

Exhibit No.\_\_\_\_ (NMP-3)

Direct Testimony of James Holodak

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
BEFORE THE  
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation )

Docket No. ER14- \_\_\_\_\_

Direct Testimony  
Of  
James G. Holodak Jr.

1 **I. Introduction and Qualifications:**

2 **Q. Please state your name and business address.**

3 A. James Holodak, Jr. One Metrotech Center Brooklyn, NY

4

5 **Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?**

6 A. I am employed by National Grid USA Service Company as Vice President of Regulatory  
7 Strategy & Integrated Analytics. National Grid USA Service Company provides  
8 administrative, accounting, finance, IT, engineering, regulatory, and legal services for  
9 National Grid USA's operating companies, one of which is Niagara Mohawk Power  
10 Corporation d/b/a National Grid ("National Grid" or "Company"). In my current  
11 position, I oversee wholesale transmission and generation rates for the FERC regulated  
12 subsidiaries as well as regulatory strategy and analytical analysis for the state regulated  
13 subsidiaries of National Grid USA. I was part of the National Grid team that negotiated  
14 both of the Reliability Support Services Agreements with NRG Energy that are included  
15 with this filing.

16

17 **Q. Please describe your educational background and training.**

18 A. I hold both a Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering and an MBA in Finance from  
19 Manhattan College. Effective April 2011, I was appointed Vice President of Regulatory  
20 Strategy & Integrated Analytics for National Grid's US operations. From August 2007  
21 to March 2011, I was Director of Finance, Electric Distribution & Generation, where I  
22 was responsible for budgeting, financial analysis and support, financial reporting and

1 strategic support for the Generation and Long Island Power Authority Finance segment  
2 of National Grid USA's Electric Distribution and Generation business functions. From  
3 September 2001 to August 2007, I was the Assistant Treasurer for the former KeySpan  
4 Company, which was acquired by National Grid USA. From 1998 to 2001, I was  
5 Director of Financial Planning and Analysis for KeySpan performing short-term and  
6 long-term financial forecasting and strategy. Prior to that, I was a manager in Financial  
7 Planning, Corporate Planning and M&A Economic Analysis, and held various  
8 engineering positions in Electric Operations, Marketing, and Engineering and  
9 Construction in LILCO, KeySpan's predecessor company.

10  
11 **Q. Have you submitted testimony in any prior rate proceedings?**

12 A. Yes. I have previously provided testimony before the Federal Energy Regulatory  
13 Commission ("Commission"), supporting changes to National Grid's Transmission  
14 Service Charge ("TSC") rate in Docket No. ER12-1394-000 and, as part of a joint panel  
15 in National Grid Generation LLC's rate case reset filing, in Docket No. ER09-628-000.  
16 The panel was responsible for the development of forecasted data upon which the cost of  
17 service was prepared. I also provided testimony and exhibits in National Grid  
18 Generation LLC's rate reset case filing in Docket No. ER04-112-000 before the  
19 Commission as the Company's cost of capital and capital structure witness. I have  
20 provided testimony and exhibits in LILCO's Electric Rate Case filing in Case No. 96-E-  
21 0132 before the New York Public Service Commission ("NYPSC") as the Company's  
22 revenue witness.

1 **II. Purpose of Testimony:**

2 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

3 A. The primary purpose of my testimony is to support National Grid's proposed amendment  
4 to its wholesale TSC rate formula under the New York Independent System Operator's  
5 ("NYISO's") Open Access Transmission Tariff ("NYISO OATT") to include expenses  
6 for Reliability Support Services ("RSS") contracts that have been reviewed by the  
7 Commission. RSS expenses consist of payments being made to generators by National  
8 Grid in order to maintain the reliability of National Grid's transmission system. National  
9 Grid began incurring RSS expenses in 2012 as part of two contracts entered into with  
10 NRG to ensure that units at NRG's Dunkirk generating station remain in operation long  
11 enough to maintain reliability on National Grid's transmission system while needed  
12 transmission reinforcements are constructed to enhance reliability on National Grid's  
13 transmission system (the "Dunkirk RSS Agreements").

14 In this testimony, I support TSC rate recovery of National Grid's "Transmission Support  
15 Payments" which consist of RSS expenses accepted by the Commission for recovery  
16 through the TSC rate pursuant to agreements with generators or other similar resources  
17 for the purpose of supporting transmission reliability that have been submitted to the  
18 Commission for review. National Grid is also proposing to modify the TSC rate formula  
19 so that it recovers only actual Transmission Support Payments incurred under RSS  
20 contracts during their term. That is, National Grid proposes to exclude Transmission  
21 Support Payments from the forecasted portion of the transmission revenue requirement to

1 ensure that TSC customers will be charged only for actual historic RSS-related costs after  
2 they are incurred.

3  
4 Pursuant to the Commission's August 30 Order rejecting National Grid's March 29, 2013  
5 filing to incorporate RSS expenses into its wholesale TSC, National Grid is including the  
6 Dunkirk RSS Agreements with this filing for Commission review. I address the  
7 background of the Dunkirk RSS Agreements, and explain the process by which those  
8 agreements were negotiated and approved by the NYPSC. I also explain why these  
9 agreements represent a reasonable bargain for National Grid's customers. Details  
10 regarding the transmission reliability needs that gave rise to these Agreements are set  
11 forth in the testimony of Peter Altenburger, which is included in this filing as Exhibit No.  
12 NMP-5.

13  
14 In addition, I support certain ministerial changes to the TSC rate to clarify the operation  
15 of the rate formula set forth in Section 14 of Attachment H to the NYISO OATT.

16  
17 **Q. Are you sponsoring any exhibits and statements as part of this proceeding?**

18 A. Yes. I am sponsoring Exhibit No. NMP-4, which contains statements AA through BM  
19 required by the Commission's rate filing regulations. Period I is the twelve months  
20 ended December 31, 2012. I am also sponsoring Exhibits No. NMP-1 and NMP-2, which  
21 contain clean and blacklined changes to National Grid's s TSC formula rate under  
22 Attachment H of the NYISO OATT, Exhibit Nos. NMP-10 through NMP-13, which

1 consist of confidential and redacted versions of the Dunkirk RSS Agreements, Exhibit  
2 No. NMP-14, which is the NYPSC's August 16, 2012 decision approving the terms of  
3 the 2012 Dunkirk RSS Agreement, and Exhibit No. NMP-15, which is the NYPSC's May  
4 20, 2013 decision approving the terms of the 2013 Dunkirk RSS Agreement.

5  
6 **III. Background Regarding National Grid's Wholesale TSC**

7 **Q. Please describe National Grid's TSC formula rate.**

8 A. The TSC is a formula transmission rate under the Commission's jurisdiction and  
9 applicable to wholesale transmission customers taking service over National Grid's  
10 transmission system. In accordance with Attachment H to the NYISO OATT, each  
11 NYISO Transmission Owner, including the Company, is entitled to amend the Revenue  
12 Requirement ("RR"), Control Center Costs ("CCC") and Billing Units ("BU")  
13 components of Attachment H to the NYISO Tariff on its own initiative pursuant to a  
14 filing with the Commission under Section 205 of the Federal Power Act.

15  
16 **Q. Please provide a history of the TSC rates currently set forth in Attachment H.**

17 A. On January 27, 1999 the Commission conditionally accepted in Docket No. ER97-1523-  
18 000, the proposal made by the Company and the other New York Transmission Owners  
19 ("NYTOs") to establish the NYISO. On November 17, 1999, the NYTOs filed a joint  
20 settlement agreement among all parties ("the NYISO Settlement"). The NYISO  
21 Settlement established in Attachment H of the NYISO OATT a "Settlement" Revenue  
22 Requirement and a Transmission Service Charge for wholesale transmission services

1 provided under the NYISO OATT to all of the Company's customers. The NYISO  
2 Settlement was approved by the Commission by letter order dated July 31, 2000.

3  
4 On February 11, 2008, as supplemented on May 30, 2008, National Grid submitted a  
5 filing under Section 205 of the Federal Power Act in Docket No. ER08-552-000 to  
6 replace the stated rates for its Transmission Service Charge in Attachment H to the  
7 NYISO OATT with formula rates to become effective May 1, 2008. On April 6, 2009,  
8 National Grid, on behalf of the Settling Parties, filed a settlement intended to resolve all  
9 issues set for hearing in this proceeding. Among other things, the 2009 Settlement set  
10 forth the terms of a formula rate for the calculation of National Grid's transmission  
11 service charge under the NYISO OATT, as well as procedures for the annual adjustment  
12 of certain inputs to the formula rate. In a letter order issued June 22, 2009, the  
13 Commission approved the 2009 Settlement.

14  
15 In accordance with the 2009 Settlement, National Grid calculates each year new values  
16 for the RR, CCC and BU components of the TSC based on updated data inputs. National  
17 Grid then prepares an Annual Update that reflects the revised data inputs, the resulting  
18 RR, CCC, and BU components, and certain supporting information.

19

1 **IV. The Dunkirk RSS Agreements**

2 **Q. Please describe how National Grid identified the need for reliability services from**  
3 **the Dunkirk generating facility.**

4 A. In March 2012, NRG Energy, Inc. and Dunkirk Power LLC (collectively, “NRG”) filed a  
5 notice with the NYPSC stating its intention to mothball its Dunkirk generating station  
6 within six months of the notice date, *i.e.*, by September 10, 2012. The Dunkirk  
7 generating station consists of four generating units interconnected to National Grid’s  
8 transmission system: Dunkirk 1 and 2 each with a nameplate rating of 100 MW and  
9 interconnected to the transmission system at 115 kV; and Dunkirk 3 and 4 each with a  
10 nameplate rating of 217.6 MW and interconnected to the transmission system at 230 kV.

11  
12 After receiving the mothball notice, National Grid conducted an analysis of the reliability  
13 impacts of the planned mothballing and identified adverse reliability impacts that would  
14 occur on National Grid’s transmission system if the Dunkirk station was mothballed as  
15 planned. National Grid also identified system reinforcements needed to resolve those  
16 reliability impacts. However, because it anticipated that the reinforcements could not be  
17 completed by the proposed mothball date of September 10, 2012, National Grid  
18 determined that a portion of the Dunkirk generating station must remain online for an  
19 interim period in order to maintain system reliability. Specifically, National Grid  
20 concluded that the two 115kV units should remain in operation pending the  
21 implementation of short-term transmission upgrades, which were planned to go into  
22 service by June of 2013. Subsequently, one of the 115kV units would need to remain

1 online until more expansive transmission upgrades were completed. These studies and  
2 the conclusions thereof are addressed in greater detail in the testimony of Peter  
3 Altenburger included with this filing as Exhibit No. NMP-5.

4  
5 **Q. Please explain the process by which National Grid entered into the first Dunkirk**  
6 **RSS Agreement**

7 A. Shortly after NRG submitted its mothball notice for the Dunkirk facility, National Grid  
8 and NRG began negotiations regarding the terms and conditions of a contract for  
9 reliability services from Dunkirk. The Company's goal in these negotiations was to  
10 obtain the necessary reliability services from Dunkirk at a fair price to its customers.  
11 These negotiations were undertaken with the assistance of the staff of the NYPSC. After  
12 several months of discussions, the parties concluded that the most sensible approach was  
13 to focus on reaching agreement on a contract that would provide for the operation of the  
14 two 115kV units from September 2012 through the end of May 2013 (the date by which  
15 National Grid anticipated that certain short-term transmission solutions would be in  
16 place), and defer to subsequent negotiations the issue of any reliability services needed  
17 after May 2013.

18  
19 On July 20, 2012, the Company and NRG submitted to the NYPSC a proposed term sheet  
20 agreement, setting forth the terms and conditions pursuant to which NRG would provide  
21 reliability support services from Dunkirk units 1 and 2 from September 1, 2012 through  
22 May 31, 2013. In an Order issued August 16, 2012, the NYPSC approved the Term

1 Sheet Agreement, directed National Grid and NRG to file a final executed contract  
2 implementing the Term Sheet Agreement, and also directed the Company to work with  
3 Staff to develop a schedule and process for soliciting alternative solutions to any  
4 remaining reliability needs that would exist after May 31, 2013. A final contract between  
5 the Company and NRG was executed on August 27, 2012 (the “2012 Dunkirk RSS  
6 Agreement”). Redacted public and confidential privileged versions of the 2012 Dunkirk  
7 RSS Agreement are included with this filing as Exhibit Nos. NMP-10 and NMP-11  
8 respectively. A copy of the NYPSC’s August 16, 2012 Order is attached to my testimony  
9 as Exhibit No. NMP-14.

10  
11 **Q. Was the 2012 Dunkirk RSS Agreement filed with this Commission?**

12 A. In August 2012, while the negotiations were ongoing, NRG filed an unexecuted  
13 reliability service agreement with the Commission in Docket No. ER12-2237. That  
14 agreement was never executed and, at NRG’s request, the Commission deferred action on  
15 that filing. NRG treated the 2012 Dunkirk RSS Agreement as an agreement under its  
16 market-based rate wholesale tariff and it accordingly reported the agreement in its  
17 Electronic Quarterly Report (“EQR”), rather than filing it separately under section 205.  
18 NRG took the same approach with the 2013 Dunkirk RSS Agreement, which I will  
19 discuss later in my testimony.

20  
21  
22

1 **Q. Please describe the terms of the 2012 Dunkirk RSS Agreement**

2 A. The 2012 Dunkirk RSS Agreement provides that NRG will defer mothballing actions on  
3 Dunkirk Units 1 and 2 (the “RSS Units”) and to continue to maintain and operate the RSS  
4 Units during the term of the agreement. The agreement also states that NRG will bid the  
5 energy and capacity from the RSS Units into the NYISO markets, and that Dunkirk will  
6 respond to dispatch instructions from the NYISO and National Grid. The agreement  
7 provides that NRG will credit to National Grid an amount equal to all of the capacity  
8 revenues earned by the RSS Units in the NYISO markets during the term of the  
9 agreement. Total capacity revenues of \$3,312,270 were credited to National Grid under  
10 the 2012 Dunkirk RSS Agreement.

11  
12 In exchange for providing reliability services for the nine-month term of the 2012  
13 Dunkirk RSS Agreement, the agreement states that National Grid will pay NRG a  
14 monthly fixed-cost charge of \$2,924,324/month. In addition, the agreement provides for  
15 three separate payment and true-up mechanisms. First, with respect to property taxes  
16 incurred by Dunkirk, the agreement provides that NRG may submit evidence of  
17 property tax payments made for Dunkirk up to 30 days after the termination of the  
18 agreement, and National Grid will reimburse NRG for any documented property tax  
19 payments, up to a maximum of \$6,681,084. Based on documentation provided by NRG,  
20 National Grid paid \$6,681,084 related to property taxes incurred by Dunkirk during the  
21 term of the agreement.

22

1 In addition, the agreement states that National Grid will pay NRG for the costs incurred  
2 under Dunkirk's take-or-pay coal contract based on a pre-determined minimum volume  
3 allocation to Dunkirk over the term of the contract of \$4,324,985. Payment of actual  
4 take-or-pay costs would be made by National Grid in two installments, one at the end of  
5 2012 and the other after the agreement terminated, based on actual coal deliveries. The  
6 final take-or-pay payments made under this provision to NRG by National Grid totaled  
7 \$3,590,278.

8  
9 Pursuant to both the fixed-cost charge and separate payment and true-up mechanisms, the  
10 total cost to National Grid of the 2012 Dunkirk RSS Agreement was \$33,278,008, \$13.5  
11 million of which was accounted for in 2012 and \$19.8 million of which was accounted  
12 for in 2013.

13  
14 **Q. Please describe the background of the 2013 RSS Agreement entered into between**  
15 **NRG and National Grid.**

16 A. As I mentioned above, the NYPSC's August 16 Order approving the term sheet for the  
17 2012 Dunkirk RSS Agreement also directed the Company to develop a process for  
18 soliciting alternative solutions to any remaining reliability needs relating to the planned  
19 mothballing of Dunkirk that continued to exist beyond May 31, 2013. Pursuant to a  
20 schedule and process filed with the NYPSC on September 17, 2012, the Company issued  
21 a request for proposals ("RFP") on October 24, 2012 for solutions to address the  
22 continuing reliability needs beyond May 31, 2013. The RFP sought proposals from

1 various sectors, including merchant and portable generation, energy storage, demand  
2 response and energy efficiency. Three responses to the RFP were received, including one  
3 from NRG for the continued provision of reliability services from the Dunkirk facility.  
4 Following extensive review and negotiations, the Company determined that NRG's  
5 proposal provided the preferred solution from both reliability and cost perspectives.

6  
7 After additional negotiations with NRG, National Grid entered into a second agreement  
8 with NRG on March 4, 2013 (the "2013 Dunkirk RSS Agreement"), to keep one unit of  
9 the 115kV Dunkirk units online for a two-year period from June 1, 2013 through May 31,  
10 2015, which is the date by which the Company anticipated the completion of  
11 transmission reinforcements to alleviate the reliability need caused by mothballing the  
12 Dunkirk generating station. Redacted public and confidential privileged versions of the  
13 2013 Dunkirk RSS Agreement are included with this filing as Exhibit Nos. NMP-12 and  
14 NMP-13 respectively.

15  
16 The NYPSC approved the 2013 Dunkirk RSS Agreement in an order issued on May 20,  
17 2013. A copy of this order is included with this filing as Exhibit No. NMP-15.

18  
19 **Q. Please describe the terms of the 2013 Dunkirk RSS Agreement**

20 A. The terms of the 2013 Dunkirk RSS Agreement are substantially similar to the 2012 RSS  
21 Agreement. The 2013 Dunkirk RSS Agreement provides that NRG will defer  
22 mothballing actions on Dunkirk Unit 2 and to continue to maintain and operate Unit 2

1 during the term of the agreement. The agreement also states that NRG will bid the  
2 energy and capacity from Unit 2 into the NYISO markets, and that Dunkirk will respond  
3 to dispatch instructions from the NYISO and National Grid. As with the 2012 Dunkirk  
4 RSS Agreement, NRG must credit to National Grid any capacity revenues earned by  
5 Dunkirk Unit 2 in the NYISO markets during the term of the second agreement.

6  
7 The total cost of the 2013 Dunkirk RSS Agreement, as reflected in the agreement, is  
8 approximately \$72.741 million, which includes monthly fixed-price charges totaling  
9 \$50.957 million, property taxes of \$13.065 million, and take or pay coal transportation  
10 costs of \$8.719 million, with the property tax and coal take or pay costs subject to  
11 downward adjustment, like the first agreement, if actual costs are lower. National Grid  
12 estimates that the final total cost of the 2013 Dunkirk RSS Agreement, taking into  
13 account all of the various true-up mechanisms, will be approximately \$70.8 million. This  
14 is reflected in Exhibit No. NMP-17.

15  
16 The 2013 Dunkirk RSS Agreement also contains provisions providing for reduced  
17 payments to NRG in the event that Dunkirk Unit 2 fails to achieve certain performance  
18 standards.

19  
20  
21

1 **Q. Do you believe that the payments to NRG under the two Dunkirk RSS Agreements**  
2 **represent a reasonable bargain to National Grid and its ratepayers given the need**  
3 **for ongoing reliability services from the Dunkirk facility?**

4 A. Yes I do. First, both Dunkirk RSS Agreements are the product of extensive arms-length  
5 negotiations conducted between National Grid and NRG. The underlying purpose of the  
6 Dunkirk RSS Agreements is to maintain transmission reliability for the benefit of all of  
7 National Grid's transmission customers. In negotiating these agreements, however,  
8 National Grid was very cognizant of the need to procure these services at a price that was  
9 reasonable for its customers.

10

11 Ultimately, National Grid and NRG were able to agree on price terms for both  
12 agreements pursuant to NRG's market-based rate authority that represent a significant  
13 savings as compared to the full cost-of-service rate proposed by NRG in a filing that  
14 NRG made with the Commission in July of 2012 in Docket No. ER12-2237. In that  
15 filing, NRG proposed to recover a fixed-cost charge of \$5.6 million/month for keeping  
16 the two 115 kV units in service, or a total of \$50.4 million over nine months, and \$4.4  
17 million/month for keeping one 115kV unit online, for a total of \$106.8 million over  
18 twenty-four months, in addition to a mechanism to recover fuel, emissions, and other  
19 variable costs of operation. By comparison, the total cost of the 2012 Dunkirk RSS  
20 Agreement was \$33.3 million, while the estimated total cost of the 2013 Dunkirk RSS  
21 Agreement is \$70.8 million.

22

1 In addition, the 2013 Dunkirk RSS Agreement was the result of a competitive solicitation  
2 conducted by National Grid. Based on a review of the bids submitted in response,  
3 National Grid determined that continuing to procure reliability services from Dunkirk  
4 was both the most viable option in terms of reliability as well as the lowest-cost option,  
5 and this conclusion was accepted by the NYPSC.

6  
7 Both of the Dunkirk RSS Agreements were filed with and approved by the NYPSC. In  
8 both instances, the NYPSC determined that these agreements were in the public interest  
9 and that the costs incurred by National Grid were reasonable. Accordingly, the NYPSC  
10 approved retail recovery of the costs of both of the Dunkirk RSS Agreements.

11  
12 **Q. Are there other terms in the Dunkirk RSS Agreements that you believe enhance the**  
13 **reasonableness of these agreements from the perspective of National Grid's**  
14 **customers?**

15 A. Yes. As I described above, both Dunkirk RSS Agreements include a provision that  
16 requires NRG to credit to National Grid any revenues obtained from sales made by the  
17 Dunkirk units in the NYISO capacity markets during the term of the contracts. For the  
18 2012 Dunkirk RSS Agreement, National Grid received a capacity revenue credit of  
19 \$3,312,270 from NRG.

20  
21 In addition, both contracts contain provisions that reduce the payments to NRG if the  
22 units under contract fail to achieve certain availability requirements. These provisions

1 provide an additional incentive for NRG to ensure that the contracted-for units are  
2 available to provide necessary reliability services, and ensure that the payments to NRG  
3 appropriately reflect the actual services provided.  
4

5 **V. Proposed Amendments to the TSC Formula Rate to Incorporate the Costs of the**  
6 **Dunkirk Agreements**

7 **Q. Please describe the changes being proposed to the RR component of National Grid's**  
8 **TSC to incorporate RSS expenses.**

9 A. National Grid is proposing add a new item to the Historical Transmission Revenue  
10 Requirement ("Historical TRR") component of its overall Revenue Requirement, as  
11 specified in Section 14.1.9.2(a) of Attachment H, entitled "Transmission Support  
12 Payments." Transmission Support Payments will be defined in Section 14.1.9.1 of  
13 Attachment H as "expenses accepted by FERC for inclusion in the Historical  
14 Transmission Revenue Requirement pursuant to agreements entered into with generators  
15 or other similar resources for the purpose of supporting transmission reliability that have  
16 been submitted to FERC for review." This formulation is consistent with the  
17 Commission's directive in the August 30 Order because it ensures that National Grid will  
18 only be permitted to reflect in its Wholesale TSC the costs of RSS agreements that are  
19 "file[d] for Commission review."

20  
21 Transmission Support Payments are included as part of National Grid's Transmission  
22 Operation and Maintenance ("O&M") Expense. In addition, the definition of

1 Transmission O&M Expense specifically excludes any RSS-related costs that have not  
2 been accepted by the Commission for recovery in the wholesale TSC. See Attachment H  
3 in Exhibit NMP-2, Sections 14.1.9.1.41 and 14.1.9.1.67.

4  
5 In addition, National Grid is proposing to modify the wholesale TSC rate formula so that  
6 only its actual Transmission Support Payments during the historic period are included in  
7 the TSC rate. This eliminates the uncertainty associated with forecasting the various  
8 RSS cost crediting mechanisms present in the Dunkirk RSS Agreements. This is done by  
9 modifying the Forecasted Transmission Revenue Requirement (“Forecasted TRR”)  
10 component of the TSC formula rate to exclude RSS-related costs. See Attachment H in  
11 Exhibit NMP-2, Section 14.1.9.2, Schedule 2 of Statement BJ/BK in Exhibit NMP-3 and  
12 Schedule 2 of Attachment 1 to Attachment H in Exhibit NMP-2. Statement BJ/BK  
13 contains the TSC revenue requirement model that is included each year as “Attachment  
14 A” in National Grid’s Annual Update informational filings with the Commission. A new  
15 Workpaper 9A has been created as part of Attachment A to the Annual Update to  
16 calculate and remove the revenue requirement effect of Transmission Support Payments  
17 from the Forecasted TRR. This result also benefits customers because it results in a more  
18 gradual roll-in of RSS-related costs into the wholesale TSC.

19  
20 **Q. Is it appropriate to recover RSS expenses through the TSC rate?**

21 A. Yes. Like many formerly vertically integrated utilities, National Grid’s transmission  
22 system was designed and operated under the assumption that generation would be

1 operated as a means of ensuring transmission reliability, in lieu of, or in addition to,  
2 physical transmission assets. During industry restructuring, beginning in the late 1990s,  
3 the Company divested all of its generation and all of its former generating stations  
4 became independently owned. National Grid therefore has no direct control over  
5 decisions to retire or mothball generating capacity interconnected to its transmission  
6 system. It would be impractical as well as extremely costly for a utility such as National  
7 Grid to attempt to identify and remedy every potential reliability contingency that would  
8 result from decisions that independent generators may make to retire existing generation  
9 by performing upgrades to the transmission system prior to a generator's decision to shut  
10 down. Therefore, if a generator decides to retire or mothball its generating units, it may  
11 become necessary to enter into agreements with the generator-owner in order to keep  
12 generation running, or to procure comparable services from other resources, in order to  
13 avoid unacceptable reliability risks on the transmission system.

14  
15 It is appropriate to include the costs of these contracts in National Grid's TSC rate  
16 because these costs are directly associated with maintaining reliability on National Grid's  
17 transmission system. All of National Grid's transmission customers, including its  
18 wholesale customers, benefit from the ongoing reliability of National Grid's transmission  
19 system. Therefore, all customers should bear their appropriate share of the costs incurred  
20 by National Grid to ensure transmission reliability. In this respect, the costs incurred  
21 under RSS-type agreements are no different than costs incurred to build, operate and

1 maintain physical transmission facilities, and should be allocated to National Grid's  
2 customers in the same manner.  
3

4 **Q. When are the rate changes associated with the RSS expenses proposed to become**  
5 **effective?**

6 A. National Grid is proposing that the modifications to the TSC to reflect the inclusion of  
7 the costs associated with the two Dunkirk RSS Agreements go into effect beginning on  
8 July 1, 2013, which was the effective date requested by National Grid in its March 29,  
9 2013 filing with the Commission in Docket No. ER13-1182 to include RSS costs in its  
10 wholesale TSC rate. A July 1, 2013 effective date for these rate changes is appropriate  
11 because wholesale transmission customers have had sufficient notice, pursuant to  
12 National Grid's March 29 filing, of National Grid's intention to include the costs of the  
13 Dunkirk RSS Agreements in the Wholesale TSC. Although the Commission rejected  
14 the March 29 filing, the costs specified in this filing for inclusion in the Wholesale TSC  
15 are equivalent to those indicated in the March 29 filing – *i.e.* those incurred under the  
16 2012 and 2013 Dunkirk RSS Agreements. An early effective date will allow the fair  
17 apportionment of all of the costs of the Dunkirk RSS Agreements amongst the  
18 Company's transmission customers.  
19  
20

1 **Q. Does National Grid have an alternative proposal for implementing the rate changes**  
2 **associated with collecting RSS costs if the Commission rejects a July 1, 2013**  
3 **effective date?**

4 A. Yes. National Grid acknowledges that waiver of the Commission's regulations is  
5 required for its revised rates to take effect on July 1, 2013 and it is requesting such a  
6 waiver in its filing. If the Commission declines to grant a July 1, 2013 effective date,  
7 then National Grid proposes to implement revised TSC rates to collect the costs of the  
8 Dunkirk RSS Agreements as of February 5, 2014, which is sixty days after the date  
9 following this filing.

10

11 **Q. What is the estimated impact of these changes to TSC rate customers?**

12 A. As shown in Exhibit No. NMP-4, Statement BG/BH, a comparison of the TSC rate and  
13 the revised TSC rate using 2012 as the test year yields a total increase of \$1,141,716 on  
14 an annual basis, or 4.37%. The estimated increase in the TSC rate of \$0.3751 per MWh  
15 is calculated in Exhibit NMP-4, Statement BJ/BK/BL. As shown in Statement  
16 BJ/BK/BL, this increase is a result of a change in the Revenue Requirement of  
17 \$13,921,516 between the Revenue Requirement and true-up as filed in National Grid's  
18 2013 annual update filing, and the Revenue Requirement and true-up reflecting the  
19 inclusion of the actual total RSS expenses incurred in calendar year 2012, divided by  
20 Total Billing Units of 37,110,982 MWh. Billing Units from TSC customers of 3,043,504  
21 MWh multiplied by the projected increase in the TSC rate yields a total increase of  
22 \$1,141,716.

1 National Grid is also providing with this filing, for informational purposes, as Exhibit No.  
2 NMP-16, a schedule showing the estimated effect of including the costs of the Dunkirk  
3 RSS Agreements on its TRR and the resulting rate impacts for rate years subsequent to  
4 2013-2014. As indicated in this schedule, the estimated rate impact varies from less than  
5 \$.5 per MWh to just over \$1 per MWh.  
6

7 **VI. Ministerial Updates to National Grid's Formula Rate:**

8 **Q. Is National Grid proposing any other revisions to its formula rate?**

9 A. In addition to the changes relating to including the costs of the Dunkirk RSS agreements,  
10 National Grid is proposing in this filing a number of non-substantive ministerial changes  
11 to Attachment H to the NYISO OATT.  
12

13 1. In the Definitions Sections 14.1.9.1.12, 14.1.9.1.14, 14.1.9.1.19 and 14.1.9.1.28 of  
14 the NYISO OATT, Attachment H, the Company is proposing to add FERC Accounts 404  
15 and 405 to the definition of Depreciation Expense for Common Plant, Transmission Plant  
16 General Plant, and Intangible Plant respectively. Schedule 9 of Attachment 1 to  
17 Attachment H states "the source for Depreciation Expense will be the Total of Column (f)  
18 of FERC Form 1, page 336". This total includes Accounts 403 (Depreciation Expense),  
19 403.1 (Depreciation Expense for asset retirement costs), 404 (Amortization of Limited  
20 Term-Electric) and 405 (Amortization of other electric plant). Currently, Account 403 is  
21 the only account listed in the Definitions Sections of the NYISO OATT. Beginning with  
22 calendar year 2011, amortization expenses are being reflected in Account 404 on the

1 FERC Form 1 for land rights. These expenses were originally classified in Account 403.  
2 Pursuant to the Audit of Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation Compliance with the  
3 Commissions Accounting and FERC Form 1 and 3-Q Reporting Regulations, Docket No  
4 FA11-2-000, April 2012, page 8, National Grid was instructed to reclassify its  
5 amortization of land rights from Account 403 to Account 404. Therefore, by adding  
6 accounts 404 and 405 to the OATT definition, National Grid is not increasing the revenue  
7 requirement but rather, updating the tariff to reflect the appropriate accounts.

8  
9 2. In the Definitions Sections 14.1.9.1.17, 14.1.9.1.22, 14.1.9.1.32, 14.1.9.1.35 and  
10 14.1.9.1.43 of the NYISO OATT, Attachment H, National Grid is proposing to change  
11 certain account expenses from “those being recorded in National Grid’s internal  
12 accounts” to those recorded in a FERC Account. This change will not impact the  
13 calculation of the revenue requirement but rather, adds consistency with all paragraphs  
14 referencing FERC accounts as opposed to National Grid’s internal accounts.

15  
16 3. In Attachment 1 to Attachment H, Section 14.2.1, Schedule 1, the Company is  
17 proposing to make clearer the correct impacts of investment tax credits, billing  
18 adjustments, and revenue credits on the Historical Revenue Requirement based on the  
19 appropriate numerical sign (negative or positive). For instance, lines 21 and 22 in  
20 Schedule 1 represent reductions to the Revenue Requirement for Transmission Revenues  
21 and Transmission Rents received. Currently, the line descriptions for these items uses the  
22 term “less” to indicate that these values should be subtracted from the subtotal of cost

1 items set forth on line 17, to calculate the total Revenue Requirement on Line 24.

2 However, the revenues relating to Lines 21 and 22 are reflected in the source workpapers  
3 as negative values. Mathematically, when a negative number is subtracted, the sign is  
4 reversed. If read literally, the Company would actually add these items to the revenue  
5 requirement, thereby increasing it. Line 13 of schedule 1 represents Transmission  
6 Related Investment Tax Credits. This value is reflected as a negative value in the formula  
7 rate because it serves to reduce the revenue requirement. The source is defined as  
8 Schedule 9, line 23, column 5, which is currently a positive value. Therefore, the  
9 Company is proposing to add the “times minus 1” language to ensure that the value used  
10 to calculate the Historical TRR operates as a credit, rather than increasing the TRR.

11  
12 4. On Schedule 2, Line 19 the Company is removing the reference to Workpaper 9  
13 under the source column.

14  
15 5. On Schedule 4, the Company is removing the phrase “2008 Forecast using 2007  
16 Historical Data and 2008 Forecast” from the heading, because the data in this Schedule is  
17 not limited to data from 2007/2008, but rather is updated based on the relevant rate year.  
18 For the same reason, the Company is also removing the double asterisk and associated  
19 footnote located above column (c) and amending Line 2 to remove the hardcoded value of  
20 2008 as the effective date of the rate year.

21

1           6.       On Schedule 6, page 2 of 2, Lines 2, 19 and 28, the Company is removing the  
2           references to specific lines of the relevant workpapers because the applicable input may  
3           derive from a different workpaper line in each annual update filing.

4  
5           7.       On Schedule 7, the Company is removing as an extraneous reference the word  
6           “(link)” included in the reference on Line 3.

7  
8           8.       On Schedule 9, the references for the sources for PSC Regulatory Expenses have  
9           been corrected. On Lines 5, 29, and 32 of Schedule 9, the Company is removing the line  
10          reference numbers to the applicable workpapers because, as explained with respect to  
11          Schedule 6 above, these line numbers may vary between annual update filings.

12  
13          9.       On Schedule 10, the Company is proposing to add a note on Line 2 clarifying that  
14          a value in parentheses indicates a refund or reduction to the revenue requirement on  
15          Schedule 1. The Company is also removing the line reference numbers to the applicable  
16          workpapers on Lines 4 and 7 because, as explained with respect to Schedules 6 and 8  
17          above, these line numbers may vary between annual update filings.

18  
19          10.       Finally, on Schedule 12, the Company is removing the reference to the hard coded  
20          date of “Dec 06-Nov-07” from the input column, as well as the reference to “High Load  
21          Fitzpatrick” on Line 10, which are retail contracts and therefore not included in the TRR,  
22          as well as the asterisks and associated footnotes that reference historical data.

1 **Q. Do these ministerial changes impact the TSC rate in any way?**

2 A. No, none of the above ministerial changes have any impact on the TSC rate.

3

4 **VII. Conclusion:**

5 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

6 A. Yes, it does.