



Marcia A. Brown
Attorney at Law

Environmental Law ■ Utility Law

May 25, 2017

Debra A. Howland, Executive Director
N.H. Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, N.H. 03301

Re: Docket No. DW 17-036
Pennichuck East Utility, Inc.
Petition for a License to Construct and Maintain a
Water Main under the Merrimack River

NHPUC 26 MAY 17 AM 9:44

Dear Director Howland:

The Commission's Staff filed a letter recommending the Commission approve, with conditions, Pennichuck East Utility, Inc.'s ("PEU") request for permission to construct and maintain a water main under the Merrimack River. One of the conditions concerned placing a tracer wire to mark the water main. While placing a tracer wire above mains is good practice, it is impractical to do so for the section of main that is within the bed of the Merrimack River. The center portion of the water main will be exposed (though anchored) in the center of the river. This will leave the tracer wire susceptible to damage and possible separation thereby eliminating continuity and making it unusable as a location identification tool. In lieu of the tracer wire, PEU proposes to survey (GPS locate) the water main during installation. GPS provides location point permanent coordinates that can be reoccupied in the future. PEU has sought Staff's position on PEU's proposal and Staff stated that it thought PEU's proposal would qualify as an alternative method for locating.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (603) 219-4911 or at mab@nhbrownlaw.com.

Very Truly Yours,

Marcia A. Brown

cc: Docket-Related Electronic Service List

P.O. Box 1623, Concord, N.H. 03302-1623

603-219-4911 ■ mab@nhbrownlaw.com ■ www.nhbrownlaw.com