# Readopt with amendments Puc 700, effective 9-10-13 (Document #10408), to read as follows:

CHAPTER Puc 700 RULES FOR SEWER UTILITIES

# PART Puc 701 APPLICATION OF RULES

Puc 701.01 Application of Rules. These rules shall apply to every any utility as defined in Puc 702.089.

#### PART Puc 702 DEFINITIONS

Puc 702.01 "Commission" means the New Hampshire public utilities commission.

Puc 702.02 "Customer" means any person, firm, corporation, municipality or any other entity being supplied sewage disposal service by a utility.

Puc 702.03 "Department" means the New Hampshire department of energy. "Main" means a sewage pipe owned, operated, or maintained by a utility which is used to transport sewage from the service pipe to the point of disposa

Puc 702.04 "Septic pumping" means the removal of sludge and scum from a septic or holding tank system for transport to appropriate disposal facilities.

Puc 702.05 "Service pipe" means the utility owned pipe used to transport sewage from the customerowned service pipe to the main.

Puc 702.06-05 "Sewage" means ground garbage, human or animal excretions and all other waterborne waste normally disposed of by residential, industrial, or commercial facilities through a sanitary sewage disposal system excluding solid waste, industrial waste and septic pumping.

Puc 702.07–06 "Sewage disposal service" means the collection, transportation, treatment, and disposal of sewage including but not limited to the active processing of sewage to remove impurities and its ultimate discharge in the environment. This definition does not include septic pumping.

Puc 702.08—07 "Sewage disposal system" means the plant and property, including all pipes, pumps, structures and other facilities and equipment owned, operated, and controlled or managed by a utility in connection with the sewage disposal service to its customers.

Puc 702.09 08 "Utility" means any "public utility" as defined in RSA 362:2 owning, operating or managing any plant or equipment or any part of the same for the furnishing of sewage disposal for the public except:

- (a) Municipal corporations operating within their corporate limits;
- (b) Municipal corporations which are exempt pursuant to RSA 362:4, to the extent of such exemption;

- (c) Any landlord supplying sewage disposal service to its tenants which service is included in a rental fee;
  - (d) Any association of residents supplying sewage disposal service to themselves; or
  - (e) Any other entity otherwise exempt from regulation by statute or commission order.

Puc 702.10 "Water utility" means any "public utility" as defined in RSA 362:2 owning, operating or managing any plant or equipment or any part of the same for supplying of water to the public, or engaged in the transmission or sale of water ultimately sold to the public within New Hampshire.

# PART Puc 703 SERVICE PROVISIONS

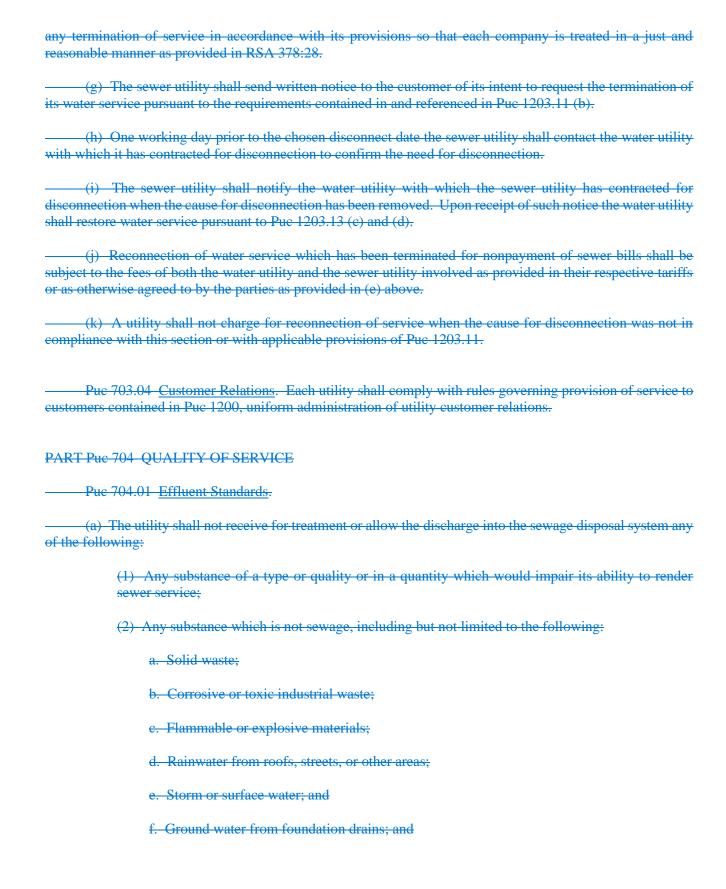
Puc 703.01 <u>Filing of Tariffs</u>. No utility shall render sewage disposal service until a complete tariff containing terms and conditions and rate schedules shall have been filed and approved by the commission according to Puc 1600.

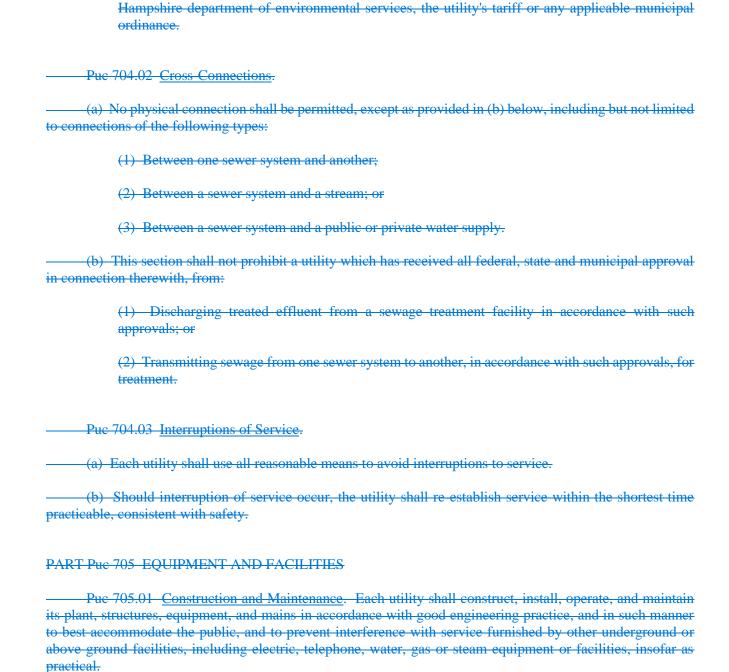
#### Puc 703.02 Customer Bill Adjustments.

- (a) Where the sewage disposal service to a customer is billed on the basis of metered water consumption as measured by the water meter of the serving water utility, and where the water meter is found to be inaccurate, the customer's sewer bill shall be adjusted accordingly, following the corresponding rules for adjusting the customer's water bill contained in Puc 605.05.
- (b) Where the sewage utility service to a customer is measured by the sewage meter of the serving sewage utility, and where the meter is found to be inaccurate, the customer's bill shall be adjusted accordingly, following the corresponding rules set out at Puc 605.05 for adjusting the customer's water bill.

#### Puc 703.03 Discontinuance of Service.

- (a) Sewer service shall not be disconnected due to nonpayment.
- (b) Sewer utilities may, however, contract with the serving water utility to discontinue water service for nonpayment of sewer utility bills.
- (c) If the utility is a combined water and sewer utility, it may discontinue water service for nonpayment of sewer bills. Discontinuance of service by either a water utility or a combined water and sewer utility shall be carried out in accordance with Puc 1203.11.
- (d) The contract between the sewer and water utilities shall contain specific provisions regarding responsibilities involving notice of termination, termination, reconnection, and provision for fair and reasonable compensation based on the actual cost to the water utility of providing such service.
- (e) Compensation referred to in (d) above shall be based on disconnection and reconnection charges in the water utility's tariff or as otherwise agreed to by the parties.
- (f) The contract between the water utility and the sewer utility shall be submitted to the commission pursuant to Puc 204 and approved by the commission pursuant to the criteria contained in Puc 1203.11 prior to





(3) Any substance prohibited by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the New

PART Puc 706–704 RECORDS, REPORTS, AND ACCOUNTING REQUIREMENTS, AND SHORT-TERM DEBT

Puc 706704.01 Records in General. All records shall be organized, arranged or prepared to ensure that sufficient data is available to determine the status of compliance with these rules.

Station Records. Each utility shall keep sufficient records of the operation of its pumping, treatment, and other units to show the characteristics and performance of each.

#### Puc 706.02 System Maps.

- (a) Each utility shall have on file at its principal office located within New Hampshire a suitable map, maps, or drawings showing the following:
  - (1) Size, character and location of all mains, service pipes, including disposal points, and manholes;
  - (2) Location and layout of all treatment plants and pumping stations; and
  - (3) Description of service area.
- (b) In lieu of showing service locations on maps, referred to in (a)(1) above, a card record or other suitable means may be used.

#### Puc 7046.023 Preservation of Records.

- (a) All records shall be preserved by the utility for a period of 2 years unless otherwise designated herein or by the commission's <u>or the department's</u> rules governing the preservation of records, including, but not limited to, Puc 7046.045(b).
- (b) All records shall be kept within New Hampshire at the office or offices of the utility and shall be open at all reasonable hours for examination by the commission or the department.

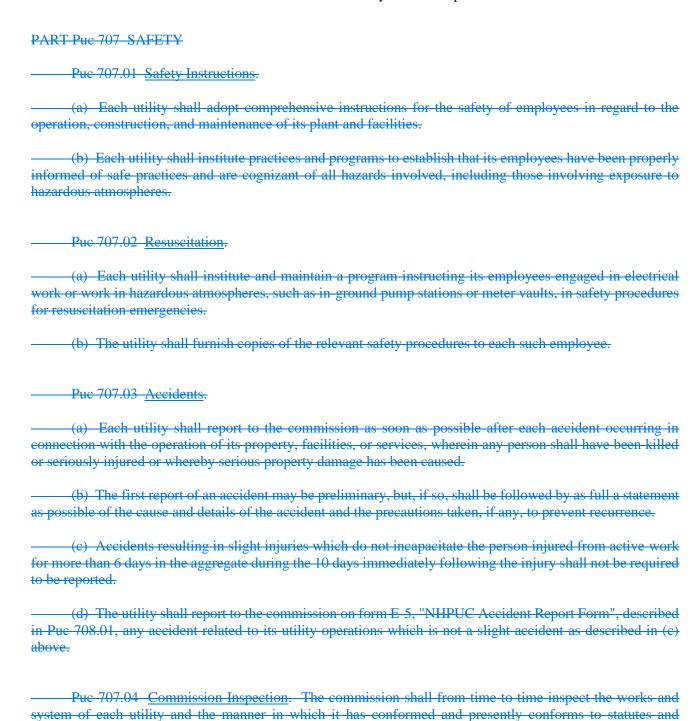
## Puc 7046.034 Reports to Commission.

- (a) The utility shall furnish the commission with any information concerning the utility's facilities or operations which the commission shall request and need for determining rates or, judging the practices of the utility, including or determining whether the service provided and facilities used are reasonably safe and adequate.
- (b) Each utility shall file periodic reports with the commission as required by Puc 708-on forms, as required by Puc 708, which shall be furnished by the commission upon request.

#### Puc 7046.045 Uniform System of Accounts for Accounting Records.

- (a) Each utility shall maintain its accounts and records in conformity with the "Uniform Classification of Accounts for Sewer Utilities" established and issued by the commission as a uniform system of accounts pursuant to RSA 374:8.
- (b) Each utility shall keep and preserve all accounts and records as provided in the "Regulations to Govern the Preservation of Records of Electric, Gas and Water Utilities Regulation" issued by the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, which is established and designated by the commission as part of its uniform system of accounts pursuant to RSA 374:8.
- Puc 7046.056 Work Order and Continuing Property Records. Each utility shall maintain a work order system and continuing property records according to the "Uniform Classification of Accounts for Sewer Utilities" and shall provide the commission or the department access to such records when requested.

Puc 7046.067 Short Term Debt. No utility shall issue or renew any notes, bonds or other evidence of indebtedness payable less than 12 months after the date thereof without prior commission approval pursuant to Puc 201.05 if said short term debt exceeds 10% of the utility's net fixed plant.



PART Puc <del>708</del> FORMS TO BE FILED

commission rules and orders.

Puc 708.01 E-5 - Utility Accident Report.

(a) Each utility shall file a completed "NHPUC Accident Report Form" within 10 working days of when a utility accident, as described in Puc 707.03 (a) and (c), occurs.
(b) Each utility shall include the following on the "NHPUC Accident Report Form":
(1) The report number, date and name and address of the utility;
(2) The date and the location of the accident and the time of discovery;
(3) A description of the person injured including:
a. Name;
b. Age;
c. Residence;
d. Employer; and
e. Status of injured person, whether employee, person under contract, invitee, licensee, trespasser or other;
(4) A description of the injury, current condition, duration of disability and, if applicable, anticipated return to work date;
(5) A description of the cause and manner of the accident;
(6) If applicable, the cause of death and previous accident report number of the report filed prior to the death;
(7) The designation of any federal or state statute violated, if applicable;
(8) A recommendation for guarding against repetition of the accident; and
(9) The signature and date submitted of a utility official authorized to submit the form and printed name and the title of the official.
Puc 708.02 E-16 Report of Meter Complaint Tests.
(a) Each utility shall report to the commission on Form E-16 on a monthly basis if water or sewer meter complaints occur, the former if the sewage service is being measured by the water meter.
(b) A utility shall include on form E-16 the following:
(1) The name of the company;
(2) The month of report;

(3) The customer's name and address;

- (4) The meter manufacturer, model number, company number, type, and size;
- (5) The percent of registration of meters that are fast and percent of registration that are slow;
- (6) If a bill adjustment occurs, the amount refunded or collected and the period covered by the bill adjustment;
- (7) The date; and
- (8) The signature of the utility official authorized to submit the form and, the printed name and the title of the official.

Puc 70<u>5</u>8.0<u>1</u>3 E-22 <u>Report of Proposed Expenditures for Additions, Extensions and Capital Improvements to Fixed Capital.</u>

- (a) Except as provided in (i) below, each utility shall file with the commission and the department an annual report of proposed expenditures for addition, extensions and capital improvements to fixed capital on or before May 15 of each year.
- (b) If the utility creates its own Form E-22, the report shall include a caption identifying the report as "E-22 Report of Proposed Expenditures for Additions, Extensions and Capital Improvements to Fixed Capital" along with the name of the utility filing the report.
- (c) The utility shall report the following on Form E-22 with respect to any proposed expenditures for additions, extensions and capital improvements which meet the conditions of (d) below:
  - (1) A description of the addition, extension or capital improvement;
  - (2) The location of the proposed addition, extension or capital improvement;
  - (3) The total estimated cost of the proposed addition, extension or improvement by work category; and
  - (4) The signature, full name and title of the utility employee who supervised the preparation of the report and the date submitted.
- (d) Each utility shall report to the commission when the probable cost of any addition, extension or capital improvement to its utility plant will exceed the reportable amounts shown in Table 7.5.1 below:

Table 7.5.1 Reportable Amounts by Utility Plant Range

UTILITY PLANT RANGE	REPORTABLE AMOUNT
\$400,000 and under	\$ 5,000
400,001 to \$1,000,000	10,000
1,000,001 to 2,000,000	15,000
2,000,001 to 3,000,000	22,500
3,000,001 to 50,000,000	30,000
50,000,001 to 100,000,000	50,000
100,000,001 and over	100,000

- (e) The reportable amount shall be based on the gross fixed capital, as of December 31st of the calendar year immediately preceding, of each core stand-alone or satellite system with an independent source of supply.
- (f) Companies with more than \$10,000,000 in fixed capital may use the next higher reporting limit for their satellite systems.
  - (g) The reporting limits shall apply to total project cost including contributions in aid of construction.
  - (h) For purposes of (d) above, reporting to the commission shall consist of:
    - (1) A completed E-22 form; or
    - (2) With written approval of the commission pursuant to (i) below, a construction budget.
- (i) The commission shall accept a construction budget in place of individual E-22 forms if the proposed budget:
  - (1) Highlights all projects above the utility's reporting limit;
  - (2) Contains a level of detail appropriate to the expenditures anticipated and to identification of potential project-specific issues; and
  - (3) Covers a period of no longer than one year.
- (j) A utility shall file an original and duplicate copy of the report or the construction budget with the commission engineering department as follows:
  - (1) An individual E-22 form no fewer than 30 days before starting actual construction or expenditure of funds; or
  - (2) A construction budget no fewer than 60 days before starting actual construction or expenditure of funds.
- (k) A utility may provide an additional copy of its filing and request that it be date-stamped and returned by the commission to confirm filing.
- (1) If the cost of a project is anticipated to fall below the applicable reporting limit but later exceeds it, the utility shall immediately file an E-22 form at whatever time or phase of the project it becomes apparent the limit will be exceeded. This requirement shall include projects listed in the construction budget but not highlighted in accordance with (i)(1) above.
- (m) Investigation of or comment on a construction budget or E-22 by the commission or <u>department</u>, or failure of the <u>commission or department</u> staff to identify prudence review issues as described in (n) below shall not constitute a final prudence review and the commission shall not be precluded from analyzing the merit of any expenditure in a future rate case.
- (n) If a project not included in an approved construction budget arises which will exceed a utility's reporting limit, the utility shall file an E-22 form.

Puc 7058.024 E-25 Sewer Report of Proposed Changes in Depreciation Rates.

(a) Each utility shall file <u>with the commission and the department</u> "Form E-25 Sewer <u>Report of Proposed Changes in Depreciation Rates</u>" when it proposes any change in depreciation rates.

- (b) If the utility creates its own Form E-25 Sewer, the utility shall include on Form E-25 Sewer a caption identifying it as "Form E-25 Sewer Report of Proposed Change in Depreciation Rates".
  - (c) The utility shall include on Form E-25 Sewer the following:
    - (1) The name of the company;
    - (2) The date;
    - (3) The account number and title;
    - (4) The estimated whole life, both present and proposed, in years;
    - (5) The net salvage, both present and proposed, by percentage;
    - (6) The depreciation accrual rate, both present and proposed, by percentage;
    - (7) The net annual change in dollars;
    - (8) The reasons for the change; and
    - (9) The signature, the printed full name and title of the utility employee who supervised the preparation of the form as well as the date submitted.
- (d) A utility shall not implement any change in depreciation rates until the proposed change has been approved by the commission in an adjudicatory proceeding pursuant to Puc 200.

#### Puc 7058.035 F-3 Pro Forma Income Statement at Present and Proposed Rates for Year Ended.

- (a) Each utility which requests a rate increase shall file Form F-3 with the commission and the department.
- (b) If the utility creates its own Form F-3, the utility shall include on Form F-3 a caption identifying the report as "Form F-3 Pro Forma Income Statement" and include the name of the utility filing the report.
  - (c) The utility shall include on Form F-3 the following:
    - (1) A breakdown of operating revenues and expenses for:
      - a. Actual year ended;
      - b. Adjustments and pro forma at present rates;
      - c. At proposed rates with additional requirements; and
      - d. Total requirements.
  - (d) Each utility which requests a rate increase shall file with the commission the following:
    - (1) A calculation of rate base and calculation of rate of return;
    - (2) A description, including a reproduction of actual required income and pro forma test period for rate base, rate of return, income required, adjusted net operating income, deficiency, tax effect and revenue deficiency;
    - (3) A detailed schedule, explaining and showing how each pro forma adjustment was determined, of operating revenues and operating expenses, operating rents and net operating income for 12

- (4) A description of property taxes including the town, the period, the actual amount paid, the amount accrued, the amount not applicable to utility operations, proforma adjustments, proformed property taxes;
- (5) If a discount on property taxes was available, the company shall state such and shall include the rate, and whether or not the utility took advantage of the discount;
- (6) A description of payroll which shall describe accounts in operation, maintenance, construction, plant removal and other accounts specified for 12 months ending, pro forma adjustment and proformed to 12 months;
- (7) A balance sheet of assets and deferred charges which shall include sewer plant, other property, investments, current assets, deferred charges for 12 months ending, first preceding year, second preceding year, and test year average of monthly balance sheets;
- (8) A description of capitalization, long-term debt, current and accrued liabilities, deferred credits, reserves and contributions in aid of construction for 12 months ending, and first preceding year, second preceding year, and test year average of monthly balance sheets;
- (9) A description of plant held for future use, deferred charges, deferred credits, accumulated deferred taxes on income for each account or subaccount and accumulated depreciation;
- (10) A description of transmission and distribution inventory, appliance inventory, other materials and supplies for the test year average, first preceding year and the second preceding year;
- (11) A description of contributions in aid of construction, the name or year received, the actual amount, original amount booked and the annual depreciation taken on contributed capital;
- (12) A description of the utility's rate which shall include a description of each of the following:
  - a. Plant-in-service, less accumulated depreciation and plant held for future use to derive net utility plant;
  - b. Cash, working capital, materials and supplies, repayments, less deferred taxes, investment tax credits, customer deposits, and customer advances to determine net operating income applicable to rate base; and
  - c. Rate of return for jurisdictional proforma test year average, jurisdiction 13 month average, total proformed test year average, and total 13 month average;
- (13) A description of and accounting of working capital which shall be based upon the balance sheet approach or a detailed lag study; and
- (14) The signature, the printed full name and title of the utility employee who supervised the preparation of the Form.

#### Puc 7058.046 F-4 Authority to Issue Securities.

(a) Each utility shall file form F-4 with the commission <u>and the department</u> when it seeks authority to issue securities.

- (b) A utility shall include on form F-4 the following:
  - (1) A petition which shall include:
    - a. A caption identifying the form as "Form F-4 Authority to Issue Securities" and the name of the company;
    - b. A description of authorized and outstanding long-term debt and capital stock;
    - c. The amount of short-term notes outstanding;
    - d. A clause giving a description and the amount of new securities, to whom issued, the interest rates if known and the date of the indenture mortgage under which the debt is to be issued;
    - e. A description of what the proceeds will be used for;
    - f. A list of exhibits attached to the petition;
    - g. A certification statement as contained in (e) below; and
    - h. The petitioner's prayer asking for the relief requested;
  - (2) Exhibit 1, an application for leave to issue securities pursuant to RSA 369:3 that includes a statement in reasonable detail of any proposed additions, construction or working capital requirements together with any proposed construction budget;
  - (3) Exhibit 2, providing a statement showing the estimated cost of financing including, for example, legal costs, printing, documentary tax, trustee services, and financial services;
  - (4) Exhibit 3, consisting of a current balance sheet adjusted for financing with journal entries and explanations for actual, adjustments, and as adjusted;
  - (5) Exhibit 4, consisting of a current income statement adjusted for financing including new interest, depreciation and taxes with entries for actual, adjustments and as adjusted;
  - (6) Exhibit 5, consisting of a statement of capitalization ratios after giving effect to the proposed financing; and
  - (7) Exhibit 6, consisting of a weighted average cost of debt.
- (c) The utility shall also provide the following:
  - (1) A copy of the purchase and sale agreement for long-term financing including any letter of commitment from a lender stating the details of financing;
  - (2) A copy of the mortgage indenture;
  - (3) A copy of terms of the new common or preferred stock;
  - (4) An appropriate authorizing resolution of petitioner's stockholders or other group or body whose consent is necessary to authorize the petitioner to enter into the new financing; and
  - (5) An original and 6 copies of the petition and exhibits.
- (d) By submitting or signing a form F-4 petition, the persons shall agree to comply with the certification requirement as set forth in (e) below.

(e) Each utility shall provide, in connection with a form F-4 "Petition for Authority to Issue Securities", a certification which shall provide as follows:

"The petitioner utility company believes and, therefore, alleges that the securities to be issued will be consistent with public good and that it is entitled to issue said securities under RSA 369 for the purposes set forth in its petition."

# Puc 708.07 F-16 Sewer Annual Report.

- (a) Each utility which maintains its books on a calendar year basis shall complete the "Annual Report for Sewer Utilities," dated July 2013, form available on the commission website at www.puc.nh.gov, and file one signed original and one electronic copy with the commission annually on or before March 31st,
- (b) Each utility which maintains its books on a fiscal year which does not coincide with a calendar year shall complete the commission's Form F-16 "Annual Report for Sewer Utilities," dated July 2013, available on the commission website at www.puc.nh.gov, and file with the commission one signed original and one electronic copy by email or through the commission's electronic records filing system no later than 90 days following the close of each fiscal year.
- (c) Each utility shall comply with the electronic filing requirement regarding the "Annual Report" form as provided in Puc 708.09.

Puc 708.08 F-22 Information Sheet.

- (a) Each utility shall file Form F-22:
  - (1) Annually; and
  - (2) Whenever any changes occur to the information included in the form F-22 filing.
- (b) Each utility shall include the following on form F-22:
  - (1) The name of the utility;
  - (2) The person's name and address to receive the annual report form;
  - (3) The person's name and address to receive the utility assessment tax;
  - (4) The names and titles of the principal officers of the company; and
  - (5) The signature, the printed full name and title of the utility employee who supervised the preparation of the form as well as the date submitted.

Puc 708.09 Electronic Filing Requirement, Annual Report.

(a) "Electronic filing" means the filing with the commission of an electronic version of a document or form.

- (b) Each utility shall, in addition to filing a completed and executed "Annual Report" in paper as required by Puc 708.07, electronically file with the commission, to the extent practicable, in an electronic file format compatible with the computer system of the commission, a completed "Annual Report" form.
- (c) The commission shall maintain a list on its web site of the types of electronic file formats compatible with its computer system.
- (d) Any sewer utility serving fewer than 600 customers shall be exempt from the requirements of this section.
- (e) Any utility may petition for a one year waiver from the electronic filing requirement pursuant to the waiver provisions of Puc 201.05.
- (f) In its application for a waiver under (e) above, a utility shall describe and provide evidence to demonstrate that:
  - (1) It does not have the computer capability to generate electronic reports or filings due to the small size of its overall operations or its lack of computer equipment and/or expertise; or
  - (2) Its existing available computer systems are not compatible with the computer systems of the commission and because of this incompatibility it would be prohibitively expensive or cumbersome to file electronically; or
  - (3) Other circumstances would make electronic filing prohibitively expensive or cumbersome.
- (g) The commission shall issue a waiver under (e) and (f) above if it determines that the burden on the utility of electronic filing outweighs the benefit to the administrative process.
- (h) The commission shall make available to each utility upon request an electronic version of the "Annual Report" form when the commission has prepared and has available an electronic version.

# Appendix

Rule	Specific State Statute the Rule Implements
Puc 701.01 – Puc 702.08	RSA 365:8, I(e) and (l)
Puc 703.01	RSA 365:8, I(e) and (l); RSA 374:15
Puc 704.01 – Puc 704.06	RSA 365:8, I(e) and (l); RSA 369:1 and 3; RSA 374:3, 4, and 13
Puc 705.01 – Puc 705.03	RSA 365:8, I(e) and (l); RSA 374:3, 4, and 15
Puc 705.04	RSA 365:8, I(e) and (l); RSA 369:1 and 3