

# Orr&Reno

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January 26, 2022

**Via Email**

Daniel C. Goldner, Chairman  
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission  
21 South Fruit St.  
Concord, NH 03301-2429

***Re: Docket No. DW 20-117, Hampstead Area Water Company, Inc., Request for Change in Rates – Request for Action on Pending Motions***


Dear Chairman Goldner:

On September 27, 2021, Hampstead Area Water Company, Inc. ("HAWC") filed a Motion for Protective Order to Prevent Publication of Data Requests and Responses in which it asked the Commission to prevent the Town of Atkinson from publishing all data requests served by all parties in this docket. On that same day HAWC filed a Motion for Confidential Treatment and Protective Order asking the Commission to grant protective treatment to two specific responses to data requests. On October 6, 2021, the Town of Atkinson filed Objections to both Motions. Pending the Commission's ruling on these Motions and Objections, the Town has refrained from providing copies of any responses to data requests in this docket to members of the public.

The Town is hereby respectfully requesting that the Commission rule on these pending Motions and Objections. With the hearings on HAWC's requested rate increase in this docket scheduled for March of this year, the Town submits for the reasons outlined in more detail in its Objections, that members of the public should be able to review these responses in order to aid them in understanding the issues that are before the Commission in the pending rate case. The New Hampshire Constitution, Part 1, Article 8, requires that government be "open, accessible, accountable and responsive." As the Town argued in the Objections and as the Commission has noted on many occasions, "[d]isclosure that informs the public of the conduct and activities of its government is in the public interest."

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Douglas L. Patch

DLP/eac  
Enclosures

cc (via email): Service List in Docket No. 20-117

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