

Environmental Law • Utility Law

March 27, 2019

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Debra A. Howland, Executive Director N.H. Public Utilities Commission 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10 Concord, NH 03301

Re:

DW 18-090 Pennichuck East Utility, Inc. Small-Diameter Fire Protection Tariff Rates Community Outreach Report

Dear Director Howland:

Pursuant to Order No. 26,213, dated January 24, 2019, the Commission approved Pennichuck East Utility, Inc.'s ("PEU") tariff revisions concerning non-metered private fire protection service. Among the revisions, PEU imposed new installation requirements and prohibited developers and customers from installing single, oversized meters to supply domestic and private fire protection services. As part of its approval, the Commission required PEU to report, no later than April 1, 2019, on PEU's outreach efforts to inform municipal building inspectors and fire inspectors within PEU's service territory of the new service installation configuration. This letter serves as that report.

On February 25, 2019, PEU mailed the attached letter to officials in the following municipalities in its service territory: Atkinson, Barnstead, Bow, Conway, Hooksett, Lee, Litchfield, Londonderry, Pelham, Raymond, and Windham. PEU did not send outreach letters to the towns of Chester, Derry, Exeter, Middleton, Plaistow, Sandown, and Weare because PEU's systems in these towns are not capable of providing private fire protection service.

Since sending the attached outreach letter, PEU has not received any requests for meetings and no town has contacted PEU with any questions. Notwithstanding this lack of inquiry from the towns, PEU remains diligent in making sure developers, contractors, and potential customers are aware of the new required configuration for small-diameter fire protection service. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you in advance for your assistance with this filing.

Very Truly Yours,

Marcia O'Brown

Marcia A. Brown

Donald L. Ware, Chief Operating Officer, Pennichuck

Mailing List - PEU COMMUNITIES D. Ware Letter dated February 25, 2019 re New Fire Protection Tariff

Atkinson

Mr. Alan J. Phair Town Administrator Town of Atkinson 21 Academy Avenue Atkinson, NH 03811

Chief Michael Murphy Atkinson Fire Department P.O. Box 6 Atkinson, NH 03811

Mr. Robert Jones Building Inspector Code Enforcement Department Town of Atkinson 21 Academy Avenue Atkinson, NH 03811

Barnstead

Ms. Mary Clarke, Town Clerk Town of Barnstead 108 South Barnstead Road P.O. Box 11 Center Barnstead, NH 03225

Chief Shawn Mulcahy Barnstead Fire Rescue Town of Barnstead 106 South Barnstead Road Center Barnstead, NH 03225

Fab Cusson
Building Inspector
Town of Barnstead
108 South Barnstead Road
P.O. Box 11
Center Barnstead, NH 03225

Bow

Mr. David L. Stack Town Manager Town of Bow 10 Grandview Road Bow, NH 03304

Chief Mitchell Harrington Bow Fire Department Bow Safety Center 7 Knox Road Bow, NH 03304

Mr. Robert Pike Building Inspector Building / Code Enforcement Town of Bow 10 Grandview Road Bow, NH 03304

Conway

Mr. Thomas Holmes Town Manager Town of Conway 1634 East Main Street Center Conway, NH 03813

Mr. David Pandora
Building Inspector
Building Inspection/Code Enforcement Dept.
Town of Conway
1634 East Main Street
Center Conway, NH 03813

Chief Pat Preece North Conway Fire Department P.O. Box 218 North Conway, NH 03860

Hooksett

Mr. Donald Winterton Acting Town Administrator Town of Hooksett 35 Main Street Hooksett, NH 03106

Chief James Burkush Hooksett Fire – Rescue Department 15 Legends Drive Hooksett, NH 03106

Mr. Matthew Lavoie
Building Inspector
Code Enforcement/Building Department
Town of Hooksett
35 Main Street
Hooksett, NH 03106

<u>Lee</u>

Ms. Julie Glover Town Administrator Lee Town Hall 7 Mast Road Lee, NH 03861

Chief Scott Nemet
Lee Fire and Rescue Department
Public Safety Complex
20 George Bennett Road
Lee, NH 03861.

Mr. Bill Booth Building Inspector Lee Town Hall 7 Mast Road Lee, NH 03861

Litchfield

Mr. Troy Brown Town Administrator Town of Litchfield 2 Liberty Way, Suite 2 Litchfield, NH 03052

Chief Frank Fraitzl Litchfield Fire Department 257 Charles Bancroft Highway Litchfield, NH 03052

Building Inspector Building and Health Department Town of Litchfield 2 Liberty Way Litchfield, NH 03052

Londonderry

Mr. Kevin H. Smith Town Manager Town of Londonderry 268B Mammoth Road Londonderry, NH 03053

Chief Darren O'Brien Londonderry Fire Department 280 Mammoth Road Londonderry, NH 03053

Mr. Richard Canuel Chief Building Inspector Town of Londonderry 268B Mammoth Road Londonderry, NH 03053

Pelham

Mr. Brian McCarthy Town Administrator Town of Pelham 6 Village Green Pelham, NH 03076

Chief James Midgley Pelham Fire Department 36 Village Green P.O. Box 321 Pelham, NH 03076

Mr. Roland Soucy Building Inspector Planning Department Town of Pelham 6 Village Green Pelham, NH 03076

Raymond

Mr. Joseph S. Ilsley Town Manager Town of Raymond 4 Epping Street Raymond, NH 03077

Chief Paul Hammond Raymond Fire Department 1 Scribner Road Raymond, NH 03077

Mr. Scott LaCroix
Building Inspector
Building & Health Division
Town of Raymond
4 Epping Street
Raymond, NH 03077

Windham

Mr. David Sullivan Town Administrator Town of Windham 4 North Lowell Road Windham, NH 03087

Chief Thomas McPherson, Jr. Windham Fire Department 3 Fellows Road Windham, NH 03087

Mr. Mike McGuire Building Inspector Town of Windham 3 North Lowell Road Windham, NH 03087



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February 25, 2019

Mr. Alan J. Phair Town Administrator Town of Atkinson 21 Academy Avenue Atkinson, NH 03811

Chief Michael Murphy Atkinson Fire Department P.O. Box 6 Atkinson, NH 03811

Mr. Robert Jones
Building Inspector
Code Enforcement Department
Town of Atkinson
21 Academy Avenue
Atkinson, NH 03811

Re: New Fire Protection Tariff Approved for Pennichuck East Utility, Inc.

Dear Town Officials:

This letter is to inform you of new technical requirements Pennichuck East Utility, Inc. (PEU) will be requiring for the installation of fire protection service and the reasoning behind the new requirements.

Effective February 24, 2019, PEU had new tariff rates and language approved regarding the provision of fire protection service to residential homes and small commercial buildings that want to, or are required to, install life safety sprinklers. PEU filed and gained approval of the new tariff changes to ensure that:

- 1. Fire protection service can be provided at the lowest possible cost to its customers.
- 2. Service installations are uniform across the Company's service territory.
- 3. Services are installed in a manner that allows the Company to shut off domestic service or the fire service without impacting the other service.

Specifically, the new tariff:

- 1. Does not allow for the fire service to be tapped-off <u>after</u> the water meter. Using the same service line and meter to provide both domestic and fire flows creates a number of problems:
 - a. It requires a larger meter which does not register low domestic flows.
 - b. Industry standard water meters are not NFPA-approved.
 - c. The monthly fee for a larger meter is substantially more than the combined fees charged for a smaller meter for domestic use and for a small-diameter, non-metered fire service.
- 2. Establishes an appropriate rate for a small-diameter, non-metered fire service. The rate is based on the size of the fire service where it is tapped into either the water main in the street or on the water service from the street into the building.
- 3. Sets new standards for how fire service taps on the water service from the street to the building must be installed. Please see the attached design Detail D16. The service to the sprinkler system must have a separate shutoff located outside of the building structure. The single service from the street right-of-way must be capable of delivering the required domestic and fire protection flows to where the domestic service is separated from the fire service. The tariff changes do not change fire services that are tapped-off of the water main in the street; in those instances, the Company's existing design Detail F01 would apply instead of Detail D16. All fire services will be required to have a testable double check backflow preventer installed on the service inside the building foundation.

We believe these tariff changes and changes to our Technical Specifications and Standard Details will alleviate the problems noted above.

If you have any questions regarding the tariff changes or want to discuss the installation requirements, please contact me directly at 603-913-2330. I would be happy to meet with you or a designee of the Town to discuss the new tariff changes should you desire to meet.

If you wish to review or refer others to our full Technical Specifications and Standard Details, they can be found at: https://pennichuck.com/engineering/. Our engineering department is reachable at (800) 553-5191.

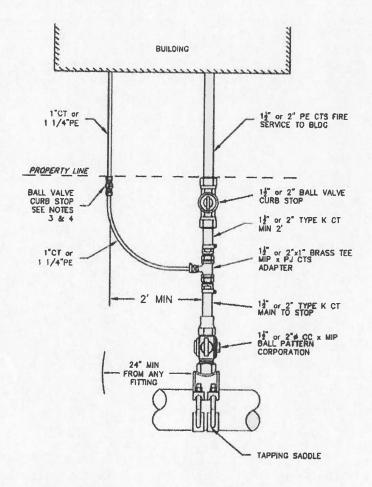
Very truly yours

Donald L. Ware

Chief Operating Officer

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Enclosure: Detail D16, Domestic Service Tapped Off Fire Service



- NOTES:

 1. ALL MATERIALS AND INSTALLATION PROCEDURES WILL CONFORM TO P.W.W. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS.
- ALL PIPE SHOULD HAVE A MINIMUM DEPTH OF 5' FROM TOP OF PIPE TO FINISH GRADE.
- 3. INSTALLATION DETAIL. SEE DETAIL DO2 FOR 1 1/2" TO 2"
- 4. SEE DETAIL MO1 FOR TYPICAL SERVICE UTILITY SEPARATION ENTRANCE.



DETAIL D16

DOMESTIC SERVICE

TAPPED OFF FIRE SERVICE

PENNICHUCK WATER WORKS, INC.

SCALE: NTS DETAIL D16



25 MANCHESTER STREET, PO BOX 1947 MERRIMACK, NH 03054-1947

> Mr. Alan J. Phair Town Administrator Town of Atkinson 21 Academy Avenue Atkinson, NH 03811

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