

June 26, 2025

VIA U.S. MAIL TO MUNICIPAL COUNCILS
VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL TO MUNICIPAL COUNCILS,
TREE WARDENS AND TREE COMMISSIONS

Bristol Town Council
10 Court Street
Bristol, RI 02809

**RE: The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a Rhode Island Energy
2025 Vegetation Management Standards and Practices
Division Docket No. D-25-15
Notification to Municipalities**

Dear Bristol Town Council:

We write to inform you that The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a Rhode Island Energy (the “Company”) filed its proposed 2025 Vegetation Management Standards and Practices (“Vegetation Standards”) with the Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (“Division”) on June 23, 2025.

The filing may be accessed on the Division’s website, through Docket No. D-25-15, at: [D-25-15-RIE 2025 Vegetation Standards \(DPUC 6-23-25\).pdf](https://www.rienergy.com/site/outages-and-safety/safety/gas-and-electric-safety/trees-and-your-electric-service) for on the Company’s website at: <https://www.rienergy.com/site/outages-and-safety/safety/gas-and-electric-safety/trees-and-your-electric-service>

Company Contact for Filing

If you have any questions about the filing or would like a hard copy of the filing, please contact:

Christopher J. Rooney
Rhode Island Energy
Manager – Forestry
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Phone: 401-255-4439

Background

In 2024, the General Assembly enacted the Vegetation Management for Electric System Reliability Act (the “Act”), codified as R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-34-1 et seq. The Act sets forth a process for developing, reviewing, and approving the Vegetation Standards.

On March 20, 2025, the Company met with and presented its proposed Vegetation Standards to municipal tree wardens.¹ At the meeting, the Company and tree wardens discussed the type of vegetation work that would be performed by the Company. Overall, the presentation was well received. Following the presentation, the Company solicited written comments on the Vegetation Standards. No written comments were submitted.

On April 10, 2025, the Company hosted a virtual presentation of the Vegetation Standards.² The Company went through all aspects of its program including the more in-depth notification procedures set forth in the Vegetation Standards. Again, the presentation was well received.

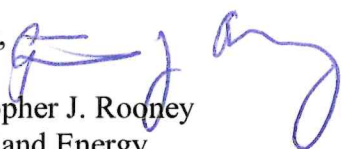
On June 23, 2025, the Company filed its proposed Vegetation Standards with the Division. The Division has 90 days to render a decision. This period includes at least a 30-day public comment period. In accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-34-3(e), the Company is sending this letter to each city and town council informing them that the Vegetation Standards have been filed with the Division.

Summary of Vegetation Standards

The Vegetation Standards contain the major components of the Company's Vegetation Department's activities. This ranges from cycle trimming to risk reduction work. Each activity is outlined in the Vegetation Standards. In addition, the filing contains the Company's vegetation specifications as well as customer notification materials. Overall, the proposed Vegetation Standards are not much different than current practice. The Standards simply create a more robust notification process for customers so they can be informed of future vegetation management activities.

Thank you for your attention to this filing.

Sincerely,


/s Christopher J. Rooney
Rhode Island Energy
Manager – Forestry

¹ The following municipalities were represented at the meeting: North Kingstown, Newport, Exeter, West Greenwich, Glocester, East Providence. Also in attendance were individuals representing Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management ("RIDEM") forestry division, Rhode Island Department of Transportation ("RIDOT"), and the Green Infrastructure Center.

² The following municipalities joined the virtual meeting: Central Falls, Warren, North Smithfield, Warwick, East Providence, Coventry, Smithfield, Newport, North Kingstown, South Kingstown, Johnston, Narragansett. In addition, individuals from RIDEM forestry division, Division staff, and the Newport Tree Commission attended.