

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BEFORE THE
NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DW 16-806

Pennichuck Water Works, Inc.

Request for Rate Case Expenses

COVER LETTER

PWW0001-PWW0002

RATH YOUNG PIGNATELLI

Richard W. Head
Of Counsel
rwh@rathlaw.com
DD: 603-410-4322
Please reply to: Concord Office

NHPUC 9DEC17PM4:18

December 7, 2017

VIA HAND DELIVERY AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

Ms. Debra A. Howland, Executive Director
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429

**Re: DW 16-806 Pennichuck Water Works, Inc.
Rate Case Expenses**

Dear Ms. Howland:

Pursuant to Order No. 26,070 (November 7, 2017) in the above-captioned proceeding, Pennichuck Water Works, Inc. ("PWW" or the "Company") seeks recovery of \$148,248.68 in rate case expenses. As set forth in the summary of rate case expenses, Attachment A, the Company seeks recovery for legal services, filing preparation services, publication notice, customer notice mailing and stenographic services, which are allowable expenses consistent with the Commission's rule, Puc 1906.01. If recovered over 12 months, the monthly rate case expense charge per customer would be \$0.44 per month. PWW also provides, as Attachment B, documentation of its rate case expenses, consistent with the Commission's rule, Puc 1905.03 (a) through (d).

In addition, PWW submits as Attachment C documentation that it procured legal services for this proceeding through a competitive bid process. On April 15, 2016, Pennichuck Corporation ("Pennichuck"), PWW's parent company, issued a Request for Qualification for Legal Services, seeking responses by April 30, 2016. On May 27, 2016, Pennichuck notified Rath, Young & Pignatelli that it had been selected as legal counsel for PWW's rate case. Pennichuck's approach is consistent with rule Puc 1905.03 (g) and (h). Pennichuck also includes, as part of Attachment C, its Capital Requisition Policy. While this policy is not directly applicable to legal services, it does require proposals/bids for products or services over \$10,000. Pennichuck's requests for qualifications and fee proposal for legal services is consistent with that policy and consistent as well with rule Puc 1905.03 (e) and (f).

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Rath, Young and Pignatelli, P.C.
www.rathlaw.com

One Capital Plaza
Concord, NH 03302-1500
T (603) 226-2600
F (603) 226-2700

20 Trafalgar Square
Nashua, NH 03063
T (603) 889-9952
F (603) 595-7489

120 Water Street, 2nd Floor
Boston, MA 02109
T (617) 523-8080

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Debra A. Howland, Executive Director

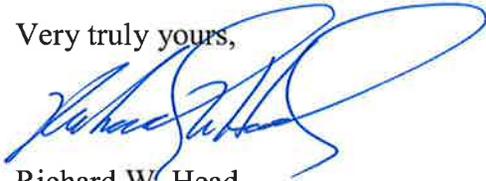
December 7, 2017

Page 2

Finally, the Company seeks confidential treatment of certain billing information contained in Attachment B. Accordingly, enclosed is a motion for confidential treatment pursuant to Puc 203.08. As such, this filing includes an original and six copies of this letter, the attachments and the Motion for Confidential Treatment, including the marked but unredacted copies of invoices that have been marked "Confidential" as appropriate with the areas of requested redaction outlined in red. One complete public copy is also being provided and has been served on the service list for this docket.

Thank you for your assistance with this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Very truly yours,



Richard W. Head

Enclosures

cc: Via electronic mail
Service List (redacted only)

PWW000002