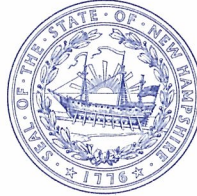


THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

CHAIRMAN
Thomas B. Getz

COMMISSIONERS
Graham J. Morrison
Clifton C. Below

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AND SECRETARY
Debra A. Howland



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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1-800-735-2964

Website:
www.puc.nh.gov

December 16, 2008

Re: DW 08-098, Aquarion Water Company, Inc.
Petition for a Rate Increase
Procedural Schedule

To the Parties:

On November 5, 2008, a duly noticed Prehearing Conference was held in the above referenced proceeding. The Commission's General Counsel, F. Anne Ross, presided as the Hearings Examiner and submitted a report with recommendations on November 6, 2008. Appearances at the Prehearing Conference were entered by representatives of Aquarion Water Company, the Town of Hampton, the Town of North Hampton, the Town of North Hampton Water Commissioners, Robert Cushing *pro se*, the Office of the Consumer Advocate (participating as a full statutory party), and Commission Staff.

Based on the representations contained in the Hearing Examiners Report, the Commission has granted all motions to intervene. Further, the Commission has adopted Hearings Examiner Ross's recommendations regarding Aquarion's failure to mail the order of notice directly to the town clerks of Hampton, North Hampton and Rye, and has established December 19, 2008 as the deadline for written preliminary statements by the Town of North Hampton, the North Hampton Water Commission and Mr. Cushing. Likewise, Aquarion should also file by December 19th a description of the information provided to the three towns prior to the prehearing conference.

Following the Prehearing Conference, the parties and Staff met in a technical session and, with the exception of the Town of Hampton, agreed upon the following schedule which was submitted to the Commission by letter from Staff dated November 20, 2008:

Temporary Rate Phase

Data Requests to Company, Set #1	12/10/08
Responses from Company to Temp. Rate Requests	12/31/08
Responses from Company to Perm. Rate Requests	01/09/09
Hearing on Temporary Rates	01/13/09 at 10:00 a.m.

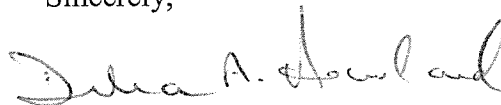
Permanent Rate Phase

Data Requests to Company, Set #2	03/05/09
Responses from Company	03/26/09
Data Requests to Company, Set #3	04/09/09
Responses from Company	04/30/09
Technical Session	05/14/09 at 9:00 a.m.
Staff/Intervenor Testimony	06/09/09
Technical Session/Settlement Conference	06/16/09 at 9:00 a.m.
Data Requests to Staff/Intervenors	06/19/09
Responses to Data Requests	07/01/09
File Settlement or Rebuttal Testimony	07/09/09
Hearing on the Merits	07/14/09 and 07/15/09 at 10:00 a.m.

The Commission has determined that the proposed schedule is in the public interest and therefore has approved it. In addition, the Commission will hold a public statement hearing to receive comment on the proposed rates at the Winnacunnet High School in Hampton in March, 2009 on a date to be determined.

For administrative efficiency, the Commission has elected to issue this Secretarial Letter as its prehearing order in this proceeding.

Sincerely,



Debra A. Howland
Executive Director

cc: Docket File