024 through October 31, 2025.

For the Colonial Gas Division, the Company’s proposed revenue requirement of \$1,354,584 falls below the three-percent GSEP cap. To this amount, the Company credits the final ending balances of costs related to the repair of G3SEI leaks of \$182,470 for the Colonial Gas Division, resulting in a net amount of \$1,172,115 to be collected for the Colonial Gas Division through the GSERAFs for the period from November 1, 2024 through October 31, 2025. The Department has docketed this matter as D.P.U. 24-GREC-03.

National Grid proposes, for Boston Gas Company, the following GSERAFs by rate class sector for effect November 1, 2024:

Rate Class Sector	Proposed GSERAF (\$/Therm)
Residential (R-1 to R-4)	\$0.0011
Small Commercial and Industrial (“C&I”) (G-41/G-51)	\$0.0011
Medium C&I (G-42/G-52)	\$0.0010
Large C&I (G-43/G-53)	\$0.0009
Extra-Large C&I (G-44/G-54)	\$0.0007

National Grid proposes, for the Colonial Gas Division, the following GSERAFs by rate sector for effect November 1, 2024:

Rate Class Sector	Proposed GSERAF (\$/Therm)
Residential (R-1 to R-4)	\$0.0049
Small C&I (G-41/G-51)	\$0.0042
Medium C&I (G-42/G-52)	\$0.0040
Large C&I (G-43/G-53)	\$0.0017

National Grid states that approval of the GSERAFs for Boston Gas Company will result in an average monthly bill increase of \$0.16, or 0.1 percent, for the average residential heating customer using 107 therms per month during winter months, and an average monthly bill increase of \$0.04, or 0.1 percent, for the average residential heating customer using 23 therms per month during summer months. National Grid states that approval of the GSERAFs for the Colonial Gas Division will result in an average monthly bill decrease of \$0.03, or zero percent, for the average residential heating customer using 107 therms per month during winter months, and an average monthly bill decrease of \$0.01, or zero percent, for the average residential heating customer using 23 therms per month during summer months.

The Department is providing a written comment period and any person interested in commenting on this matter may submit written comments no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on Friday, June 14, 2024. Written comments from the public may be sent by email to dpu.efiling@mass.gov, elyssa.klein@mass.gov, and the Company’s attorneys, Patrick Houghton, at patrick.houghton@nationalgrid.com and Kevin Penders, at kpenders@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 Tuesday, May 28, 2024. 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 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 Tuesday, May 28, 2024.

All documents should be submitted to the Department in **.pdf format** by email attachment to dpu.efiling@mass.gov and elyssa.klein@mass.gov. The text of the email must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 24-GREC-02); (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 “24-GREC-02”) at: <https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/DPU/Flerom/dockets/bynumber>. In addition, one copy of all written comments and petitions to intervene should be emailed to the Company’s attorneys, Patrick Houghton, at patrick.houghton@nationalgrid.com and Kevin Penders, at kpenders@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 Andrea.R.Casul@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 Elyssa Klein, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at elyssa.klein@mass.gov.