



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES & CARRIERS

Administration

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April 28, 2026

The Honorable Robert Britto
Senate Committee on Commerce
State House
Providence, R.I. 02903

Re: S 2631 – Public Utilities and Carriers – Public Utilities Commission

Dear Chairman Britto:

The Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (“Division”) appreciates the opportunity to submit comments regarding Senate Bill No. 2631, which mandates that the Division and Public Utilities Commission (“PUC”) produce a comprehensive report on potential energy rate reductions by April 30, 2027.

The Division takes its role as ratepayer advocate seriously and our agency endeavors to identify utility rate efficiencies and savings wherever possible. Indeed, that is our core mission.

Through our daily work across Division and PUC dockets, our agency reviews and investigates each program and factor impacting Rhode Island ratepayers. To that end, the Division currently is deeply engaged in PUC Docket 25-45-GE, the Application for Approval of a Change in Electric and Gas Base Distribution Rates Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §§39-3-10 and 39-3-1.

This is the comprehensive rate case recently proposed by Rhode Island Energy. The Division is working tirelessly to hold rising energy costs at bay in both the rate case and all other Dockets before the PUC.

The Division appreciates the intent of the proposed comprehensive study but respectfully opposes the mandated report – and the associated consultant expenses – which would duplicate the Division's ongoing effective advocacy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda George".

Linda D. George, Esq.
Administrator, RI Division of Public Utilities and Carriers

Cc. The Honorable Todd Patalano
The Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce
Kristen Silvia, Director of Legislation and Deputy Chief of Staff