

LAKES REGION WATER COMPANY INC.

420 Governor Wentworth Highway, PO Box 389
Moultonborough, NH 03254
Telephone: 603-476-2348, Fax: 603-476-2721
Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:30am to 4:30pm

January 9, 2020

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director & Secretary
NH Public Utilities Commission
21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, N. H. 03301-2429

RE: DW 19-177- Estimate of Rate Case Expenses pursuant to PUC 1905.01

Dear Ms. Howland:

Please be advised that Stephen P. St. Cyr and Attorney Justin Richardson will be providing rate case consulting services for the Company in DW 19-177.

On November 13, 2019 the Company issued an RFP for accounting and legal rate case consulting services to the following;

Accounting-

1. Stephen P. St. Cyr and Associates
2. Leone, McDonnell & Roberts
3. Gamwell, Caputo, Kelsch & Co., PLLC

Legal-

1. Upton & Hatfield, LLP- Justin Richardson
2. NH Water Law-Justin Richardson
3. NH Brown Law-Marcia A. Brown
4. Devine, Millimet & Branch-Dana Bisbee

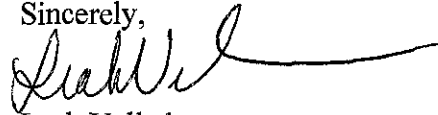
The Company selected Stephen P. St. Cyr and Attorney Richardson to provide the necessary rate case services based on their familiarity with the Company, knowledge of the regulatory process and competitive hourly rates. Stephen P. St. Cyr's rate is \$140/hour and estimates that his total costs will be between \$20,000-\$31,500 (see attached) and Attorney Richardson's rate for 2019 while employed for Upton & Hatfield is \$220/hour and his 2020 rate for his own practice "NH Water Law" is \$175/hour. Attorney Richardson estimates his total cost will be \$15,000.00.

Their services will include preparation of the initial filing including both permanent and temporary rate case exhibits, preparation for and participation in prehearing conference and technical sessions, oversight and assistance in responding to Staff data requests, preparation for and participating in hearings and other rate case related matters. Both Stephen P. St. Cyr and Attorney Richardson have assisted the Company in prior cases before the NHPUC.

As of December 31, 2019, the Company has incurred \$6,824.38 for Stephen P. St. Cyr's services and \$2,604.14 for Attorney Richardson's services.

If you have any question or comments, please let me know at (603)707-0644 or at leah@lakesregionwater.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leah Valladares", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Leah Valladares
Utility Manager

CC: Service list (electronically)

Estimated Rate Case Expenditures

	<u>Hours</u>		<u>Rate</u>	<u>Amount</u>	
	<u>Low Est</u>	<u>High Est</u>		<u>Low Amt</u>	<u>High Amt</u>
Rate Case Expenditures at 12/31/19				\$ 6,824	\$ 6,824
Temporary Rate Filing	4	8	140	560	1,120
Preparation for and participation in prehearing conference and technical session	4	8	140	560	1,120
Review / Respond to Staff Set 1 re: temporary rates	8	16	140	1,120	2,240
Prepare for and participate in technical session / settlement conference on temporary rates	8	16	140	1,120	2,240
Review Staff's proposal on temporary rates	4	8	140	560	1,120
Prepare for and participate in hearing on temporary rates	8	16	140	1,120	2,240
Review PUC order on temporary rates	4	8	140	560	1,120
Review / Respond to Staff Set 2 on permanent rates	16	24	140	2,240	3,360
Review / Respond to Staff Set 3 on permanent rates	16	24	140	2,240	3,360
Prepare for and participate in settlement conference on permanent rates	8	16	140	1,120	2,240
Review Staff's proposal on permanent rates	4	8	140	560	1,120
Prepare for and participate in hearing on permanent rates	8	16	140	1,120	2,240
Review PUC order on permanent rates	4	8	140	560	1,120
Total	<u>96</u>	<u>176</u>		<u>\$ 20,264</u>	<u>\$ 31,464</u>

Note: The PUC Staff partially drives the number of hours based of its review / data requests.

SPSt. Cyr
1/9/2020