

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. DW 21-093

PETITION FOR FRANCHISE EXPANSION,
ACQUISITION OF ASSETS AND APPLICATION
OF EXISTING RATES

PRE-FILED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF STEVEN ROY
IN RESPONSE TO MEMORANDUM AND TESTIMONY
FILED BY THE TOWNS OF HAMPTON AND NORTH
HAMPTON ON JANUARY 31, 2022

ON BEHALF OF THE WIGGIN WAY/WINTERBERRY
HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION

FEBRUARY 14, 2022

Testimony of Steven Roy

1. **Q: The Towns of Hampton and North Hampton have proposed an 18.70% fire protection surcharge on top of the regular rates to be applied to Wiggin Way. In your opinion, is that fair?**
2. A: No
3. **Q: Why not?**
4. A: Wiggin Way is not requesting any fire service from Aquarion.
5. **Q: Why is Wiggin Way not looking for fire protection from Aquarion?**
6. A: When our subdivision was constructed in 2000, sufficient fire protection was provided in the form of a dry hydrant/with a 30,000 gallon buried cistern and a large fire pond that holds a substantial amount of water in the event of the need for water for a fire.
7. **Q: In addition to the extra costs that Wiggin Way customers are already paying over and above the average New Hampshire water customer, has Wiggin Way also been paying a Water Infrastructure and Conservation Adjustment (WICA) surcharge to Aquarion?**
8. A: Yes.
9. **Q: When did Wiggin Way begin to pay that?**
10. A: 2017.
11. **Q: Approximately how much has Wiggin Way paid each year?**
12. A: We are currently charged 7.5% on our water usage fees for the Water Infrastructure and Conservation Adjustment (WICA) fee. This amounts to approximately \$200 per month or \$2,400 per year.
13. **Q: Approximately how much has Wiggin Way paid in total?**

14. A: \$12,000 or \$2,400 for 5 years.

15. Q: **Do you believe that Wiggin Way has benefited from the WICA surcharge?**

16. A: No.

17. Q: **Why not?**

18. A: The WICA charge is used for repairs and replacement of infrastructure that benefits Hampton, North Hampton and Rye customers including replacing and servicing fire hydrants. According to the Aquarion Rate filings the following defines how WICA is spent for certain improvements. "Eligible Property: The WICA-eligible property will consist of the following: Services* (account 333) and hydrants* (account 335) installed as in-kind (i.e., same size) replacements for customers; mains and valves* (account 331) installed as replacements for existing facilities that have either reached the end of their useful life, are worn out or are in deteriorated condition" Wiggin Way has not benefitted from any system improvements to our water infrastructure.

19. Q: **In your opinion, have the Towns of Hampton and North Hampton benefited from the WICA surcharge that Wiggin Way has paid?**

20. A: Yes.

21. Q: **How have they benefited?**

22. A: Our WICA payments of over \$12,000 to date have directly benefited system improvements in Hampton, North Hampton and Rye including improving mains, valves and hydrants.

23. Q: **Is it your understanding that a fire truck has 1000 feet of hose?**

24. A: Yes.

25. Q: **How many homes in Wiggin Way are within 1000 feet of the hydrant on**

Winterberry Lane that Chief Lajoie mentioned in his January 31, 2022 letter?

26. A: Approximately 17 of our 43 homes are within 1,000 feet of the identified hydrant.

AFFIRMATION

I, Steven Roy, affirm under the pains and penalties of perjury, that the testimony provided herein is true.

Date: February 14, 2022

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steven P. Roy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'S' and 'R'.

Steven Roy