

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



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**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

NHPUC 20JUN18PM4:12

June 20, 2018

Debra A. Howland  
Executive Director  
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission  
21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301

Re: Docket No. DW 18-026  
Abenaki Water Co., Hampstead Area Water Co. and Lakes Region Water Co., Inc.  
Joint Petition for Declaratory Ruling or Rulemaking regarding ROE for Small Water  
Systems  
Stipulation

Dear Ms. Howland:

Please find attached, a Stipulation for the Commission's consideration in the above-captioned proceeding. The Stipulation has been entered into by Abenaki Water Co., Hampstead Area Water Co. and Lakes Region Water Co., Inc., the Commission Staff and the Office of the Consumer Advocate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alexander F. Speidel".

Alexander F. Speidel  
Staff Attorney

cc: Service List (ELECTRONICALLY)

BEFORE THE NEW HAMPSHIRE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

*Hampstead Area Water Company  
Lakes Region Water Co., Inc.  
Abenaki Water Co., Inc.*

*Joint Petition for Declaratory Ruling or Rulemaking  
Regarding the Return on Equity for Small Water Systems*

Docket No. DW 18 – 026

**STIPULATION**

The Lakes Region Water Co., Inc., Hampstead Area Water Company, Inc., and Abenaki Water Co., Inc., (together “Petitioners”), Office of Consumer Advocate, and Commission Staff (combined, “Parties”) stipulate as follows:

1. In consideration of the provisions set forth in this Stipulation, the Parties request: (a) that the request set forth in the Petition for a formal rulemaking or a declaratory ruling in this proceeding be withdrawn, without prejudice; and (b) that the request set forth in the Office of Consumer Advocate’s Motion to Dismiss be withdrawn, without prejudice.

2. The Parties request that the Commission conduct a general investigation in this proceeding to consider: (a) whether to adopt one or more amendments to the Commission’s rules to provide for a formula to establish rates of return on equity for small public water systems subject to statutory requirements that rates approved by the Commission be “just and reasonable” (RSA 378:7); and (b) recommendations concerning the same. The Parties believe a general investigation is appropriate because the Commission’s Order of Notice indicated that the

Commission may consider the Petitioner's petition in a general investigation. *See Order of Notice* dated March 29, 2018, Page 2.

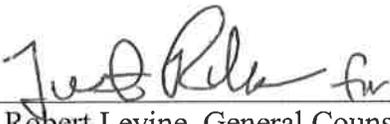
3. The Parties request that the Commission schedule a technical conference as soon as reasonably possible to exchange information and to adopt a schedule for further proceedings.

4. Counsel for intervenor Omni Mount Washington indicated that Omni Mount Washington does not object to the Stipulation but that it objects to the filing of Ms. Ahern's testimony in DW 17-165, Abenaki Water Company – Rosebrook, Request for Change in Rates.

5. The Parties request that the Commission approve this Stipulation and grant such other relief as justice may require.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have caused this Stipulation to be duly signed in their respective names by their agents, each being fully authorized to do so on behalf of their principal.

HAMPSTEAD AREA WATER COMPANY, INC.

By:   
Robert Levine, General Counsel

Date: 6/18/2018

LAKES REGION WATER CO., INC.

By:   
Upton & Hatfield, LLP  
Justin C. Richardson

Date: 6/18/2018

ABENAKI WATER CO., INC.

By: Marcia A Brown  
N.H. Brown Law, PLLC  
Marcia A. Brown, Esq.

Date: 6/18/2018 JR

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

By: Alexander Spiedel  
Alexander Spiedel, Esq.  
Spiedel

Date: 6/19/2018

OFFICE OF THE CONSUMER ADVOCATE

By: D. Maurice Kreis  
D. Maurice Kreis, Esq.

Date: 6/18/2018

**SERVICE LIST - EMAIL ADDRESSES - DOCKET RELATED**

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**Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.11 (a) (1): Serve an electronic copy on each person identified on the service list.**

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Docket #: 18-026-1      Printed: June 20, 2018

**FILING INSTRUCTIONS:**

- a) Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.02 (a), with the exception of Discovery, file 7 copies, as well as an electronic copy, of all documents including cover letter with:**

DEBRA A HOWLAND  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
NHPUC  
21 S. FRUIT ST, SUITE 10  
CONCORD NH 03301-2429

- b) Serve an electronic copy with each person identified on the Commission's service list and with the Office of Consumer Advocate.**
- c) Serve a written copy on each person on the service list not able to receive electronic mail.**