

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DW 16-825

HAMPSTEAD AREA WATER COMPANY, INC.

Petition for Franchise Extension – Wells Village, Sandown

Summary of Order *Nisi* No. 25,979 Approving Petition

January 23, 2017

In Order *Nisi* No. 25,979, the Commission authorized Hampstead Area Water Company, Inc. (HAWC) to expand its franchise to serve a proposed 40 acre, 50 unit condominium development to be known as Wells Village in the Town of Sandown. The authority also includes financing approval and permission to charge HAWC's currently approved tariff rates in the new franchise area. The petition and subsequent docket filings, other than any information for which confidential treatment is requested or granted by the Commission, are posted on the Commission's website at <http://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2016/16-825.html>.

HAWC's agreement with the developer, Kasher Corporation, and Lewis Builders Development, Inc. d/b/a Hampstead Area Water Services Company (the Service Company), works as follows: The Service Company will design and build the system in Wells Village. Kasher will pay the Service Company to install the pumping and treatment station, generator, controls and a treatment system. HAWC will pay Kasher \$50,000 at a rate of \$1,000 per customer hookup, with no interest, for acquisition of the system with a portion of the \$462,305 estimated value of the system treated as Contribution in Aid of Construction.

Kasher has granted a water rights deed and easement to HAWC for water rights in the proposed franchise area. HAWC also provided evidence of the Department of Environmental Service's (DES) conditional approval of the two Wells Village wells for domestic use. HAWC

proposes to charge the Wells Village customers its existing tariffed rates. This includes a \$10 base charge per month and a consumption charge of \$5.02 per 100 cubic feet of water used.

The Commission found HAWC's request to provide water service to customers in the Wells Village development consistent with the public good as required by RSA 374:22 and RSA 374:26. The Commission also found that HAWC satisfied the DES suitability and availability requirements for water systems under RSA 374:22, III. With regard to HAWC's proposed financing, the Commission found the intended use and terms to be reasonable and consistent with the public good as required by RSA 369:1. In addition, the Commission found that HAWC's consolidated rates are just and reasonable for the Wells Village development and authorized HAWC to charge those rates to those customers on a service rendered basis as of the effective date of the order.

The Commission delayed effectiveness of its approval until February 13, 2017, to ensure that all interested parties receive notice of its determination and have an opportunity to request a hearing. All persons interested in responding to the Commission's approval may submit their comments or a written request for a hearing stating the reasons therefor no later than February 6, 2017. Any party interested in responding to such comments and requests for hearing shall do so no later than February 10, 2017. After consideration of any comments or requests for a hearing, the Commission may extend the effective date of its approval. The Commission's approval shall become final and effective on February 13, 2017, unless the Commission orders otherwise.