

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DW 15-043

PENNICHUCK WATER WORKS, INC.

**Water Infrastructure and Conservation Adjustment
2015-17 Capital Projects and 2015 Surcharge**

Summary Order *Nisi* No. 25,784 Granting Petition

April 30, 2015

In an order *nisi* issued today, the Commission approved Pennichuck Water Works, Inc.'s (PWW's), 2015 Water Infrastructure and Conservation Adjustment (WICA) surcharge of 1.81% for bills-rendered on and after June 1, 2015, and PWW's schedule of proposed WICA projects for 2015. The Commission also preliminarily approved the proposed 2016 projects as well as changes to PWW's WICA tariff. The petition and subsequent docket filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested of or granted by the Commission, is posted to the Commission's website at <http://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2015-15-043.html>.

PWW is a regulated public utility as defined by RSA 362:2 and 362:4 and provides water service to about 29,000 customers in southern New Hampshire. The Commission first approved a WICA pilot program for PWW in 2011, to accelerate replacement of aging infrastructure and to provide an expedited recovery mechanism, for the fixed costs of non-revenue producing capital improvements, in the form of a rate surcharge. It applies only to PWW's core water system and covers replacement of mains, valves, services, and hydrants.

On January 30, 2015, PWW filed for approval of its 2015 WICA surcharge and its proposed 2015 capital projects. PWW's proposed 2015 surcharge of 1.91% included recovery of

projects completed in 2013 and 2014. PWW also sought preliminary approval of its 2016 projects.

In the order *nisi*, the Commission found the 2013 and 2014 projects prudent, and used and useful pursuant to RSA 378:28 and approved the proposed surcharge of 1.81% as just and reasonable pursuant to RSA 378:7, for effect on bills rendered on or after June 1, 2015. With regard to the projects proposed for 2015, which were presented for review and final approval, and the projects proposed for 2016, which were presented for review and preliminary approval, the Commission granted final and preliminary approval of these projects. The Commission also approved the Staff's proposed changes to PWW's WICA tariff.

To ensure that all interested parties receive notice of this docket and have an opportunity to request a hearing, the Commission delayed the effectiveness of these approvals until May 20, 2015. All persons interested in responding to the Commission's approvals may submit their comments or file a written request for a hearing no later than May 13, 2015. Any party interested in responding to such comments and request for hearing shall do so no later than May 18, 2015. Following consideration of any comments and request for hearing received, the Commission may further extend the effective date of its approvals. The Commission's approvals shall become final and effective on May 20, 2015, unless the Commission orders otherwise.