

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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March 26, 2008

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director & Secretary
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, New Hampshire 03301



Re: DW 08-021 - Laconia Water Works Water Expansion into Gilford

Dear Ms. Howland:

The City of Laconia Water Department, also known as Laconia Water Works (LWW), filed a petition on February 14, 2008 requesting authorization to expand water service into the Town of Gilford. The proposed service area is located northeast of the intersection of the Laconia Bypass and Route 11A and adjacent to LWW's most recent franchise expansion in Gilford ('Lemay Property'), authorized in DW 06-043, Order No. 24,660. The filing indicates the proposed expansion will allow residential and commercial water service to a half dozen lots in Gilford. Staff conducted a thorough review of the filing and recommends the Commission approve LWW's franchise request.

LWW intends to charge rates 15 percent higher than those charged inside Laconia as permitted by RSA 362:4 III-a (a) (1). The filing includes approval letters from the City of Laconia, the Town of Gilford, and LWW's own Board of Commissioners, as well as a letter from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services in support of the suitability and availability of water for the proposed expansion in compliance with RSA 374:22 III.

The proposed service area includes a medical facility, a veterinary hospital, an Elks Club lodge, and a proposed 40 unit adult community known as Wesley Woods. The filing indicates that, apart from the 15 percent rate differential, service will be provided uniformly in accordance with the utility's tariff for all of its other customers. Consistent with that tariff, water main extensions will be paid for by the developers of properties requesting service. Sewer service to the area is provided by the town of Gilford.

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Staff supports the regional cooperation demonstrated by this expansion. For the reasons stated above, Staff recommends the Commission find the expansion is in the public interest and grant LWW's franchise petition. Staff also believes LWW qualifies for the exemption from regulation allowed by RSA 362:4 III-a (a) (1) and recommends the Commission grant such exemption as it did in Docket No. DW 06-043, Order No. 24,660. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Douglas W. Brogan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a clear, legible font.

Douglas W. Brogan
Water Engineer

cc: Service list

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SETH D NUTTELMAN
LACONIA WATER DEPARTMENT
POST BOX 6146
LAKEPORT NH 03247-6146

Docket #: 08-021 Printed: March 26, 2008

FILING INSTRUCTIONS: PURSUANT TO N.H. ADMIN RULE PUC 203.02(a),

WITH THE EXCEPTION OF DISCOVERY, FILE 7 COPIES (INCLUDING COVER LETTER) TO:

DEBRA A HOWLAND
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NHPUC
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PURSUANT TO N.H. ADMIN RULE 203.09 (d), FILE DISCOVERY

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