

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
DOCKET NO. DW 22-006
PENNICHUCK WATER WORKS, INC.
PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF QUALIFIED CAPITAL PROJECT ADJUSTMENT
CHARGE

Motion for Approval of a Procedural Schedule

The Department of Energy (DOE) hereby moves for approval of an assented-to procedural schedule for the above captioned docket. In support of this Motion, the DOE states as follows.

1. On February 14, 2022, Pennichuck Water Works, Inc. (PWW or Company) filed a petition for approval of a 2022 Qualified Capital Project Adjustment Charge (QCPAC), along with supporting testimony and related exhibits. In Order No. 26,070 (November 7, 2017) (Docket No. DW 16-806), the Commission approved a settlement agreement that authorized PWW's use of the QCPAC mechanism. The QCPAC is the process whereby PWW establishes a revenue requirement and customer rates sufficient to recover the debt service and expenses (debt service x 1.1 and property taxes) associated with the Company's completed capital improvements on an annual basis. The QCPAC provides PWW with more prompt recovery of these costs; recovery would otherwise be delayed by waiting for a general rate case that is typically conducted every three years. The petition in this case requests recovery through rates of the QCPAC costs PWW incurred associated with the eligible capital projects completed in 2021.
2. The DOE intends to issue discovery to the Company, as well as to request the DOE Audit Division to audit the costs proposed for recovery, and to retain a contract engineer to review the relevant capital projects to determine whether such projects are prudent, and used and

useful in the delivery of utility service. The DOE anticipates that the conclusion of these efforts be an agreement between the DOE and the Company designed to facilitate the Commission's review of this docket in an expeditious manner, without a hearing, as was the case in PWW's prior QCPAC proceeding, Docket No. DW 21-023.

3. Based on the foregoing, the DOE has developed the following procedural schedule to which the Company has agreed.

June 8, 2022	First Set Data Requests to PWW
June 22, 2022	PWW Responses to First Set Data Requests
July 6, 2022	Second Set Data Requests to PWW
July 20, 2022	PWW Responses to Second Set Data Requests
August 10, 2022	Technical Session 10:00 a.m.
August 17, 2022	PWW Responses to Technical Session DR's
September 14, 2022	File Settlement

WHEREFORE, the Department respectfully requests Commission approval of the assented-to procedural schedule as set forth in this Motion.

Respectfully,

/s/ Suzanne G. Amidon

Suzanne G. Amidon
Staff Counsel
Department of Energy/Regulatory Division

April 12, 2022
Service List (Electronically)