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March 08, 2024

Daniel C. Goldner, Chair
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street
Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429

Re: DW 20-184 Aquarion Water Company of New Hampshire, Inc.
Property Tax Adjustment Mechanism Update and Compliance Tariff filing
New Hampshire Department of Energy's Position Statement

Dear Chairman Goldner:

Pursuant to RSA 12-P:2, IV, please accept this letter as the New Hampshire Department of Energy's (DOE) position statement in the above-referenced matter. On February 9, 2024, Aquarion Water Company of New Hampshire, Inc. (Aquarion, Company) filed its annual compliance filing of its Property Tax Adjustment Mechanism (PTAM) and related tariff pages as required by New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission Order No. 26,659 (July 29, 2022) and Appendix 6 of the Settlement Agreement setting permanent rates in Docket No DW 20-184. The 2024 PTAM filing reflects a PTAM surcharge of 2.50% with an effective date of April 1, 2024, which is lower than the 2023 PTAM surcharge of 5.16% that went into effect on April 1, 2023, and accepted by the NHPUC on April 6, 2023. The 2024 PTAM surcharge represents the reconciliation of actual 2023 local property tax amounts compared against those approved in Order No. 26,659 plus reconciliation of its initial filing related to the 2020-2022 tax payments. (see Attachment A) The DOE investigated the filing, requested additional supporting documentation, and reviewed that documentation. Based on its examination of the filing and additional supporting documentation, the DOE supports approval of the compliance filing as submitted by Aquarion on February 9, 2024. The DOE takes no exception to the Company's request. Pursuant to RSA 12-P:2, IV, the DOE does not recognize a need to further supplement this docket's record and considers it complete for consideration by the Public Utilities Commission at this time.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

/s/ Robyn J. Descoteau

Robyn J. Descoteau
Utility Analyst, Water Group
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Attachments: Attachment A

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