# nationalgrid

#### **16 November 2020**

# **National Grid plc**

# Rate filing submitted for Massachusetts Gas

National Grid has filed a request with the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (DPU) to update gas distribution rates for its Massachusetts Gas business.

To ensure the safety and reliability of the gas network, the rate filing requests a \$138 million increase in revenue to cover increased operating costs and core investments, and a Return on Equity of 10.5%. National Grid is also proposing a new Performance Based Rate Mechanism (PBRM) that will link annual revenue increases to inflation.

As part of the filing, the capital tracker that recovers investment associated with leak prone pipe replacement would continue.

The filing also includes a request for significant investments of up to \$50 million in innovative proposals to decarbonise our natural gas networks, including hydrogen blending, shared geothermal loops, renewable natural gas, and demand-side response measures. These proposals would be recovered through existing regulatory mechanisms outside the requested revenue increase.

This rate filing is expected to conclude in September 2021, with new rates effective 1 October 2021.

For additional information, please follow the link to the fact sheet section of the National Grid Investor Relations website: <u>Link here</u>

#### CONTACTS

## **Investors and Analysts**

Nick Ashworth +44 (0) 7814 355 590

James Flanagan +44 (0) 7970 778 952

Jonathan Clay +44 (0) 7899 928 247

## **US Media**

Michael West +1 781 227 0398

**UK Media** 

Molly Neal +44 (0) 7583 102 727

### **CAUTIONARY STATEMENT**

This announcement contains certain statements that are neither reported financial results nor other historical information. These statements are forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. These statements include information with respect to National Grid's (the Company) financial condition, its results of operations and businesses, strategy, plans and objectives. Words such as 'aims', 'anticipates', 'expects', 'should', 'intends', 'plans', 'believes', 'outlook', 'seeks', 'estimates', 'targets', 'may', 'will', 'continue', 'project' and similar expressions, as well as statements in the future tense, identify forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are not guarantees of National Grid's future performance and are subject to assumptions, risks and uncertainties that could cause actual future results to differ materially from those expressed in or implied by such forward-looking statements. Many of these assumptions, risks and uncertainties relate to factors that are beyond National Grid's ability to control, predict or estimate precisely, such as the impact of COVID-19 on its operations, employees, counterparties, funding and legal and regulatory obligations, but also more widely in terms of changes in laws or regulations, including any arising as a result of the United Kingdom's exit from the European Union; announcements from and decisions by governmental bodies or regulators, including proposals relating to the RIIO-T2 price control, as well as increased political and economic uncertainty resulting from COVID-19; the timing of construction and delivery by third parties of new generation projects requiring connection; breaches of, or changes in, environmental, climate change and health and safety laws or regulations, including breaches or other incidents arising from the potentially harmful nature of its activities; network failure or interruption, the inability to carry out critical non-network operations and damage to infrastructure, due to adverse weather conditions including the impact of major storms as well as the results of climate change, due to counterparties being unable to deliver physical commodities, or due to the failure of or unauthorised access to or deliberate breaches of National Grid's IT systems and supporting technology; failure to adequately forecast and respond to disruptions in energy supply; performance against regulatory targets and standards and against National Grid's peers with the aim of delivering stakeholder expectations regarding costs and efficiency savings; and customers and counterparties (including financial institutions) failing to perform their obligations to the Company. Other factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those described in this announcement include fluctuations in exchange rates, interest rates and commodity price indices; restrictions and conditions (including filing requirements) in National Grid's borrowing and debt arrangements, funding costs and access to financing; regulatory requirements for the Company to maintain financial resources in certain parts of its business and restrictions on some subsidiaries' transactions such as paying dividends, lending or lewing charges; the delayed timing of recoveries and payments in National Grid's regulated businesses and whether aspects of its activities are contestable; the funding requirements and performance of National Grid's pension schemes and other post-retirement benefit schemes; the failure to attract, develop and retain employees with the necessary competencies, including leadership and business capabilities, and any significant disputes arising with National Grid's employees or the breach of laws or regulations by its employees; the failure to respond to market developments, including competition for onshore transmission, the threats and opportunities presented by emerging technology; the failure by the Company to respond to or meet its own commitments as a leader in relation to climate change development activities relating to energy transition, including the integration of distributed energy resources; and the need to grow

the Company's business to deliver its strategy, as well as incorrect or unforeseen assumptions or conclusions (including unanticipated costs and liabilities) relating to business development activity. For further details regarding these and other assumptions, risks and uncertainties that may impact National Grid, please read the Strategic Report section and the 'Risk factors' on pages 227 to 230 of National Grid's most recent Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2020, as updated by National Grid's unaudited half-year financial information for the six months ended 30 September 2020, published on 12 November 2020. In addition, new factors emerge from time to time and National Grid cannot assess the potential impact of any such factor on its activities or the extent to which any factor, or combination of factors, may cause actual future results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statement. Except as may be required by law or regulation, the Company undertakes no obligation to update any of its forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date of this announcement.