

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BEFORE THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Petition of Pittsfield Aqueduct Company for Approval of Financing
Under the State Revolving Loan Fund
For Catamount Road Transmission Main

DW 16-__

DIRECT PREFILED TESTIMONY OF JOHN J. BOISVERT

February 12, 2016

1 **Q. What is your name and what is your position with Pittsfield Aqueduct Company?**

2 A. My name is John J. Boisvert. I am the Chief Engineer of Pennichuck Water Works, Inc.
3 ("PWW"), which provides services to Pittsfield Aqueduct Company ("PAC" or the
4 "Company") pursuant to a management allocation agreement. I have worked for PWW
5 since February 1, 2006. I am a licensed professional engineer in New Hampshire and
6 Maine.

7 **Q. Please describe your educational background.**

8 A. I have a Bachelor of Science degree and a Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering
9 from the University of New Hampshire in Durham, New Hampshire. I also have a
10 Master's degree in Environmental Law and Policy from Vermont Law School in South
11 Royalton, Vermont.

12 **Q. Please describe your professional background.**

13 A. Prior to joining PWW, I served as a Team Leader for Weston & Sampson Engineers of
14 Portsmouth, New Hampshire in their Water Practices Group from 2000 to 2006. Prior to
15 Weston & Sampson I was employed by the Layne Christensen Company of Shawnee
16 Mission, Kansas as Regional Manager for their Geosciences Division in Dracut,
17 Massachusetts from 1994 to 2000. I completed graduate school in 1992 and was
18 employed by Hoyle, Tanner, & Associates of Manchester, New Hampshire as a Project
19 Engineer from 1992 to 1994. Prior to entering full time graduate programs at the
20 University of New Hampshire and Vermont Law School I was employed by Civil
21 Consultants of South Berwick, Maine as a Project Engineer from 1986 to 1989 and by
22 Underwood Engineers of Portsmouth, New Hampshire as a project Engineer from 1985
23 to 1986.

1 **Q. What are your responsibilities as Chief Engineer of the Company?**

2 A. As Chief Engineer, I am responsible for the planning, design, permitting, construction,
3 and startup of major capital projects, including pipelines, reservoirs/dams, building
4 structures, pumping facilities, treatment facilities, and groundwater supplies. I provide
5 regular technical assistance to PWW's Water Supply Department, Operations
6 Department, Customer Service Department, and Senior Management.

7 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

8 A. I provide technical information in support of the Company's request for a \$440,000
9 addendum to an existing 2015 State Revolving Fund Loan ("SRF") approved in Order
10 No. 25,722 under Docket No. DW 15-045, to fund the installation of a water main in the
11 Catamount Road area of Pittsfield, NH ("Project").

12 **Q. What is the overall scope of the Project?**

13 A. The Project, phase 1 and phase 2, includes the addition of approximately 1,800 linear feet
14 ("LF") of 8-inch water main on Fairview Road and approximately 4,200 LF of 12-inch
15 water main along Catamount Road for a total of 6,000 LF. The PAC water system has a
16 single transmission main from the treatment plant and storage tank on Catamount Road
17 into the downtown of Pittsfield. The Project will provide redundant transmission
18 capacity as presented in DW 15-045.

19 **Q. In DW 15-045, the Commission approved a \$165,000 SRF loan for PAC, is this**
20 **request related to that approval?**

21 A. Yes. The 6,000 LF of water main represents what was originally viewed as a two-phase
22 project during capital budget process for the years 2014 thru 2016. Fairview Road
23 portion would be completed in 2015 (phase 1) and the remainder of the project,

1 Catamount Road, would be completed in 2016 (phase 2). PAC obtained a \$165,000 SRF
2 loan for 2015, under DW 15-045, and has been notified by the New Hampshire
3 Department of Environmental Services (“DES”) that phase 2 is a “funded” project for
4 2016 in the amount of \$440,000 (a copy of the DES letter is Attachment A to this
5 testimony). Funds would be available in May of 2016 assuming all required approvals,
6 as indicated in Mr. Goodhue’s testimony, as well as approval by the Governor and
7 Executive Council to issue funds under the SRF, are received in conjunction with this
8 petition. PAC’s original plan was to bid and construct the \$165,000 phase 1 water main,
9 along with the \$440,000 phase 2 work, in 2016. Based upon the current structure, and
10 the financial benefits associated with completing the two phases at one time, the
11 Company now plans to complete the project under a single contract, beginning in the
12 spring of 2016 and extending through the fall of 2016.

13 **Q. Why did the Company combine the two phases?**

14 A. The Company was unable to complete the final design and bidding of phase 1 early
15 enough in 2015 to effectively receive bids, select a contractor and complete the work
16 within the calendar year. The Company was notified by DES that phase 2 of the overall
17 project was approved for available funding in late summer 2015, and the Company, in
18 consultation with DES, determined that it would be advantageous to bid both phases as a
19 single project in 2016. DES indicated that it would be more efficient for the Company to
20 seek and amend the phase 1 loan to include phase 2, rather than apply for a separate
21 loan for the second phase on its own. DES and the Company mutually confirmed that
22 the Company would need Pennichuck Board, PUC, City of Nashua, and Governor and
23 Executive Council approval to increase and amend the 2015 loan amount to complete

1 both phases of the project. DES indicated that a May closing would be acceptable to
2 secure project financing. See the attached letter from the DES, dated September 3, 2015,
3 confirming the availability of the 2016 loan funds.

4 **Q. Please describe the estimated timeline required to complete the project in 2016.**

5 A. DES would like to finalize the loan documents associated with this loan in mid-May,
6 2016, but cannot do so without PUC approval of the proposed financing. The list below
7 provides an estimated timeline:

8 Approvals

- 9 1. Board Resolutions approving SRF loan submitted – January 22, 2016.
- 10 2. Shareholder approval request filed with City of Nashua – February 3, 2016.
- 11 3. File financing petition with Commission – February 12, 2016.
- 12 4. PUC approval – request Order *Nisi* with effective date by end of April, 2016.

13 Project Milestones

- 14 1. Complete engineering designs – February 26, 2016.
- 15 2. DES approval of proposed designs – March 1, 2016.
- 16 3. Bid project – April, 2016.
- 17 4. Open bids – May, 2016.
- 18 5. Construction begins – June, 2016.
- 19 6. Project substantial completion – November 30, 2016.

20 **Q. Does this conclude your written testimony?**

21 A. Yes.