



December 13, 2017

NHPUC 14DEC17PM3:11

Via Federal Express

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director and Secretary
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301

RE: Docket No. DW 17-154, Aquarion Water Company of New Hampshire, Inc.
2018 Water Infrastructure and Conservation Adjustment (WICA) Project Update

Dear Ms. Howland:

This letter is to inform the Public Utilities Commission, Office of the Consumer Advocate, and the Towns of Hampton, North Hampton, and Rye that a different main replacement project will be performed than proposed in the 2017 WICA project filing.

Update to WICA Project Schedule for 2018

Aquarion Water Company of New Hampshire's ("Aquarion" or "Company") ordinarily changes Year 1 projects pursuant to its tariff, which states:

"Project Changes: If, after the Company has received Commission approval for Year 1 projects, because of changed circumstances or significant new information the Company plans to undertake projects in Year 1 that were not included on the list of approved WICA projects for that year or it has decided not to proceed with one or more projects that were included on the Commission-approved list, it shall promptly notify the Commission and all parties to the proceeding in which the list of WICA projects was approved that the Company plans to add to or delete projects and the reason for the proposed changes."

Since the filing of its Year 1 projects in Docket No. DW 17-154, however, events have developed which warrant the Company changing its proposed projects. Specifically, the Company had proposed replacement of the mains on Sixth, Seventh, Ninth and Tenth Streets; and the Hampton River crossing (parallel to Ocean Boulevard); all in Hampton. See Attachment CM-1, page 3 of 9. The numbered street will proceed as proposed, but the Hampton River crossing will be postponed.

The Hampton River crossing project proposed to replace 3,000 feet of plastic pipe at an estimated cost between \$643,000 and \$926,000. See Attachment CM-1, page 6 of 9. However, as company staff began to work on the design aspects of this project, they identified several problems that make the project nonviable for 2018. Mainly, it cannot be pipe bursted across the river as originally planned, and there are other siting issues that will take more time and effort to resolve.



AQUARION
Water Company

Stewards of the Environment

Therefore, we are postponing the Hampton River crossing to future years, and moving up a portion of the Mill Road main replacement originally proposed for 2019. The Company will maintain similar cost estimates for Mill Road as proposed for the Hampton River project by adjusting the length of pipe being replaced.

Please let me know if you have any questions. I can be reached at (203) 337-5990.

Sincerely,

Joshua Unger
Senior Regulatory Compliance Specialist

CC: DW 17-154 Docket-Related Service List