

DW 01-193

**WHITE ROCK WATER COMPANY, INC.**

**Petition for a Permanent Rate Increase**

**Order Scheduling a Prehearing Conference and  
Suspending Proposed Tariff**

**O R D E R    N O.    23,874**

**December 21, 2001**

On November 27, 2001, White Rock Water Company, Inc. (White Rock or the Petitioner) filed with the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (Commission), a petition as well as Testimony for an increase in permanent rates which, if approved, would result in an overall increase in annual revenues of \$16,864 or 20.09 percent. The petition included financial schedules as well Testimony of Langdon H. Wait, President of White Rock Water Company. White Rock serves approximately 96 customers in a limited area of the town of Bow, New Hampshire.

White Rock asserts that the increase in revenues is required because current revenues are not sufficient to earn a reasonable rate of return on plant providing water service. The Petitioner asserts its rate of return is a negative 3 percent. Other issues raised include, inter alia, the Petitioner's proposed return on equity, depreciation, rate design and the inclusion of rate base additions subsequent to the test year.

**Based on the foregoing, it is hereby**

**ORDERED** That White Rock's tariff NHPUC NO. 1 WATER 9th Revised Page 17 is hereby suspended; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED,** that a Prehearing Conference, pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.05, be held before the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission located at 8 Old Suncook Road, Concord, New Hampshire on January 15, 2002, at 10:00 a.m. at which each party and Commission Staff will provide a preliminary summary of its positions with regard to the Petition; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED,** that, immediately following the Prehearing Conference, White Rock, Commission Staff and Intervenors hold a First Technical Session to review the noticed issues; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED,** that pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.01, White Rock notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by sending, by First Class Mail, a copy of this Order of Notice to each of White Rocks' customers postmarked no later than January 4, 2002 and publishing a copy of this Order of Notice no later than January 2, 2002 , in a statewide newspaper of general circulation, proof of mailing and publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission on or before January 15, 2002; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED,** that pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.02, any party seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall

submit to the Commission an original and eight copies of a Petition to Intervene with copies sent to White Rock and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before January 11, 2002, such Petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interests may be affected by the proceeding, as required by N.H. Admin. Rule Puc 203.02 (a)(2); and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before January 15, 2002.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this twenty-first day of December, 2001.

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Thomas B. Getz  
Chairman

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Susan S. Geiger  
Commissioner

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Nancy Brockway  
Commissioner

Attested by:

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Debra A. Howland  
Executive Director & Secretary