

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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October 16, 2018

RE: DW 17-128 Pennichuck East Utilities, Inc.  
Motion for Waiver of Puc 1203.05(b) For Implementation of Step Rate Increase  
Grant of Waiver

To the Parties:

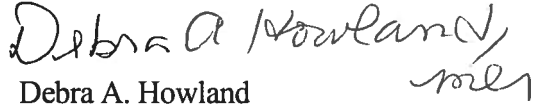
On October 9, 2018, Pennichuck East Utility, Inc., (PEU or the Company) filed a Motion for Waiver of N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 1203.05(b) regarding the implementation of the step rate increase approved by the Commission in Order No. 26,179 (October 4, 2018) entered in this proceeding. Order No. 26,179 approved a Settlement Agreement for permanent rates and step increase, and PEU's motion to waive Puc 1203.05(b) regarding the implementation of permanent rates on a bills-rendered basis as of January 8, 2018. The Company, however, failed to seek the same waiver for the implementation of the step increase.

The Company requested that the approved step increase in rates also be implemented on a bills-rendered basis on or after November 16, 2018, the date which the first full monthly bills will be issued following Order No. 26,179. In accordance with Puc 1203.05(c), PEU stated that implementing the step increase on a bills-rendered basis will be less confusing to customers, less costly to the Company, and give customers adequate notice of the applicable changes in rates. PEU also stated that implementation of the step increase on a bills-rendered basis will result in a minimal loss of Company revenue, however the benefit of avoiding customer confusion and greater Company efficiency will outweigh the loss.

PEU filed a correction to the motion on October 10, 2018, requesting the reference to Puc 1203.05(a) be replaced with Puc 1203.05(b) in the "wherefore clause" of the motion. The Company also stated that both Staff and the intervenor, Michael Ranaldi, assented to the motion. On October 11, 2018, Staff of the Commission filed its recommendation for Commission approval of the motion. Staff also indicated that the Office of the Consumer Advocate assented to the motion.

The Commission has reviewed PEU's petition and Staff's recommendation, and has found that the requested waiver will not disrupt the orderly and efficient resolution of matters before the Commission and will serve the public interest. Accordingly, the request to waive Puc 1203.05(b) has been granted and PEU may implement the step increase on a bills-rendered basis as of November 16, 2018.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Debra A. Howland in cursive script.

Debra A. Howland  
Executive Director

cc: Service List (Electronically)