

DW 99-038

EASTMAN SEWER COMPANY

Petition for General Rate Increase

Order Approving Procedural Schedule

O R D E R N O. 23,289

August 23, 1999

APPEARANCES: Stephen P. St. Cyr for Eastman Sewer Company, Inc.; Larry S. Eckhaus, Esq. for the Staff of the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission.

On June 1, 1999, Eastman Sewer Company (Eastman or the Petitioner), a New Hampshire public utility filed with the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (Commission) a petition for a 28% permanent rate which would increase Eastman's annual revenue by \$28,185.

By Order No. 23,245, (June 28, 1999) the Commission suspended the proposed rates and scheduled a prehearing conference for July 22, 1999. A duly noticed prehearing conference was therefore held on July 22, 1999. The Commission received requests for intervention from Mr. Henry F. Robinson, a customer and Chairman of the Eastman Community neighborhood, Mr. Phillip Schaefer, customer and Donato and Joyce Ian customers. There were no objections to the requests for intervention. Staff and the Petitioner summarized issues to be investigated in the proceeding. Staff requested permission at the prehearing conference to meet with representatives of Eastman and the Intervenors following the conference to prepare a proposed

procedural schedule and submit in writing a schedule governing the remainder of the investigation. On August 5, 1999, the staff submitted the following proposed schedule:

Data Requests by Staff and Intervenors-1st set	August 6, 1999
Company Data Responses-1st set	August 13, 1999
Data Requests-2nd set	Sept. 10, 1999
Company Responses-2nd set	Sept. 17, 1999
Testimony by Staff and Intervenors	Oct. 15, 1999
Data Requests on above Testimony	Oct. 22, 1999
Responses to Data Requests	Oct. 29, 1999
Settlement Conference	Nov. 2, 1999
Filing of Settlement Agreement	Nov. 10, 1999
Hearing on the Merits	Nov. 17&18,1999

We find the proposed procedural schedule to be reasonable and will, therefore, approve it for the duration of the proceeding and we will grant the requested intervention.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, that the procedural schedule delineated above is APPROVED; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that Mr. Henry. F. Robinson, Mr. Phillip Schaefer, and Donato and Joyce Ian are granted intervention status.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New
Hampshire this twenty-third day of August, 1999.

Douglas L. Patch
Chairman

Susan S. Geiger
Commissioner

Nancy Brockway
Commissioner

Attested by:

Thomas B. Getz
Executive Director and Secretary