STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

BEFORE THE

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DW 15-209

LAKES REGION WATER COMPANY, INC.

Petition to Change Rates

PARTIALLY ASSENTED TO MOTION TO APPROVE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

Staff, the Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) and Lakes Region Water Company, Inc. (Lakes Region or Company), collectively, (the Settling Parties) pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rule Puc. 203.07 hereby submit this Partially Assented to Motion to Approve Settlement Agreement and in support thereof state as follows:

- A hearing was held on May 8, 2017 regarding the rate case expenses to be collected by Lakes Region.
- 2. Following the hearing, the Settling Parties negotiated and came to an agreement on the rate case expenses to be collected by the Company. The Settling Parties agree that \$120,000 in rate case expenses is just and reasonable and in the public interest pursuant to Puc 1906.01. That amount is reflected in the terms of the Settlement Agreement submitted with this motion.
- 3. As stated during the Commission's hearing on May 8, 2017 and in Staff's recommendation dated February 24, 2017, Lakes Region and Staff agree to the recovery of \$38,575 which represents the difference between the permanent rates approved by the Commission in Order No. 25,969 for service rendered on and after September 14, 2015 and the temporary rates actually collected during this period.

- The Settlement Agreement submitted with this motion memorializes the surcharge amount agreed upon of \$38,575.
- 4. The Settling Parties submit that they each have had a full and fair opportunity to present their factual and legal positions on the record before the Commission regarding the amount of rate case expenses to be collected by the Company at the hearing held on May 8, 2017. As such, the Settling Parties submit that no further hearing is requested, required or deemed necessary for the Commission to rule on this motion or the terms of the Settlement Agreement. Accordingly, the Settling Parties request that the Settlement Agreement be approved as filed
- 5. The Settling Parties have each reviewed and approve of the filing of this motion and accompanying Settlement Agreement and assent to the relief requested.
- 6. The Settling Parties sought assent of the parties to this Motion and the Settlement Agreement. The Settling Parties understand that the Indian Mound Property Owners Association objects to recovery of rate case expenses for the reasons stated on May 8, 2017.

WHEREFORE, the Settling Parties respectfully request that the Commission:

- A. Grant this Assented to Motion to Approve Settlement Agreement for the reasons stated herein and contained within the Settlement Agreement; and
- B. Grant such other relief as is just and equitable.

Respectfully submitted, Commission Staff

Date: 5/17/17

By:

John S. Clifford, Esq. Staff Attorney NH Public Utilities Commission 21 S. Fruit Street, Ste. 10 Concord, NH 03301 (603) 271-2431

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this day of May, 2017, I caused a copy of the foregoing to be delivered to Commission with service made electronically on all parties to the service list.

John S. Chifford