

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**DW 23-020**

**HAMPSTEAD AREA WATER COMPANY, INC.**

**Request for Step II Adjustment**

**Procedural Order Re: Rescheduling Hearing, Taking Administrative Notice of Prior Testimony, Requesting DES Attendance at Hearing, and Data Request**

On September 8, 2023, Hampstead Area Water Company, Inc. (HAWC) filed a revised settlement agreement on the Step II Adjustment between itself, the New Hampshire Department of Energy, the Town of Hampstead, and the Town of Atkinson. HAWC indicated that intervenor Karen Steele objected to the settlement agreement. On September 12, 2023, the Office of the Consumer Advocate (OCA) filed a letter in support of the agreement. Furthermore, the OCA opines that the evidentiary hearing could conclude in one day. There are currently two dates scheduled for the hearing on the settlement, September 26 and October 11, 2023. In advance of the hearing, the Commission orders as follows.

First, the Commission CANCELS the September 26, 2023 hearing date. The Commission will hold the hearing on October 11, 2023. Although the OCA has opined that the hearing in this matter could conclude in one day, the Commission will reserve November 2, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for a second day of hearings if necessary.

Second, the Commission takes administrative notice of the testimony of Harold Morse, HAWC's president, which HAWC submitted on September 9, 2019 as part of its petition in Docket No. DW 19-147. New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules, Puc 203.27(a)(2) and (b). The Commission takes notice of Mr. Morse's testimony and attachments including the Agreement Regarding the Southern New Hampshire Regional

Water Interconnection Project (Interconnection Agreement) and the Agreement between the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES) and Manchester Water Works approved by Governor and Council (MSDC Agreement). Any objections to the Commission taking administrative notice of Mr. Morse's testimony and accompanying attachments must be filed by October 2, 2023.

Third, the Commission requests that the DES attend the October 11, 2023 hearing to provide testimony concerning the terms of the Interconnection Agreement and the MSDC Agreement. The nature of these agreements, and the requirements they impose on HAWC, were the subject of discussion in the step adjustment proceeding in Docket No. DW 20-117. The Commission would therefore appreciate DES's expert testimony concerning these agreements.

Fourth, the Commission requests that HAWC file, as a response to a data request, a breakdown detailing which assets it seeks to recover in the Step II Adjustment are required by the Interconnection Agreement and which are outside of it. HAWC shall submit this filing by October 2, 2023.

So ordered, this twelfth day of September, 2023.



Daniel C. Goldner  
Presiding Officer  
Chairman

# Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 23-020

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Email Addresses

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ClerksOffice@puc.nh.gov  
japple@atkinson-nh.gov  
aaugeri@lewisbuilders.com  
douglas.brogan@gmail.com  
bethc@atkinson-nh.gov  
Energy-Litigation@energy.nh.gov  
thomas.c.frantz@energy.nh.gov  
donald.m.kreis@oca.nh.gov  
jayson.p.laflamme@energy.nh.gov  
charlie@hampsteadwater.com  
anthony.j.leone@energy.nh.gov  
harold@lewisbuilders.com  
chris@atkinsoncc.com  
amanda.o.noonan@energy.nh.gov  
ocalitigation@oca.nh.gov  
mary.e.schwarzer@energy.nh.gov  
sspyveewater@gmail.com  
stephenpstcyr@yahoo.com  
karen.sue.steele@gmail.com  
john@lewisbuilders.com  
htombarello@lewisbuilders.com  
rawlew04@comcast.net  
Lwarnock@hampsteadnh.us