

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BEFORE THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Docket No. DW 22-___

Pennichuck Water Works, Inc.
Pennichuck East Utility, Inc.
Pittsfield Aqueduct Company, Inc.

Miscellaneous Utility Service Fees

Petition for Approval of Miscellaneous Utility Service Fees

NOW COMES, Pennichuck Water Works, Inc. (PWW); Pennichuck East Utility, Inc. (PEU); and Pittsfield Aqueduct Company, Inc. (PAC) (together, Companies) in accordance with RSA 378:3; N.H. Admin. Rule PART Puc 1603; and Puc 1603.03 and hereby files this petition as well as an original and two copies of tariffs to increase PWW, PEU, and PAC's Miscellaneous Utility Service Fees. In support of this filing and petition, PWW, PEU, and PAC state as follows:

1. PWW, PEU, and PAC are affiliates under common ownership by Pennichuck Corporation, which in turn is wholly owned by the City of Nashua. PWW, PEU, and PAC are regulated public utilities pursuant to RSA 362:2 and RSA 362:4. PWW provides water service to approximately 29,000 customers in Amherst, Bedford, Derry, Epping, Hollis, Merrimack, Milford, Nashua, Newmarket, Plaistow, and Salem. PEU provides water service to approximately 8,251 customers over a diverse geographic region that includes the towns of Atkinson, Barnstead, Bow, Chester, Conway, Derry, Exeter, Hooksett, Lee, Litchfield, Londonderry, Middleton, Pelham, Plaistow, Raymond, Sandown, Tilton, Weare, and Windham. PAC provides water service to approximately 640 customers in the Town of Pittsfield.

2. PWW, PEU, and PAC charge Miscellaneous Utility Service Fees for services including: Initiation of Service, Service Pipe Connection, Service Connection, Disconnection, and Collection Charges, Returned Check Fee, and Inspection of Main Pipe Extensions. These charges were last changed in Docket Nos. DW 08-073 (for PWW) and DW 09-102 (for PEU and PAC). Before that, the Miscellaneous Utility Service Fees were updated in 1999. See, *Pennichuck Water Works, Inc.*, Docket No. DR 98-088, Order No. 23, 133 (February 1, 1999).

3. The Commission has historically approved PWW, PEU, and PAC’s Miscellaneous Utility Service Fees on a uniform basis so as to maintain consistency among the utilities. This has been done in recognition of the fact that PEU and PAC use PWW’s employees to conduct their operations. For this reason, the Companies are collectively seeking authorization to revise the Miscellaneous Utility Service Fees in each of their tariffs in this combined petition.

4. PWW, PEU, and PAC seek to increase their fees as shown on the below table:

Description of Service	Current Fee	Proposed Fee
PWW, PEU, and PAC		
A. Initiation of Service:	\$20.00	
i. New Service		\$108.00
ii. Transfer of Service		\$30.00
B. Service Pipe Connection	\$160.00	\$230.00
C. Service Connection, Disconnection, and Collection Charge		
i. During Business Hours	\$46.00	\$67.00
ii. During Non-Business Hours	\$63.00	\$95.00
D. Returned Check	\$15.00	\$18.00
E. Design Review/Inspection/As-Built Fee for Main Pipe Extension	\$3.00 per foot	\$3.44 per foot

5. The Companies’ cost calculation and tariff schedules reflecting these fee changes are attached to Mr. Ware’s testimony as Attachment A for PWW’s tariff page 46, Attachment B for, PEU’s tariff page 46, and Attachment C for, PAC’s tariff page 42. The calculation of the

costs is attached to Mr. Ware's testimony as Attachment D. Pursuant to PART Puc 1603, clean and track change versions of the tariff pages are also being filed.

6. Of note is that for the Initiation of Service fee, the Companies have broken that service into two parts: New Service and Transfer of Service. The Companies have split Initiation of Service into two parts because it is more cost-based and fair to customers. That is because initiating new service by transferring service costs less for the Companies to perform than creating a New Service. This Companies aver that this cost differential warrants separate rates to reflect that cost difference. This cost differential and the factors that go into determining the fee, as well as the cost basis for each other Miscellaneous Utility Service Fee, is described in the attached pre-filed direct testimony of Donald L. Ware, the Companies' Chief Operating Officer.

7. As explained in Mr. Ware's testimony, these fee changes reduce the respective Companies' revenue requirements to be collected from customer rates by the amount of the fees collected. That is because such Miscellaneous Utility Service Fees are routinely *pro forma* out of the calculation of the overall revenue requirement such that they are not factored into the revenue requirement that is allocated among the customer rate classes. The policy behind removing these fees from the calculation of the overall revenue requirement is that they are cost-based and they are only incurred as individual customers cause them.

8. For the above reasons, PWW, PEU, and PAC believe that the proposed tariff fee changes are reasonable and consistent with the public interest as they will promote efficient operation of the Companies and are based on the cost to provide those specific services.

WHEREFORE, PWW, PEU, and PAC respectfully requests the Commission:

- A. Find the fee changes are just and reasonable;
- B. Approve PWW, PEU, and PAC's instant petition; and
- B. Grant such other relief as is just and equitable.

Respectfully submitted,

PENNICHUCK WATER WORKS, INC.
PITTSFIELD AQUEDUCT COMPANY, INC.
PITTSFIELD AQUEDUCT COMPANY, INC.
By Its Attorney,

Date: January 18, 2022

By: *Marcia A. Brown*
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of this petition has been forwarded this day by electronic transmission to the Department of Energy and the Office of the Consumer Advocate.

Dated: January 18, 2022

Marcia A. Brown
Marcia A. Brown