The State of New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission DW 20-184

RE: Aquarion Water Company of New Hampshire

TOWN OF HAMPTON'S PETITION TO INTERVENE

NOW COMES the Town of Hampton in the above entitled matter and petitions the Commission to allow it to intervene in these proceedings as a party and in support of said Petition says as follows:

- In accordance with PUC Rule 203.17 and N.H. RSA 541-A:32, the Town of Hampton seeks to intervene in the present proceeding, which is the first general rate case filed by Aquarion Water Company of New Hampshire, Inc. (Aquarion) since 2012.
- 2. The Town of Hampton was an active party in the last general rate case in DW 12-085 and has participated in all Aquarion's WICA surcharge cases since then, including the last one in DW 18-161, which was resolved by a Settlement Agreement to which Hampton was a signatory; this rate case came about as a result of that Settlement Agreement.
- 3. The Town of Hampton contains about three-quarters of the residential customers who are served by Aquarion, and the Town of Hampton is itself a customer of Aquarion for daily water consumption, having paid Aquarion \$53,238.72 in water bills for 2018, \$45,443.92 in water bills for 2019, and \$30,444.79 for water bills in 2020. These bills are paid out of the Town's operating budget.

4. The Town of Hampton contains more than half of the Aquarion's privately owned fire hydrants through which the availability of water to fight fires is secured, and for which availability Aquarion bills the Town more than \$500,000 annually.

Aquarion is seeking in this pending docket large increases in what it charges for both water consumption and for its hydrants.

The Town of Hampton has a number of concerns that need to be addressed as part of this
docket which will be outlined in its Preliminary Statement of Positions to be presented on
March 10, 2021.

WHEREFORE, the Town of Hampton requests that the Commission:

A. Allow the Town of Hampton to intervene as a party in this matter;

B. Notify the Town of Hampton in advance of any further proceedings herein and allow the Town to be heard before any Orders are issued; and

C. Grant such other and further relief as may be just.

Dated: March 3, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

Town of Hampton
By its Town Attorney

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N.H. Bar I.D. #913

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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that on this 300 day of March 2021 the foregoing Petition to Intervene was emailed to the service list electronically.

Mark S. Gearreald, Esq.