



JUSTIN C. RICHARDSON

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October 26, 2023

Via Electronic Service Only
Daniel C. Goldner, Chairman
c/o ClerksOffice@puc.nh.gov
NH Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10,
Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

Re: Docket No. 20-187, Lakes Region Water Co., Inc. (Rate Case).
Docket No. 22-068, Lakes Region Water Co., Inc. (Step Increase).

Chairman Goldner:

Please find submitted herewith for filing with the Commission in the above-captioned proceedings a *Settlement Agreement of Parties Regarding Temporary-to-Permanent Rate Revenue Reconciliation and Rate Case Expenses* (“*Settlement Agreement*”). The *Settlement Agreement* is the result of comprehensive discussions during the October 3, 2023 technical session and subsequent discussions and is intended to address and resolve the following:

- (1) Lakes Region’s temporary to permanent rate recoupment in Docket No. 20 – 187;
- (2) Lakes Region’s recovery of rate case expenses related to its *Petition for a Permanent Rate Increase* in Docket No. 20 – 187; and
- (3) Lakes Region’s recovery of rate case expenses related to its *Petition for a Step Adjustment* in Docket Nos. 20 – 187 and 22 – 068.

The parties to the *Settlement Agreement* are Lakes Region Water Co., Inc (“Lakes Region”) and the New Hampshire Department of Energy (“DOE”). On October 24, 2023 and as part of the October 3, 2023 technical session, Lakes Region and the DOE sought the concurrence of the Lake Ossipee Village Homeowners (“LOV Homeowners”) to the terms of the *Settlement Agreement*. However, as of the time of this filing, the LOV Homeowners have not responded and the position of the LOV Homeowners, if any, is unknown. Under the procedural schedule

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Legal representation in the areas of water, utility, environmental and land use law in court and before state and local boards.

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approved on August 31, 2023 in Docket No. 20 – 187, responses or statements of position, if any, are due on or before November 2, 2023.

A complete copy of this filing and the *Settlement Agreement* are being provided to all persons on the Commission's official service list in both of the above-captioned proceedings. In addition, electronic copies of the schedules included in Attachment B are being provided.

If the Commission or its staff have any questions, please contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Justin C. Richardson
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Enclosures

Cc: Service Lists in Dockets 20 – 187 and 22 – 068.