STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE BEFORE THE NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

PENNICHUCK EAST UTILITIES, INC.
Petition for award of Franchise Area in a Limited
Area of the Town of Pelham known as Skyview Estates

DW 2011-____

Direct Pre-filed Testimony of Donald L. Ware

June 2, 2011

- 1 Q. Please state your name, business address and your position with Pennichuck East
- 2 Utilities, Inc.
- 3 A. My name is Donald L. Ware. My business address is 25 Manchester St., Merrimack,
- 4 NH. I am the President at Pennichuck East Utilities, Inc. ("PEU"). I have worked for the
- 5 Company since Pennichuck Corporation ("Pennichuck") acquired it from the former
- 6 shareholders in December 1997. I am a licensed professional engineer in New Hampshire,
- 7 Massachusetts and Maine.
- 8 Q. Please describe your educational background.
- 9 A. I have a Bachelor in Science degree in Civil Engineering from Bucknell University in
- 10 Lewisburg, Pennsylvania and I completed all the required courses, with the exception of my
- thesis, for a Masters degree in Civil Engineering from the same institution. I have a Masters in
- Business Administration from the Whittemore Business School at the University of New
- 13 Hampshire.
- 14 Q. Please describe your professional background.
- 15 A. Prior to joining Pennichuck, I served as the General Manager of the Augusta Water
- District in Augusta, Maine from 1986 to 1995. I served as the District's Engineer between 1982
- and 1986. Prior to my engagement with the District, I served as a Design Engineer for the State
- of Maine Department of Transportation for six months and before that as a Design Engineer for
- 19 Buchart-Horn Consulting Engineers from 1979 to 1982.
- 20 O. What are your responsibilities as President of the Company?
- 21 A. As President, I am responsible for the overall operations of the Company, including water
- 22 quality and supply, distribution, engineering and water system capital improvements. At times
- 23 my duties also involve negotiating agreements on behalf of Pennichuck or its related entities,

- 1 including agreements pertaining to the acquisition of new community water systems. In that
- 2 capacity I served as the lead negotiator on the various agreements relative to this Petition.
- 3 Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?
- 4 A. I will be providing an overview of the Company's planned acquisition of a water
- 5 distribution system to service a Proposed Franchise Area in Pelham, New Hampshire to be
- 6 known as Skyview Estates. I will summarize the terms of the Acquisition Agreement and related
- 7 agreements necessary to facilitate this acquisition. Finally, my testimony is offered to explain
- 8 why the Company believes it is in the public good for the Commission to approve the Petition
- 9 filed by PEU.
- 10 Q. Please describe the terms of the acquisition.
- 11 A. PEU has entered into an agreement with an entity named Skyview Estates, LLC, (the
- "Developer"), the agreement titled "Pennichuck East Utility, Inc. Standard Water Agreement"
- 13 (hereinafter the "Agreement"), which incorporates two separate Water Main Extension
- 14 Agreements, the first for Phase I of the proposed development and the second for Phase II (the
- 15 "Main Extension Agreements"), the Agreement and its attachments being attached hereto and
- incorporated herein as Exhibit DLW-1. The proposed development is located within the Town
- of Pelham, Hillsborough County, New Hampshire. The Agreement and associated Main
- 18 Extension Agreements require the Developer to complete the construction of a community water
- 19 system to service the "Proposed Franchise Area" defined in the Agreement. The community
- water system also defined in the Agreement is referred to as the "Project" and it includes but is
- 21 not limited to, two licensed and permitted community water system wells, a related pump house,
- 22 pumping and monitoring equipment, atmospheric storage tanks, water mains and water services
- 23 all according to the construction specifications provided for in the Agreement. The water mains

- and all related equipment upon acceptance will become the property of PEU. PEU will receive
- 2 all necessary easements allowing it to maintain and improve the current wells, pump house,
- 3 pumping equipment, water mains and other related equipment within specific common areas of
- 4 the development as well as within public and private roadways.
- The Project is a residential development. PEU, under the Agreement, agrees to provide
- 6 water service to residential customers within the Proposed Franchise Area at PEU's Commission
- 7 approved water rates as applicable from time to time. The Agreement limits the total number of
- 8 lots to be serviced to sixty-four (64) and the total number of bedrooms within the Project to one
- 9 hundred and ninety-two (192). The Agreement also requires deed restrictions be included in any
- 10 lots developed or sold preventing individual water wells and irrigation systems from being
- installed on lots developed, consistent with restrictions agreed to by the Developer in the well
- 12 approval process with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services. See DLW-5.
- PEU agrees to pay or credit the Developer an investment credit of one times PEU's
- annual revenue per connection, whatever that may be based upon its tariff, for each connection
- made so long as the connection is made within five years of the start up of the system, meaning
- when service is commenced by PEU upon acceptance of the relevant water main.
- 17 Q. Please describe the Proposed Franchise Area.
- 18 A. The Proposed Franchise Area is located in Pelham, New Hampshire off of Spaulding Hill
- 19 Road. To assist the Commission in clearly defining the franchise area, I attach a Plan entitled
- 20 "Skyview Estates' Phase II, Land Transfer & Subdivision Plan, Map 32, Lots 1-146, 1-146-1, 1-
- 21 146-12, 1-146-13 and 1-146-17," drawn for Gargasz Enterprises, LLC and Roger Montbleau by
- Edward N. Herbert Assoc., Inc., and dated February 8, 2011. DLW-3. A legal description of the
- 23 Proposed Franchise Area is provided by combining the attached three deeds, all recorded in the

- 1 Hillsborough County Registry of Deeds at the following book and page references: Book 8221,
- 2 Page 153, Book 5794, Page 1573, and Book 8164, Page 1573. Copies of the relevant deeds have
- 3 been attached as DLW-4.
- 4 Q. Please explain why you believe this acquisition is in the public good.
- 5 A. PEU and its affiliate entities have been doing business in New Hampshire for at least 156
- 6 years and serve more people in New Hampshire than any other regulated utility. The company
- 7 serves approximately <u>34,000</u> residential, commercial and municipal customers in and throughout
- 8 New Hampshire, meaning it supplies water to over 100,000 individuals throughout the state each
- 9 day. The company has the managerial, technical and financial experience necessary to run the
- water system effectively and efficiently. PEU has reviewed and approved the Community Water
- 11 System Booster Station and designed the water distribution system for this particular System and
- will inspect the system as it is built to insure that it is built appropriately. PEU is aware that
- there are increasing demands on water as a resource, increasing threats to water quality and ever
- increasing legal and regulatory requirements for operation of community water systems. We
- believe that it is in the public's best interest to have PEU operate this water system utilizing
- 16 PEU's highly skilled employees and management and its broad technical and financial resources.
- 17 Q. Have you contacted the Town of Pelham relative to your Petition requesting a Franchise
- 18 within the Proposed Franchise Area?
- 19 A. We have contacted the Town of Pelham. I attach a copy of the correspondence received
- 20 from the town indicating its support of PEU's Petition to serve Skyview Estates and for the
- 21 award of franchise rights over the Proposed Franchise Area to PEU. DLW-2.
- 22 Q. Does PEU provide service in any other parts of Pelham?

- 1 A. Yes. PEU provides service to portions of Pelham through three other community water
- 2 systems with a total of 361 existing customers.
- 3 Q. Do you have anything else you would like to add?
- 4 A. Not at this time.
- 5 Q. Does that complete your testimony?
- 6 A. Yes.