

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DW 08-052

PITTSFIELD AQUEDUCT CO.

Permanent and Temporary Rate Proceeding

Order Suspending Proposed Tariffs
and

Scheduling Prehearing Conference and Temporary Rate Hearing

ORDER NO. 24,857
May 23, 2008

PETITION TO INTERVENE

I. Intervening party:

This Petition to Intervene is submitted by Locke Lake Colony Association. Locke Lake Colony is a residential development located in Barnstead, New Hampshire consisting of 335 lots and an estimated 889 homes.

Pittsfield Aqueduct Co. (P.A.C.) provides water as a utility for an estimated 800 lots or homes in the Locke Lake Colony Development.

Each owner of a lot in Locke Lake Colony is a member of the Locke Lake Colony Association. Locke Lake Colony Association has the responsibility of managing the development on behalf of the members/owners, and as such, is concerned with respect to the proposed water rate increases requested by P.A.C.

II. Purpose of intervening:

The purpose of intervening in this matter is to object to the rate increases proposed by P.A.C. as they pertain to those customers who own and occupy property within the Locke Lake Colony Development.

This objection applies to each of the rate increases requested, including the temporary rate increase request, as submitted by P.A.C. and as outlined in Order Number 24,857 dated May 23, 2008.

Locke Lake Colony Association asserts in this Petition to Intervene that the rights and interests of a significant number of its members who are customers of P.A.C.

will be adversely affected and impacted if the petition for the rate increase is approved by the Public Utilities Commission.

III. **Statement:**

The rights and interests of those members of the Locke Lake Colony Association who are also customers of P.A.C. may be affected by this proceeding before the Public Utilities Commission for the following reasons:

- a. The Locke Lake Colony customers have been under the impression that they were being treated as part of the Pittsfield system. Locke Lake Colony Association was unaware that its members who are customers P.A.C. were being considered as part of the "North Country" customers. This becomes particularly significant since the requested rate increases significantly less with respect to the Pittsfield customers than with respect to "North Country" customers.
- b. Locke Lake Colony Association and its members who are customers of P.A.C. note there is a difference in the rate increase requested for the Pittsfield customers than what is being imposed on the "North Country" customers. RSA 378:10 provides that no public utility shall make or give any undue or unreasonable preference to any locality. In this particular situation the proposal submitted by P.A.C. is not requiring rate increases for its Pittsfield customers which are in any way comparable to the much higher rate increases requested for the "North Country" customers.
- c. When representatives of P.A.C. discussed the work that it was performing on the water system within Locke Lake Colony, they informed its customers and Locke Lake Colony Association that the cost for such work would be covered by grants and the rate increase would be insignificant. Locke Lake Colony Association requests that an explanation be provided explaining the efforts made to obtain such grants as well as the results of such efforts.
- d. RSA 378:7 permits the commission to set rates based on what the commission finds to be just and reasonable. In this particular case the requested rate increases for the "North Country" customers would be over 300%. Such an increase is very prejudicial, unjust, and unfair to the customers of P.A.C. who are residents of Locke Lake Colony and will create severe financial impact on many of those customers.

IV. **Owner and customer participation:**

There is attached to this Petition to Intervene the signatures of many members of Locke Lake Colony Association who are also customers of P.A.C. in support of this Petition and the objection to the proposed rate increases requested by P.A.C.

Dated: June 12, 2008

Respectfully Submitted,
Locke Lake Colony Association by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Ranaldi", written over a horizontal line.

Michael Ranaldi, President of the Board

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Deana Cowan", written over a horizontal line.

Deana Cowan, Administrator

Dated: June 12, 2008