

2019 -- H 5686

LC001425

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

HOUSE RESOLUTION

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THAT THE RHODE ISLAND DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE RHODE ISLAND ATTORNEY GENERAL AND NATIONAL GRID INVESTIGATE AND DETERMINE THE CAUSES FOR THE RECENT LOSS OF GAS UTILITY SERVICE ON AQUIDNECK ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Carson, Abney, Cortvriend, and Ruggiero

Date Introduced: February 27, 2019

Referred To: House Corporations

1 WHEREAS, Beginning on Monday night, January 21, 2019, a natural gas shutdown on  
2 Aquidneck Island affected 7,100 National Grid customers and occurred in the midst of a severely  
3 bitter cold front that was hitting Rhode Island; and

4 WHEREAS, With temperatures in the single digits until Tuesday morning and only rising  
5 into the 20's later that day, Aquidneck Island residents who had lost their gas heat were forced to  
6 scramble and quickly find new places to stay, be it with relatives or at a hotel. They were, at the  
7 least, severely inconvenienced, and this emergency possibly imperiled the health of some  
8 citizens, especially the elderly, the very young, and the infirm; and

9 WHEREAS, Area businesses were also impacted, as many were forced to close.  
10 Employees lost wages and employers lost revenue as a result of this crisis; now, therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and  
12 Providence Plantations hereby respectfully requests that the Division of Public Utilities and  
13 Carriers, in conjunction with the Rhode Island Attorney General and National Grid investigate  
14 and determine the causes for the recent loss of gas utility service on Aquidneck Island; and be it  
15 further

16 RESOLVED, That this House hereby requests the Division of Public Utilities and  
17 Carriers to report back to the House on or before June 4, 2019; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to

1 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Honorable Gina M. Raimondo, Governor of  
2 the State of Rhode Island, Peter F. Neronha, Rhode Island Attorney General, Macky McCleary,  
3 Administrator of the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers, and Mr. Tim Horan, President &  
4 COO, Rhode Island Jurisdiction, National Grid.

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