

ATTORNEYS
DTCL
A T L A W

DONAHUE, TUCKER & CIANDELLA, PLLC

MICHAEL J. DONAHUE
CHARLES F. TUCKER
ROBERT D. CIANDELLA
LIZABETH M. MACDONALD
JOHN J. RATGAN
DENISE A. POULOS
ROBERT A. BATTLES
ROBERT M. DEROSIER
SHARON CUDDY SOMERS
CHRISTOPHER L. BOLDT
DOUGLAS M. MANSFIELD
TRACY L. BARBAGIOVANNI
HADEN P. GERRISH
CHRISTOPHER T. HILSON
OF COUNSEL
ROBERT B. DONOVAN
KATHERINE B. MILLER

WATER STREET
PROFESSIONAL BUILDING
225 WATER STREET
P.O. BOX 630
EXETER, NEW HAMPSHIRE
03833-0630

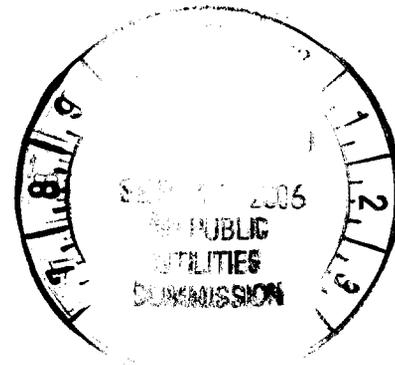
TELEPHONE
603-778-0686

TOLL FREE
800-566-0506

FAX
603-772-4454

WWW.DTCLAWYERS.COM
GENERALMAIL@DTCLAWYERS.COM

September 11, 2006



New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301-2429

Re: Aquarion Water Company of NH - PUC Docket #DW 06-094

Dear Commissioners:

I represent the North Hampton Board of Selectmen, and it's Water Commissioners. On behalf of the Selectmen and Water Commissioners, North Hampton thanks the Commission for coming to Hampton this evening to conduct this public hearing.

There has been longstanding dissatisfaction in North Hampton with how Hampton Water Works, and its successor Aquarion Water Company, have responded to the Town and its residents' water related concerns. Sometimes these concerns have been water rates, sometimes fire hydrant and other maintenance issues, and other times serious doubts about whether the use of water resources has been prudent and carefully planned.

We understand that MacQuarie has touted that its acquisition of Aquarion will leave the present management team at Aquarion in place. This promise does not reassure North Hampton water customers. The old management team will be the new team, and once again, the owners of Aquarion will be located in another country, remote from the concerns of North Hampton residents.

PORTSMOUTH OFFICE:

KEARSARGE HOUSE, 104 CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 304, PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03801
TELEPHONE 603-766-1686 FAX 603-766-1687

North Hampton believes that Aquarion has resisted promoting water resource conservation and long term regional water resource planning. North Hampton believes that it must take a leadership role in water resource planning, conservation and stewardship, so that this finite resource will be available to serve the seacoast municipalities that presently depend on North Hampton's water as a source for existing customers, and for future economic development.

For those North Hampton residents who gain their water supply from a private well, they too have an interest in water resource management and protection. Local control is the way to best ensure that private water wells will always be able to provide adequate water for family needs. Local control is the best way to respond to North Hampton's long standing concerns about water system maintenance, water supply for fire protection and water resource conservation.

This morning the North Hampton Water Commissioners presented a citizens' Petition to the North Hampton Selectmen, requesting that a special town meeting be called to put the question to the voters of whether, in effect, the Town should authorize the Selectmen to buy out the water company and set up a municipal water company in North Hampton. Municipal ownership will establish local control of water rates, will allow for North Hampton to prioritize water system maintenance, and ensure appropriate stewardship of water resources into the future.

The North Hampton Selectmen support this Petition, and have directed that the issue will go to the voters at a Special Town Meeting to be held this fall.

Very truly yours,

DONAHUE, TUCKER & CIANDELLA, PLLC



John J. Ratigan
Jratigan@dtclawyers.com

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cc: North Hampton Board of Selectmen
North Hampton Board of Water Commissioners
Service List

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