COMMISSIONER Jared S. Chicoine

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER Christopher J. Ellms, Jr.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10 Concord, N.H. 03301-2429 TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964

Tel. (603) 271-3670

Website: www.energy.nh.gov

November 15, 2024

Daniel C. Goldner, Chairman New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission 21 South Fruit Street Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Re: DW 24-069; Joint Petition for Approval to Change Ownership of Mill Brook Village Water System, LLC – *Department of Energy Status Update*

Dear Chairman Goldner:

On May 1, 2024, Mill Brook Village Water System, LLC ("Mill Brook") and Marc Liechti and Justin Ahmann (the "Buyers") (together, "Joint Petitioners") filed a joint petition requesting that the Commission approve the Buyers' acquisition of Mill Brook. On August 29, 2024, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) issued a Prehearing Order (Order) wherein it approved the proposed assented-to procedural schedule filed on August 1, 2024. The procedural schedule set November 15, 2024, as the date by which the parties would have an opportunity to file a settlement. In its Order, the Commission reserved December 4, 2024, at 9:00AM for a hearing in this matter in the event the parties were unable to reach a settlement.

Pursuant to the procedural schedule the Department has issued two rounds of data requests and engaged in one technical session regarding this petition. Although the Department remains generally in support of the transaction, the Department has identified issues concerning the purchase and sale that prevent the Department from entering a settlement at this time. Accordingly, a settlement has not been filed in this matter today and the Department hereby notifies the Commission that the Department intends to file a technical statement regarding the Department's analysis of this transaction by Friday November 22, 2024. The Department plans to proceed with a hearing in this matter on December 4, 2024, in accordance with the Commission's Order dated August 29, 2024.

Consistent with current Commission policy, this letter is being filed only in electronic form. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

/s/ *Marie-Helene Bailinson* Marie-Helene Bailinson-Georges, Esq. Hearings Examiner

cc: Docket Related Service List (Electronically)

ClerksOffice@puc.nh.gov

Energy-Litigation@energy.nh.gov

jayson.p.laflamme@energy.nh.gov

jim.r.ingram@gmail.com

justin@apec-mt.com

mab@nhbrownlaw.com

marc@apec-mt.com

Marie-Helene.B.Bailinson@energy.nh.gov

ocalitigation@oca.nh.gov

paul.b.dexter@energy.nh.gov

robyn.j.descoteau@energy.nh.gov