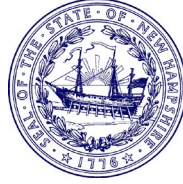


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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10
Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

December 7, 2023

Daniel C. Goldner, Chairman
Public Utilities Commission
21 S. Fruit Street
Concord, NH 03301-2429

Re: DW 23-020 Hampstead Area Water Company, Inc. (HAWC)
Petition for Step II Adjustment, *DOE's Brief Re Step Adjustment-Expenses*

Dear Chairman Goldner:

The New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (Commission) has directed the settling parties to "file written legal briefs with the Commission concerning the legal basis and any precedent for requesting recovery of expenses relating to Step I and Step II adjustments . . ." See Order No. 26,902 (November 8, 2023) at 14.

The New Hampshire Department of Energy hereby provides its brief and the attached technical statement of Jayson P. Laflamme, Director, Water Group, Regulatory Support Division. These documents support HAWC's recovery of appropriate step adjustment-related expenses and meet the Commission's requirement.

Consistent with the Commission's current practice, this letter is being filed solely in electronic form. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ *Mary E. Schwarzer*

Mary.E. Schwarzer
Staff Attorney/Hearings Examiner

Encl.
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