

Dear Chairman Solomon & members of the Corporations committee,

H 6631 is a more than timely bill from your colleague, considering the spate of increasingly harsh storms that had knocked out power to tens of thousands of Rhode Island this winter and past hurricane season, sometimes for multiple days on end. It should not be considered too much for a massive private utility conglomerate to have a set plan or guidelines to the state on the status of their equipment that failed 43,000 out of the 70,000 National Grid customers in Washington County after one recent storm late last year. It should not be seen as some massive burden for the utility corporation to report on things like the rate of outages by their equipment and cases of service disruption. It is also vitally important to have a report provided identifying the communities that suffer above average rates of power problems, This can provide the state with critical information on where our power grid is in the most unstable conditions. We already know that communities from East Providence to Foster experience an unseemly amount of power outages, sometimes even several in a matter of days. Why does it keep happening and if National Grid says they already do all of these things the bill purports to do, then why haven't they fixed the problem. The current untenable state of Rhode Island's power grid has been allowed to become this bad as necessary bills like this have gone by the wayside for years. It demonstrates perfectly why H 6631 is so necessary to pass. I urge you to do so.

Sincerely,

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