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Hudson extends agreement for water

By [Karen Spiller](#)
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MERRIMACK – After seven years of operating, servicing and managing the town of Hudson's water supply, Pennichuck Water Service Corp. has been awarded a new five-year contract, the company announced Thursday.

The contract extends Pennichuck's public-private partnership with Hudson into 2010 with options through 2016.

"Pennichuck is part of our team here in Hudson," Town Administrator Steve Malizia said in a prepared statement. "They really know what they're doing when it comes to water, and their management capabilities provide relief to our staff."

Under the agreement, Pennichuck Water Service, a subsidiary of Pennichuck Corp., will operate and manage the water system that services roughly 5,400 connections to Hudson residents. mains and responding to customer feedback, Pennichuck will continue to operate the source of the water supply, collect and analyze water samples, operate and maintain five pumping stations, read meters, and maintain backflow preventers, gate valves and hydrants.

"Our nearly eight-year relationship with Hudson is the perfect example of a successful public-private partnership," Pennichuck Executive Vice President Stephen Densberger said in a statement. "The arrangement allows communities to benefit from Pennichuck's outstanding work force and its strong technology, tools and expert resources."

Pennichuck manages nearly 100 water systems throughout New Hampshire and Massachusetts.

Partnerships such as the one with Hudson mean an annual savings of 10 to 40 percent for the town, Pennichuck said, referencing a June 1999 survey of the use of public-private partnership in the drinking water utility service published by the National Association of Water Companies.

Pennichuck Corp. is a holding company involved mainly in the supply and distribution of potable water in southern and central New Hampshire through its three regulated water utilities.

Its non-regulated, water-related activities include operations and maintenance contracts with towns and private entities in New Hampshire and Massachusetts.

The company's real estate operations are involved in the ownership, management and development of real estate in Greater Nashua.

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