

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**DW 13-249**

**CITY OF PORTSMOUTH**

**Petition to Extend Sewer Service in the Town of Rye**

**SUMMARY OF ORDER NO. 25,618 APPROVING FRANCHISE EXTENSION**

**January 8, 2014**

On August 30, 2013, the City of Portsmouth filed a petition to extend sewer service to properties on Sagamore, Elwyn and Pioneer Roads in the Town of Rye. The Rye properties are close to existing Portsmouth sewer mains and will be connected to Portsmouth's system at no cost to Portsmouth or Rye because a third party and the individual owners will bear the costs. Once connected, Portsmouth will assume ownership, operation, and maintenance of the new sewer lines. Portsmouth will provide the new Rye customers with the same level of service and bill them at the same rates as Portsmouth customers. Staff filed a report on December 17, 2013 recommending that the Commission approve the petition. The petition and subsequent docket filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, is posted to the Commission's website at <http://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2013/13-249.html>.

Pursuant to RSA 362:4 III(a), RSA 374:22, the filings and Staff's recommendations, the Commission finds that the requested extension of Portsmouth's sewer system is in the public interest and that Portsmouth's sewer system will remain unregulated. The petition is therefore approved on a *nisi* basis, which affords any member of the public who does not support the Commission's determination to submit written argument why the petition should not be approved.

Portsmouth is authorized to extend its sewer service to the Rye properties described in the petition and attached maps. All persons interested in responding to the Order *Nisi* may submit their comments or file a written Request for a hearing which states the reasons and basis for a hearing no later than January 27, 2014 for the Commission's consideration; and any party interested in responding to such comments or request for a hearing shall do so no later than February 3, 2014. The Order *Nisi* shall be effective February 7, 2014 unless the Commission orders otherwise.