

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10
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February 5, 2019

RE: DW 18-076 Pennichuck Water Works, Inc.
Motion for Waiver of PUC 1203.05
Grant of Waiver

To the Parties:

On January 7, 2019, Pennichuck Water Works, Inc. (PWW or the Company) filed a Motion for Waiver of N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 1203.05(b) which requires implementation of a rate change on a service rendered basis on or after the effective date of the approved rate change. In Order No. 26,200 (December 17, 2018) entered in this proceeding, the Commission approved changes to the terms of service and rates relative to small diameter private fire protection non-metered service, along with credits to a limited number of residential customers. The rate changes and customer credits will become effective on January 16, 2019.

As the Company issues its bills for services rendered monthly and in arrears, PWW requested that the approved tariff changes and customer credits be implemented for its February 2019 customer billings. When requesting a waiver from the requirements of Puc 1203.05 (b) to implement the rate change on a service-rendered basis, Puc 1203.05 (c) requires that the request must describe, to the extent applicable, how the waiver would reduce customer confusion, cost less to implement, allow the utility to more closely match revenue to expenses, and give customers adequate notice of the change in rates. In this instance, PWW stated that a split in its billings between prorated portions of old and new tariff rates avoids customer confusion (Puc 1203.05(c) (1)) and would also avoid the cost of labor-intensive calculations for multiple individual customer bills (Puc 1203.05 (c)(2)).

The Commission has reviewed PEU's petition and Staff's recommendation and determined that the applicable standards for a waiver are satisfied and that granting a waiver is consistent with the public good. Accordingly, the request to waive Puc 1203.05(b) has been granted and PWW may implement the tariff changes and customer credits on a bills-rendered basis as of February 2019.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Debra A. Howland".

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director

cc: Service List (Electronically)