

*Environmental Law* ■ *Utility Law* 

November 1, 2021

VIA ELECTRONIC AND MAIL DELIVERY

Dianne Martin, Chairwoman N.H. Department of Energy/Public Utilities Commission 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10 Concord, NH 03301

Re: DW 21-134 Pennichuck Water Works, Inc.

Petition for Emergency Temporary Rate

Company and District Remote Hearing Attendance Request for Witnesses

## Dear Chairwoman Martin:

On Friday, October 29, 2021, the Commission issued hearing guidelines and its order commencing an adjudicative proceeding. The Commission also set a hearing for Monday, November 8, 2021, at 9 AM to consider Pennichuck Water Works, Inc.'s petition. The Commission also included in its order a statement that any party requesting a hybrid hearing format to file a request with the Commission by November 3, 2021. For health concerns during his pandemic, as well as current Company policy for all employees under its Phase 1 Covid re-entry guidelines where participation in large face-to-face group meetings is discouraged if at all possible, the Company's witnesses request to attend virtually. However, if required to physically be in attendance in this docket or other docket hearings in the future, the Company will make arrangements to do so. However, due to the timing and expeditious scheduling of this hearing, one of the Company's representatives will be out of state on a previously arranged travel engagement and would need to attend remotely for this docket. Although the Company filed the pre-filed direct testimony of Donald L. Ware, who will need to participate remotely, Mr. Larry Goodhue will also be available as a witness if needed. Merrimack Village District witnesses, Ron Miner, Superintendent, and Jill Lavoie, Water Testing and Quality Administrator, also request permission to attend remotely. If this request for virtual attendance by witnesses is granted, the Company will follow the instructions in the hearing guidelines as to providing the necessary witness contact information. Counsel for Pennichuck Water Works, Inc. will attend in-person. The Company appreciates the Commission offering to consider such accommodations.

Thank you for your assistance with this request.

Very Truly Yours,

Maria a Brown

Marcia A. Brown

cc: Docket Related Service List