

July 25, 2019

Ms. Debra A. Howland

Executive Director

New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission

21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10

Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Re: Docket No. DW 17-165 Abenaki Water Company-PUC staff recommendation

Dear Ms. Howland

Please be advised that the Bretton Woods Property Owners ("BWPOA") and Forest Cottages Association support the recommendations made by the Office of Consumer Advocate on July 15, 2019. Specifically:

1. Adopt Staff's recommendation to defer the deadline for the utility's Step 2 filing to March 31, 2020,
2. Remind the utility that it is responsible for making prudent investment decisions, subject to after-the-fact review by the Commission, and
3. Reaffirm that the Commission will, as necessary, consider the prudence of the expenditures covered by the Step 2 filing (relative to engineering design services) only when that filing is received. See Order No. 26,205 at 10 ("we are not required at this time to determine if Step II is just and reasonable"). The Commission should not, as Staff recommends, explicitly authorize Abenaki to contract with Horizons.

Also, we suggest that Abenaki may want to ask Horizons to reissue the engagement letter for engineering design services. It was stated in the Staff's Recommendation that \$31,000 of the \$100,000 engagement letter was for the storage tank which is no longer under consideration (page 7 of Staff Recommendation). Although this is between Abenaki and Horizons it may make sense to reissue without the design for the storage tank.

Sincerely,



Paul Mueller

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