

HB-5819

PUC



## STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

### Public Utilities Commission

89 Jefferson Boulevard  
Warwick, Rhode Island 02888  
(401) 941-4500

Chairman Ronald T. Gerwatowski  
Commissioner Abigail Anthony

April 1, 2025

The Honorable Joseph J. Solomon, Jr.  
Chair, House Corporations Committee  
State House  
Providence, RI 02903

Re: House Bill 5819 – Net Metering

Dear Chair Solomon:

The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) is neutral on HB-5819 related to Net Metering and which would reduce the excess net metering credit to “the wholesale rate.”

As drafted, the PUC believes this bill intends the “wholesale rate” to be the blended cost of Rhode Island Energy’s wholesale supply contracts to serve LRS Supply customers without any administrative costs or Renewable Energy Standard costs included. Therefore, as of March 31, 2025, the amendment would reduce the current excess net metering credit from 15.187 cents per kWh to 14.918 per kWh. When the LRS administrative factors result in a credit, as they will on April 1, 2025, the amended language may result in a higher excess net metering credit than is currently paid out.

The PUC notes that the language in this bill is markedly different from that of HB 5580, which also sets the excess credit to “the wholesale electricity rate” but adds “which is hereby declared to be the ISO New England energy clearing price.” In our letter regarding HB 5580, the PUC will caution that such a design may be difficult to implement and cedes ratemaking authority to federal regulators.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at 401-780-2147 or [cynthia.wilsonfrias@puc.ri.gov](mailto:cynthia.wilsonfrias@puc.ri.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cynthia G. Wilson-Frias".

Cynthia G. Wilson-Frias  
Chief of Legal Services

cc: Representative Lima