

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BEFORE THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

RE: PENNICHUCK WATER WORKS, INC.

DOCKET NO. DW 12-___

**PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF WATER INFRASTRUCTURE AND
CONSERVATION ADJUSTMENT (WICA) PROPOSED PROJECTS**

Pennichuck Water Works, Inc. (the “Company”) petitions the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (the “Commission”) to (a) approve the Company’s proposed 2013 WICA projects and (b) preliminarily approve the Company’s proposed 2014 WICA projects. In support thereof, the Company states as follows:

1. On June 9, 2011, the Commission entered an order in Docket DW 10-091 (the “Order”) approving permanent rates for the Company and authorizing implementation of the WICA mechanism as a pilot program. *See Pennichuck Water Works, Inc.*, Order No. 25,230 (June 9, 2011).

2. The purpose of the WICA mechanism is to enable the Company to recover the fixed costs of certain pre-approved aging infrastructure capital improvements completed and placed in service between rate filings. In particular, the Order identifies WICA eligible capital projects to include mains, valves, services, and hydrants within the Company’s core system.

3. The WICA program is initiated by the Company filing a three-year capital budget for proposed WICA eligible projects for the annual WICA replacement program. Each such budget shall show projects broken down into three years. Year 1 projects are those proposed to be constructed in the succeeding twelve month period and shall be

provided for final review and informational purposes. Year 2 projects are those proposed to be constructed in the next twelve month period and are provided for review and approval by the Commission. Year 3 projects are those proposed to be constructed in the twelve months following Year 2 and are provided for advisory purposes and discussion.

4. The Company is initiating the WICA program by submitting with this Petition its proposed projects for 2013 for the Commission's final approval with regard to eligibility for the WICA mechanism, its proposed projects for 2014 for preliminary eligibility approval, and its proposed projects for 2015 for informational purposes, all of which are set forth in the written Direct Testimony of Donald L. Ware which is being filed contemporaneously with this Petition.

5. The Company requests that the Commission (a) approve its proposed 2013 WICA projects and (b) preliminarily approve its proposed 2014 WICA projects for inclusion in the WICA surcharge.

WHEREFORE, the Company respectfully requests that the Commission:

- A. Approve the Company's proposed 2013 WICA projects for recovery through the WICA mechanism, subject to a prudence review based on final construction costs;
- B. Preliminarily approve the Company's proposed 2014 WICA projects; and
- C. Grant such other relief as is just and equitable.


Respectfully submitted,

PENNICHUCK WATER WORKS, INC.

By Its Attorneys

DEVINE, MILLIMET & BRANCH
PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

Dated: December 19, 2012

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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a copy of this Petition for Approval of WICA Proposed Projects has been forwarded to the Office of Consumer Advocate via electronic mail.

Dated: December 19, 2012


Frederick J. Coolbroth