# STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE THE NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

### BEDFORD WASTE SERVICES CORPORATION

#### DW 22-058

## PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF CHANGE IN RATES

The Petitioner, Bedford Waste Services Corporation ("Bedford" or "Company"), respectively petitions the N.H. Public Utilities Commission (Commission) for approval of a change in rates. In support of this Petition, the Company says:

- 1. That it is presently franchised in the neighborhood known as Bedford Three Corners in Bedford, New Hampshire.
- 2. That it has been approximately 17 years since its last rate case (DW 04-144). Since that time, Bedford has rejuvenated 1 leach field and replaced numerous pumps. In 2021, the test year, Bedford replaced 7 pumps amounting to \$26,353.
- 3. That the current approved rate of return (from DW 04-144) is 8%. Bedford is proposing the same rate of return plus the amortization of financing costs. The total equity is negative. As such, Bedford is utilizing the costs of debt of 8.09% for the proposed rate of return.
- 4. That due to the increase in rate base and increases in expenses, rates and revenues also have to increase.
- 5. That Bedford believes that the proposed increase in rates / revenues is fair, reasonable and manageable and allows the Company to earn a fair and reasonable rate of return on its prudently incurred investments and pay for its necessary operating expenses. The proposed increase will enable the Company to continue to provide good quality sewer service with good reliability and at good price.

- 6. That while Bedford awaits NHPUC approval of permanent rates, Bedford proposes temporary rates. See temporary rate filing.
- 7. That in 2022 Bedford replaced 4 pumps year to date, amounting to \$17,176. Bedford projects that it will replace 3 additional pumps amounting to \$12,882, totaling \$30,057. As such, Bedford is requesting recovery of the 7 2022 pumps as part of Step 1, subject to adjusting for the actual number of pumps replaced and the actual costs.
- 8. That in 2023 Bedford projects that it will replace 7 pumps, amounting to \$30,057. As such, Bedford is requesting recovery of the 7 2023 pumps as part of Step 2, subject to adjusting for the actual number of pumps replaced and the actual costs.
- 9. In support of temporary rates, permanent rates, step 1 and step 2, the Company proposes that the change in rates will:
  - a. result in a rate base that fully reflects plant that is used and useful and in service to customers,
  - b. result in a rate of return that reflects the current cost of debt, and
  - c. result in a revenue requirement that allows Bedford to recover its present expenses and earn fair and reasonable rate of return of its rate base.
- 10. It would be in the public good for the Company to receive approval of the change in rates. The Company provides the following support:
  - a. It will improve cash flow and earnings.
  - b. It will allow for continuation of sewer service to the Company's customers.
- 11. Please see the Pre-filed Testimony of Stephen St. Cyr and other rate case requirements in support of the temporary rates, permanent rates and step 1 and step 2.

### WHEREFORE your Petitioner prays:

- A. That the Commission finds that it would be in the public good for the Company to change rates, as proposed;
- B. That the Commission, by appropriate order, grant the Company permission to implement temporary rates, as proposed;
- C. That the Commission, by appropriate order, grant the Company permission to implement permanent rates, as proposed;
- D. That the Commission, by appropriate order, grant the Company permission to implement Step 1, as proposed;
- E. That the Commission, by appropriate order, grant the Company permission to implement Step 2, as proposed;
- F. That the Commission make such further findings and orders as may be appropriate under the circumstances.

Dated the 17<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2022

Respectfully submitted, Bedford Waste Services Corporation

Stephen P. St. Cyr

Manager