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December 18, 2020

## VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Debra A. Howland  
Executive Director  
Public Utilities Commission  
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301-2429

**RE: Docket No. DW 20-184,  
Aquarion Water Company of New Hampshire, Inc.  
Request for Change in Rates**

### **Temporary and Permanent Rate Filing**

Dear Director Howland:

Enclosed for filing with the Commission are the following materials, in addition to the Petition for Temporary and Permanent Rates regarding a request for an increase in rates by Aquarion Water Company of New Hampshire, Inc. (“Aquarion” or the “Company”):

- A. The Company’s permanent rate filing, including the pre-filed testimony of Company witnesses Donald J. Morrissey, John P. Walsh, Daniel R. Lawrence, Carl McMorran, and Debra A. Szabo, along with the testimony of the Company’s expert consultants Dylan W. D’Ascendis of ScottMadden, Inc., Ned W. Allis of Gannett Fleming Valuation and Rate Consultants, LLC, and John F. Guastella of Guastella Associates, Inc.; proposed revised tariff pages; a Report of Proposed Rate Changes; a proposed notice to customers pursuant to Puc 1203.02(c); and schedules supporting the Company’s filing. As part of the permanent rate filing, the Company also proposes future investments necessary for the continued delivery of safe and reliable water service and seeks recovery of these investments as step adjustments one, two and three. Schedule 6 provides an estimate of the timing and rate impact for these step adjustments.
- B. The Company’s request for temporary rates, including: a Report of Proposed Rate Changes – Temporary Rates; pre-filed testimony of Debra A. Szabo regarding temporary rates; and schedules supporting the Company’s request.

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C. Materials submitted in compliance with the filing requirements set forth in Puc 1604.01.

The enclosed temporary rate request seeks to establish temporary rates at the level of current rates by rolling the presently effective Water Infrastructure and Conservation Adjustment (“WICA”) charge into base rates. With respect to permanent rates, the Company’s permanent rate filing seeks an increase of \$1,373,351 in annual revenues, which would result in an overall increase of 18.0%.

In addition to seeking permanent rate relief to allow the Company a reasonable opportunity to earn its allowed rate of return, the Company submits this rate filing in accordance with Commission Order No. 26,245, dated May 2, 2019 in Docket Nos. DW 18-161 and DW 18-054 requiring a full rate proceeding to be filed no later than 2020, utilizing the prior year as its test year.

The Company requests that the Commission schedule a prehearing conference and hearing on temporary rates at the earliest date that the Commission can reasonably accommodate. The Company’s temporary rate request seeks to have temporary rates be effective for service rendered on or after February 1, 2021.

Consistent with the Commission’s March 17, 2020 secretarial letter, this submission is being provided electronically only. Should you have any questions concerning the foregoing, please contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Matthew J. Fossum

Senior Regulatory Counsel