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NHPUC 18JUL'19AM11:04

July 15, 2019

Debra A. Howland  
Executive Director  
Public Utilities Commission  
21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301-2429

Re: DW 17-165 – Abenaki Water Company / Rosebrook Water System – Step II  
Company response to Staff's recommendation

Dear Ms. Howland:

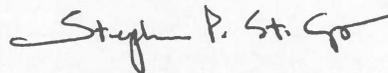
The Company generally agrees with the recommendation. Specifically, the Company supports Staff recommendation to proceed with contracting Horizon Engineering, Inc. to create engineering designs for the resolution of the significant water pressure condition at its Rosebrook Water System.

While the Company supports the effort to obtain low cost financing, the application process for SRF closed mid-June 2019. It is the Company's understanding that it is recommended to apply for SRF prior to State grant funds. Having missed the deadline for SRF, the Company is prepared to move forward with a financing from CoBank.

While the Company acknowledges the need for an alternative date to submit its filing for a second step adjustment in this case, after talking with Horizon, the Company believes that the date should be December 31, 2019. It is critical that this date not be further delayed because to do so delays construction, and, ultimately, delays correction of the pressure problem and associated safety issues.

Finally, the Company encourages the PUC Commission to issue an order by no later than August 15, 2019 approving Staff's recommendation as modified by the above so that the Company can authorize Horizon to create the engineering designs and the Company can begin to reduce the significant water pressure problem.

Sincerely,



Stephen P. St. Cyr

Cc: Don Vaughan