

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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Martin P. Honigberg

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Kathryn M. Bailey

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Debra A. Howland



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

TDD Access: Relay NH
1-800-735-2964

Tel. (603) 271-2431

FAX (603) 271-3878

Website:
www.puc.nh.gov

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August 17, 2016

Debra A. Howland, Executive Director
N.H. Public Utilities Commission
21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10
Concord, N.H. 03301

**Re: DW 16-804, Aquarion Water Company of New Hampshire
Request for Approval of Temporary Emergency Connection**

Dear Ms. Howland:

On August 9, 2016, Aquarion Water Company of New Hampshire (Aquarion) filed a request to provide emergency water service on a temporary basis to Wiggin Farm Homeowners Association (the Association). The Association's water system yield is insufficient to provide basic domestic needs to its members, and the Association has requested assistance from Aquarion. The Association has sought and received permission from the Department of Environmental Services (DES) for a temporary connection to the Aquarion distribution system. DES's approval includes several conditions, including the installation of backflow devices, a pressure reducing valve, bacteria sampling, and notice to Association residents stressing the need for water conservation measures. The DES letter providing its approval is attached to Aquarion's request. Aquarion has indicated that this temporary connection will not have an adverse impact on the water service provided to the company's existing customers.

Staff has been kept informed since discussions began between Aquarion and the Association. It is Staff's understanding that, due to the extreme drought and the perilously low production of the Association's wells, Aquarion has completed the interconnection earlier this month using a hydrant that is near the Association. The Association is to pay Aquarion's current seasonal customer rate¹. While the Association's property is contiguous to Aquarion's existing franchise area in North Hampton, it is actually within the Town of Stratham and is not at this time within Aquarion's authorized franchise area. Staff understands that a petition is forthcoming for Aquarion to acquire the Association's franchise area and provide all members with water service on a permanent basis.

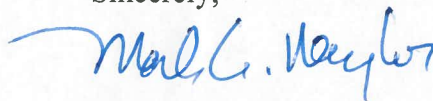
¹ Aquarion has requested permission to serve the Association under RSA 378:18, Special Contracts for Service.

DW 16-804 Aquarion Water Company of New Hampshire
Temporary Interconnection with Wiggin Farm Homeowners Association
Staff Recommendation

The approval of DES for this temporary interconnection expires September 15. In April of this year DES provided its approval for the anticipated permanent connection. If the need for purchased water from Aquarion remains as of September 15, the Association and Aquarion must submit a schedule as to when the permanent connection will be completed or when the temporary connection is no longer needed.

After review, Staff recommends approval.

Sincerely,



Mark A. Naylor
Director, Gas & Water Division

Cc: Service list

SERVICE LIST - EMAIL ADDRESSES - DOCKET RELATED

Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.11 (a) (1): Serve an electronic copy on each person identified on the service list.

Executive.Director@puc.nh.gov

amanda.noonan@puc.nh.gov

cmcmorran@aquarionwater.com

john.clifford@puc.nh.gov

mark.naylor@puc.nh.gov

ocalitigation@oca.nh.gov

steve.frink@puc.nh.gov

Docket #: 16-804-1 Printed: August 17, 2016

FILING INSTRUCTIONS:

- a) Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.02 (a), with the exception of Discovery, file 7 copies, as well as an electronic copy, of all documents including cover letter with:**

DEBRA A HOWLAND
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
NHPUC
21 S. FRUIT ST, SUITE 10
CONCORD NH 03301-2429

- b) Serve an electronic copy with each person identified on the Commission's service list and with the Office of Consumer Advocate.**
- c) Serve a written copy on each person on the service list not able to receive electronic mail.**