

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**DW 24-062**

**MILL BROOK VILLAGE WATER SYSTEM**

**Rate Adjustment Filing**

**Order Accepting Revised Tariff Rates**

**ORDER NO. 27,014**

**June 4, 2024**

On April 1, 2024, Mill Brook Village Water System (Mill Brook) submitted a filing notifying the Commission that it had decreased its water service rates effective January 1, 2024 to reflect an increase in its customer count pursuant to a stipulation agreement approved in Docket No. DW 14-176 that authorizes Mill Brook to lower its rates without a rate case to reflect additions to its customer base. See Docket No. DW 14-176, Order No. 25,754 (January 14, 2015). Specifically, Section II.E. of the stipulation states:

“in the event any new customers connect to the system and begin taking service, Millbrook Village agrees to file a revised tariff rate page within 15 days of any customer being connected. A new water service rate shall be calculated and filed using the revenue requirement recommended in [the stipulation agreement], \$23,568, divided by the new number of customers, and then divided by four for the new quarterly rate. This new rate is to be effective for service rendered on and after the first day of the quarter within which one or more new customer are connected.”

See Stipulation Agreement filed December 1, 2014 in Docket No. DW 14-176.

Mill Brook’s filing included a revised tariff page that indicates that it is decreasing its rates from \$137.02 per quarter (or \$548.08 per year) to \$133.91 per quarter (or \$535.64 per year). In response to a record request from the Commission, Mill Brook confirmed that it implemented the revised rate on January 1, 2024. Further, Mill Brook has represented that it advised customers of the change in rates in

the invoice for the quarter of 2024 that Mill Brook mailed on March 15, 2024 and through an email sent on March 21, 2024.

The New Hampshire Department of Energy (DOE) filed a letter recommending that the Commission accept the proposed tariff page implementing the revised rates. In its letter, the DOE reported that the decreased rate resulted from the addition of one additional customer since Mill Brook last revised its rates in July 2022, see Order No. Docket No. DW 23-042, Order No. 26,831 (May 31, 2023), bringing the total number of customers to forty-four. The DOE confirmed that the revised rate was accurately calculated according to the formula in the stipulation.

Based on the representations in Mill Brook's filing and the DOE's recommendation letter, the Commission finds that the revised rate accurately reflects the stipulation agreement in Docket No. DW 14-176 and Order No. 25,754. Accordingly, the Commission will accept the revised tariff pages, issue a tariff compliance letter in due course, and take further action as necessary. The Commission notes, however, that the stipulation states that "Millbrook Village agrees to file a revised tariff rate page within 15 days of any customer being connected." See Stipulation § II.E, *supra*. Given that the rate changed effective January 1, 2024, it appears that the new customer was connected well before the amended tariff was filed. Mill Brook does not appear to have satisfied their notice obligation in this case. In the future, Mill Brook should file revised tariff pages within fifteen days of connecting new customers to its water system.

So ordered, this fourth day of June, 2024.



Daniel C. Goldner  
Chairman



Pradip K. Chattopadhyay  
Commissioner



Carleton B. Simpson  
Commissioner

# Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 24-062

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