



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
HISTORICAL PRESERVATION & HERITAGE COMMISSION

Old State House 150 Benefit Street Providence, RI 02903

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DATE: January 2, 2008

RE: Installation of gas meters on the exterior of registered historic buildings

In September 2007, it was brought to the attention of the Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission that contractors for National Grid were in the process of installing gas meters on the exterior of historic buildings in the College Hill Historic District in Providence. RIHPHC contacted the State Public Utilities Commission and learned that National Grid is responsible for assuring the safety of natural gas lines from the street to the meter, and when meters are located inside a building it is difficult for National Grid to carry out the required safety inspections.

RIHPHC noted that thousands of historic buildings would be negatively impacted by having the gas meter installed on the exterior front of the building, and that property owners who have invested in historic restoration would not be happy to see a gas meter installed on their house.

The immediate result of these discussions is an Owner Waiver form that allows an owner to agree to provide National Grid access for inspections in return for placing the gas meter inside the historic building.



October xx, 2007

Dear Resident,

The Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission and the Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities and Carriers have expressed concern regarding the installation of gas meters by National Grid ("the Company") on the exterior of buildings in the College Hill Historic District in Providence.

National Grid's current practice is to install new and relocate existing gas meters, where feasible, to the exterior of dwellings in order to provide the Company with simple access to its equipment and Company property for routine and mandated maintenance activities.

Based on the above concern that gas meters located on the outside of historic properties creates a visual intrusion, National Grid agrees that it waive its current practice and will locate the gas meter inside your historical property.

It is important for you to understand, however, that National Grid has a legal obligation to perform safety activities on its gas facilities within specific timeframes, which will require access to the meter inside your property. As such, by accepting the installation of the meter set inside your property, you agree that:

1. You will provide National Grid with access to the inside facilities at least every 36 months, or as necessary to perform required maintenance.
2. If you deny the Company access to its equipment, National Grid has the right to terminate the delivery of natural gas to your property.

Please sign below to confirm your understanding of the requirements associated with the above waiver.

Sincerely,

Alfred Amaral
Manager, Gas Operations

Agreed to by:

Resident signature & address