

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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September 20, 2017

Re: DW 17-114, Eversource Energy
Joint Petition for Approval of the Acquisition of Aquarion Water Company of New
Hampshire, Inc. by Eversource Energy
Denial of Motion for Rehearing

To the Parties:

On August 28, 2017, the Commission issued a Secretarial Letter which, in part, denied intervention to State Representative Mindi Messmer. The Commission explained that being an elected representative of a district in which a utility operates does not confer standing. Rep. Messmer could not demonstrate that she was a current customer of Aquarion. Accordingly, the Commission found that Representative Messmer did not demonstrate a right, duty, privilege, immunity or legal or substantial interest sufficient to confer standing, or otherwise demonstrate the criteria necessary for intervention.

On September 6, 2017, the Commission received a submission from Pamela Helfrich of Rye, New Hampshire. The submission appeared to be, and was treated by the Clerk's Office as a public comment. On September 7, Rep. Messmer e-mailed a "request to reconsider" to the Legal Division's secretary with copies to a number of individuals. The request to reconsider was comprised of (1) a letter signed by Samuel and Dominique Winebaum that was nearly identical to Ms. Helfrich's letter, (2) an email from Christina Breen, also nearly identical to Ms. Helfrich's letter, (3) an email from Michael Netishen informing Rep. Messmer that she had his consent to "represent [him], as an Aquarion customer, and (4) an email from Mary Claire Clarkson requesting to have her name added to Rep. Messmer's "petition to represent Aquarion Customers to the NHPUC." Upon review, the Commission determined that the submissions were improperly filed motions for rehearing of the Commission's August 28 decision to deny Rep. Messmer's petition to intervene. The Commission decided on its own motion to waive its adjudicative rules for making an effective filing and act upon the submissions, having determined that a one-time waiver of our filing rules for these individuals would serve the public interest and not disrupt the orderly and efficient resolution of this docket.

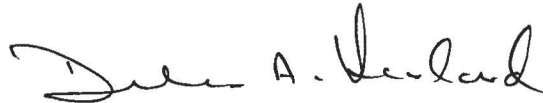
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Having reviewed the submissions, the Commission decided to deny rehearing of its decision to deny Rep. Messmer's petition. The submissions did not raise any issue of fact or law that the Commission overlooked or misconstrued in arriving at its original decision. To the extent the argument that other towns are represented by their elected state officials is a new argument, the Commission determined that the argument is misplaced. Other State Representatives who were permitted to intervene were permitted to intervene to represent their own interests as Aquarion ratepayers which may coincide within the interest of other ratepayers in their districts.

The Commission has made no decision as to whether Ms. Helfrich, the Winebaums, Mr. Netishen, or Ms. Clarkson have standing to intervene, as they did not request permission to intervene.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Debra A. Howland". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "H".

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director

cc: Service List/Docket File

SERVICE LIST - EMAIL ADDRESSES- DOCKET RELATED

Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.11 (a) (1): Serve an electronic copy on each person identified on the service list.

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Docket #: 17-114-1 Printed: September 20, 2017

FILING INSTRUCTIONS:

- a) Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.02 (a), with the exception of Discovery, file 7 copies, as well as an electronic copy, of all documents including cover letter with:
- DEBRA A HOWLAND
EXEC DIRECTOR
NHPUC
21 S. FRUIT ST, SUITE 10
CONCORD NH 03301-2429
- b) Serve an electronic copy with each person identified on the Commission's service list and with the Office of Consumer Advocate.
- c) Serve a written copy on each person on the service list not able to receive electronic mail.