STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DW 21-093

AQUARION WATER COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, INC.

Petition for Approval of Franchise Expansion, Acquisition of Assets, and Application of Existing Rates

Procedural Order Re: Request for Hybrid Hearing

The Commission scheduled an in person hearing on February 23, 2022. On February 1, 2022, counsel for Wiggin Way/Winterberry Homeowners' Association (Wiggin Way) filed a request for a hybrid hearing format on the following grounds: (1) many of Wiggin Way's 105 Stratham, New Hampshire residents would like to attend the hearing, but the distance and current COVID-19 levels make this a challenge; and (2) counsel will be out-of-state and unable to attend in person. On February 7, 2022, Aquarion Water Company of New Hampshire, Inc. (Aquarion) filed a letter joining in Wiggin Way's request for a hybrid hearing, but without stating any additional reasons for requesting a hybrid hearing format.

No objections to Wiggin Way's request were filed, and good reason for a hybrid hearing format has been provided. To the extent that New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules, Puc 203.07(e) provides 10 days for objections, it is hereby waived. Therefore, a hybrid hearing format will be used for the February 23, 2022 hearing. Those who wish to participate in or observe the hearing remotely via the web may obtain access through the Commission's hearing calendar at

https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Calendar-Remote.html.

When a hybrid hearing is held, remote participation is not limited to the requestors; all participants are welcome to participate remotely. However, consistent

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with the hearing guidelines previously issued in this docket,¹ it is requested that other participants advise the Commission in advance as to whether they intend to participate remotely or in person. The Commission notes that Aquarion, as requested, will be appearing remotely at the February 23 hearing.

So ordered, this eighth day of February, 2022.

Daniel C. Goldner

Daniel C. Goldner Presiding Officer Chairman

¹ See <u>21-093_2021-11-17_NHPUC_HRG-GUIDELINES.PDF</u>.

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