

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DW 22-032

Pennichuck Water Works, Inc.  
Permanent Rate Proceeding

**ASSENTED-TO MOTION  
TO EXTEND FILING DEADLINE FOR SETTLEMENT**

NOW COMES, Pennichuck Water Works, Inc. (PWW), pursuant to Puc 203.07, and the Commission's March 17, 2020 temporary filing requirements, and hereby requests the Commission allow the settling parties to file the settlement agreement in this proceeding no later than May 10, 2023. In support of this request, PWW states as follows:

1. On September 30, 2022, the Commission approved the parties proposed procedural schedule governing this proceeding. That procedural schedule included a settlement track whereby any settlement agreement on permanent rates must be filed no later than April 19, 2023.
2. The active parties in this docket are presently engaged in settlement discussions that the parties are hopeful that those discussions will result in a settlement agreement. The settlement discussions, however, are not yet resolved enough to meet the April 19, 2023 deadline to file a settlement document.
3. PWW and the Department of Energy (DOE) respectfully request additional time to resolve the issues in settlement.
4. The hearing in this matter is scheduled for May 17, 2023. PWW and DOE request until May 10, 2023 to file the settlement agreement. Puc 203.20 requires settlements to be filed 5 days prior to hearing. Pursuant to Puc 202.03(c), the computation of time less than 6

days does not include Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. With the hearing in this proceeding scheduled for May 17, 2023, under Puc 203.20(e), the 5-day deadline falls on May 10, 2023. PWW and the settling parties' request approval to file the settlement no later than May 10, 2023. May 10<sup>th</sup> is also the deadline for filing hearing exhibits and witness lists.

5. PWW avers that the orderly and efficient resolution of this matter would not be disrupted by this change in the procedural schedule because all of the active participants in this proceeding are involved in settlement discussions. The Commission has long held that settlements promote the orderly and efficient conduct of a proceeding. *EnergyNorth Natural Gas, Inc. d/b/a Keyspan Energy Delivery New England*, Docket No. DG 06-122, Order No. 24,824 (February 29, 2008) at 17. In the instant case, all of the active parties are participating in the settlement agreement which will result in a streamlined presentation of the issues and parties' positions at hearing. Having the issues expressly listed in a document will aid the parties' presentation at hearing because the issues will be presented in a methodical and orderly manner; it will also aid the Commission's review of the issues.

6. PWW has requested positions of the parties on the relief requested. The DOE assents to the relief requested. The Office of the Consumer Advocate assents to the relief requested.

WHEREFORE, PWW respectfully requests the Commission:

- A. Allow the settling parties to file the settlement agreement no later than May 10, 2023;
- B. Grant PWW's request to waive Puc 203.20; and
- C. Grant such other relief as is just and equitable.

Respectfully submitted,

Pennichuck Water Works, Inc.

By its Attorney,  
NH BROWN LAW, PLLC

Dated: April 18, 2023

By: Marcia A. Brown  
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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing motion has been emailed this 18<sup>th</sup> day of April 2023 to the docket-related service list for DW 22-032.

Marcia A. Brown  
Marcia A. Brown, Esq.