

April 7, 2026

The Honorable Robert Britto  
Chairman, Senate Commerce Committee  
Rhode Island State House  
Providence, Rhode Island 02908

**RE: S-3125 – Relating to Public Utilities & Carriers – Regulatory Powers of Administration –  
Informational Notice on Gas Bills**

Dear Chairman Britto:

On behalf of Rhode Island Energy, I am writing regarding S-3125, which proposes requirements for informational notices on natural gas bills. Rhode Island Energy values the intent of this legislation, namely, to improve transparency and enhance customer understanding of the charges on their utility bills. It is why our Company is actively contemplating alternative bill design templates, inclusive of visual illustrations, while being mindful of potential cost and billing system implications. In that vein, Rhode Island Energy has several concerns that warrant consideration.

Rhode Island Energy provides essential energy services to more than 770,000 customers across the state through the delivery of electricity and natural gas. Our team of 1,300+ union and non-union employees is dedicated to helping Rhode Island customers and communities thrive, while supporting the transition to a cleaner energy future in a safe, reliable, and affordable manner.

**Any change to the design of billing templates requires a thorough examination not only of the implications for customer transparency, but also of operational costs and technical constraints (e.g., the limitations of our billing systems and software). For these reasons, we welcome the opportunity to work with the Committee and bill sponsors on practical amendments that can achieve our shared goal of improved transparency while avoiding technical inefficiencies and mitigating costs that may ultimately be borne by customers.**

In addition, we respectfully recommend that the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (DPUC) be *consulted* in any future bill re-design, with Company notification provided at least 30 days in advance of substantive changes going into effect. This would provide the gas distribution company with vital operational discretion on final formatting pursuant to statutory guidance. **Utility bill design is a critical tool for customer engagement, communication, and operational efficiency which can be optimally balanced by the company ultimately charged with delivering on all those fronts.**

In closing, Rhode Island Energy appreciates the broad intent of this bill and welcomes the opportunity to collaborate with the bill's sponsors in the days ahead.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Nicholas S. Ucci  
Director of Government Affairs  
Rhode Island Energy

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Providence, Rhode Island 02907  
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Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "NSU".

Nicholas S. Ucci  
Director of Government Affairs

CC: The Honorable Members of the Senate Commerce Committee  
The Honorable Frank A. Ciccone III, Majority Leader, Rhode Island Senate