STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DW 23-066

PENNICHUCK EAST UTILITY, INC., & PITTSFIELD AQUEDUCT COMPANY, INC.

Petition for Waiver and Increase to the Short-Term Debt Limit

Procedural Order Re: Motion for Short-Term Extension of Waivers

On June 26, 2023, Pennichuck East Utility, Inc. (PEU) and Pittsfield Aqueduct Company, Inc. (PAC) filed a joint petition for waivers from New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules, Puc 608.05, which limits a utility's short-term debt to ten percent of its net fixed plant, to run until June 30, 2025. The Commission has previously approved waivers from this rule for both companies that are set to expire on June 30, 2023. See Order Nos. 26,311 (September 26, 2019) and 26,823 (May 16, 2023). On June 27, 2023, the companies jointly moved for short-term extensions of their existing waivers beyond the imminent June 30, 2023 expiration while the Commission adjudicates their joint petition. Specifically, the companies requested that the Commission extend the existing deadlines until October 31, 2023. The companies represented that, absent an extension of their waivers, they would be in immediate violation of Puc 608.05 after June 30, 2023 because their existing debt limits exceed the ten percent limit. The companies indicated that the New Hampshire Department of Energy did not object to their motion.

Given the imminent expiration of the existing waivers, and the potential impacts on the companies' operations and services to their customers, the Commission waives the ten-day objection period for motions under Puc 203.07(e). *See* Puc 201.05. Likewise, given the need for the companies to continue operating while the Commission adjudicates their petition, the Commission GRANTS the companies' motion for short-term extensions of

their existing waivers from Puc 608.05 until October 31, 2023. *See* Puc 201.05. While the Commission accepts the companies' representations in their motion on their face for the purposes of ruling on this extraordinary relief, the Commission will require a more complete record to rule on their petition.

So ordered, this twenty-ninth day of June, 2023.

Daniel C. Goldner

Chairman

Pradip K. Chattopadhyay

Commissioner

Carleton B. Simpson Commissioner

Service List - Docket Related

Docket#: 23-066

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