

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

CHAIRMAN  
Daniel C. Goldner

COMMISSIONER  
Pradip K. Chattopadhyay

COMMISSIONER  
Carleton B. Simpson



Tel. (603) 271-2431

Website:  
[www.puc.nh.gov](http://www.puc.nh.gov)

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10  
Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

April 12, 2023

Jessica Chiavara  
Senior Counsel  
Aquarion Water Company of New Hampshire, Inc.  
780 N. Commercial Street  
Manchester, NH 03105

Re: Docket No. DW 20-184  
Request for Change in Rates  
Tariff Pages: 6th rev pg 12; 5th rev pg 13; 6th rev pg 14; 5th rev pg 15; 14th rev pg 16; 5th rev  
pg 17; 2nd rev pgs 18, 18-A  
Tariff No. 1  
Effective Date: March 1, 2023

Dear Attorney Chiavara:

Aquarion Water Company of New Hampshire, Inc. (Aquarion) submitted compliance tariff pages pursuant to Order No. 26,761 (January 19, 2023) on April 5, 2023, which replaced an earlier filing of these pages on March 14, 2023. The Commission requires additional information about the changes on two of these pages to determine whether they are compliant. The Commission will finalize its review after receiving a response from Aquarion to this letter.

On the Sixth Revised Page 12, Aquarion removed the "Per Quarter" column from the chart for service charges. This change does not appear to be authorized in Order No. 26,761 or in the November 21, 2022 stipulation approved in that order. Aquarion did not explain why it made this change in either its March 14 or April 5, 2023 cover letters. Accordingly, the Commission requests that Aquarion supplement its tariff filing to clarify why it removed this column from the tariff page.

On the Sixth Revised Page 14, Aquarion added two columns to the chart for water rates for private fire service, one labeled "Step," which appears to show the annual rates after the implementation of the step adjustment, and one labeled "Current," which appears to show the annual rates prior to the step adjustment. This change does not appear in the accompanying redline of the tariff page. This change does not appear to be authorized in Order No. 26,761 or in the November 21, 2022 stipulation approved in that order. Aquarion did not explain why it made this change in either its March 14 or April 5, 2023 cover letters.

In the Commission's view, these two columns might confuse customers because the meaning of the labels "Step" and "Current," without further explanation, could be lost on lay persons. In

addition, the column labeled “Current” is confusing because it does not reflect rates as of the effective date of the page. Finally, it is unclear why including the pre-step adjustment rates is either necessary or helpful. Accordingly, the Commission requests that Aquarion either remove these columns or provide an explanation as to why it included them in the revised tariff page.

In accordance with the Secretarial letter issued March 17, 2020, this letter will be filed electronically only at this time.

Please e-mail me at [tariffs@puc.nh.gov](mailto:tariffs@puc.nh.gov) if I can be of future assistance.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Ben Martin-McDonough*

Ben Martin-McDonough  
Tariff Administrator

cc: Service List

ClerksOffice@puc.nh.gov  
amanda.o.noonan@energy.nh.gov  
anthony.j.leone@energy.nh.gov  
cmmorran@aquarionwater.com  
david.n.goyette@energy.nh.gov  
dcota@aquarionwater.com  
dmullinax@blueridgecs.com  
donald.m.kreis@oca.nh.gov  
douglas.brogan@gmail.com  
dszabo@aquarionwater.com  
dvenora@keeganwerlin.com  
Energy-Litigation@energy.nh.gov  
jayson.p.laflamme@energy.nh.gov  
jessica.chiavara@eversource.com  
jralston@keeganwerlin.com  
justin@nhwaterlaw.com  
jwalsh@aquarionwater.com  
karen.j.moran@energy.nh.gov  
Kerry.Britland@eversource.com  
lteixeira@aquarionwater.com  
mark.edward.ellis@gmail.com  
Matthew.C.Young@energy.nh.gov  
Molly.M.Lynch@energy.nh.gov  
ocalitigation@oca.nh.gov  
robyn.j.descoteau@energy.nh.gov  
slowry@uptonhatfield.com  
tklaes@blueridgecs.com