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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10 Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

November 20, 2024

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

Re: DW 24-105 City of Laconia Petition Pursuant to RSA 362:4 and RSA 374:22 to Extend Water Service Area; Department of Energy Position Statement

Dear Chairman Goldner:

On September 30, 2024, the City of Laconia ("Laconia") filed a petition to extend its water service area. On October 24, 2024, the Commission issued a Commencement of Adjudicative Proceeding and Notice of Prehearing Conference Order in the above-captioned docket, which requested that the Department of Energy ("Department") file its position regarding Laconia's petition, including the reasons for this position, on or before November 20, 2024. On November 1, 2024, Laconia and the Department (together, "the Parties") filed an assented-to proposed procedural schedule, which was approved by the Commission on November 4, 2024.

The Department does not have a position on Laconia's petition at this time. In their assented-to procedural schedule, the Parties proposed a discovery process that includes two rounds of discovery requests and a technical session. Laconia's responses to the first set of data requests submitted by the Department are due on November 20, 2024. The Parties also set a date of February 5, 2025, for filing a report or settlement. The Department believes that the discovery process will help develop and inform its position in this matter.

Consistent with the Commission's current practices, this letter is being filed only in electronic form.

Sincerely,

/s/ Alexandra K. Ladwig

Alexandra K. Ladwig Staff Attorney/Hearings Examiner Department of Energy

Cc: Docket Service List

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Printed: 11/20/2024

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