## STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

## DOCKET NO. DW 09-

## RE: PENNICHUCK EAST UTILITY, INC. PITTSFIELD AQUEDUCT COMPANY, INC.

# <u>Verified Petition of Pennichuck East Utility, Inc. and Pittsfield Aqueduct Company, Inc. for Approval of Revisions to Miscellaneous Utility Service Fees in Tariffs</u>

NOW COME Pennichuck East Utility, Inc. ("PEU") and Pittsfield Aqueduct Company, Inc. ("PAC") (collectively, the "Companies") and petition the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") to approve an adjustment to the Companies' miscellaneous utility service fees. In support of this petition, the Companies state as follows:

- 1. In connection with Pennichuck Water Works, Inc.'s ("PWW") most recent rate case filed with the Commission on June 23, 2008 (DW 08-073), the Company determined that it was appropriate to update miscellaneous utility service fees to reflect increased costs to provide the tariffed services given that PWW's tariff were last updated in 1999. *See Re: Pennichuck Water Works, Inc.*, 84 NH PUC 89 (Order No. 23, 133 dated February 1, 1999)(authorizing updated tariffed service fees). While these fee changes have not been approved by the Commission, they are the subject of a settlement agreement in DW 08-073 that has been filed with the Commission for its consideration. *See* May 15, 2009 Settlement Agreement filed in DW 08-073.
- 2. Specifically, PWW agreed to update the service pipe connection fee from \$85.00 to \$160.00 and increase the service connection and disconnection of water service and collection charge from \$28.00 to \$46.00 during regular hours and from \$40.00 to \$63.00 during non-regular

hours. These fees have increased as a result of increases in the cost of labor. The attached Exhibit A provides additional cost analysis for the proposed fee increases.

- 3. In *Re: Pennichuck Water Works, Inc.*, the Company updated its service charges for PWW, PEU and PAC to obtain consistency of the charges across all three utilities. *See* 84 NH PUC 89. In order to maintain this consistency, PEU and PAC seek to update their service charges to be uniform with those changes to the PWW charges being proposed in DW 08-073. Maintaining this consistency is important to alleviate confusion about the applicable fees, as the same personnel perform customer service functions for all three utilities. Therefore, to keep the terms and conditions of the Companies' tariffs consistent and provide PEU with a proceeding in which to request revisions to its tariff, the Companies are collectively seeking authorization to revise the miscellaneous utility service fees in each of their tariffs. The attached Exhibit B reflects the proposed revisions to PEU and PAC tariffs.
- 4. PEU and PAC believe that the proposed tariff changes are reasonable and consistent with the public interest as they will promote efficient operation of the Companies and will reduce any customer confusion associated with the service fees.

WHEREFORE, PEU and PAC respectfully request that the Commission:

- A. Find that the proposed revisions to the Companies' miscellaneous utility service fees as set forth in Exhibit B are reasonable and consistent with the public interest;
- B. Issue an Order Nisi authorizing the Companies to revise the miscellaneous utility service fees in their individual tariffs as set forth in Exhibit B; and
  - C. Grant such other relief as may be consistent with the public interest.

Respectfully submitted,

PENNICHUCK EAST UTILITY, INC. PITTSFIELD AQUEDUCT COMPANY, INC.

By their Attorneys,

McLANE, GRAF, RAULERSON & MIDDLETON, PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

Date: May <u>1</u>, 2009

Sarah B. Knowlton

100 Market Street, P.O. Box 459

Portsmouth, NH 03802 Telephone: (603) 334-6928

email: sarah.knowlton@mclane.com

I, Bonalyn J. Hartley, Vice President of Administration for Pennichuck Water Works, Inc., Pennichuck East Utility, Inc., and Pittsfield Aqueduct Company, Inc. being first duly sworn, hereby depose and say that I have read the foregoing Verified Petition, and the facts alleged therein are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Dated: May 18, 2009

Bonalyn J. Hartley

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18 day of May 2009.

Justice of the Peace/Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

KAREN GIOTAS
Notary Public - New Hampshire
My Commission Expires December 12, 2011

DW 09-Exhibit A Page 1 of 4

## DW 08-073 PENNICHUCK WATER WORKS, INC. RESPONSE TO STAFF DATA REQUESTS - SET 3 PERMANENT RATES

Date Request Received: 1/23/09

Request No. Staff 3-17

Date of Response: 2/12/09 Witness: Bonalyn J. Hartley

REQUEST:

Pennichuck has not requested any adjustments to its miscellaneous utility service fees. When was the last time these fees were changed? Please provide the basis for not requesting adjustments in this proceeding.

RESPONSE: The last time the fees were changed was in February 1999. A proposed second revised page 54 entitled Miscellaneous Utility Service Fees is attached with exhibits. The Company has analyzed the costs related to miscellaneous utility service fees and believes the fees should be updated as follows:

- A. Initiation of Service remains the same at \$20.00.
- B. Service Pipe Connection fee is increased to \$160.00. See attached cost
- C. Service Connection and Disconnection of water service; Collection Charge is increased to \$46.00 during regular hours and to \$63.00 during non-regular hours. See attached cost analysis.
- D. Returned Check Fee Administrative Cost remains the same at \$15.00.
- E. Inspection Fee of Main Pipe Extensions remains the same at \$3.00 per foot.

DW 09-Exhibit A Page 2 of 4

NHPUC No. 5 WATER PENNICHUCK WATER WORKS, INC.

Proposed Second Revised Page 54 Superseding First Revised Page 54

## RATE SCHEDULES

## MISCELLANEOUS UTILITY SERVICE FEES

The following fees are associated with miscellaneous services that the Company may provide from time to time:

Ty	pe of Service:		irrent Rates	Proposed Rates		
A.	Initiation of Service					
	(Section 30, Paragraph D)	\$	20.00			
В.	Service Pipe Connection					
	(Section 19, Paragraph B.2)	\$	85.00	\$160.00		
C.	Service Connection and Disconnection					
	of Water Service and Collection Charge					
	(Section 30, Paragraphs A and B)					
	During Regular Hours	\$	28.00	\$ 46.00		
	Non-Regular Hours	\$	40.00	\$ 63.00		
D.	Returned Check Fee – Administrative Cost					
	(Section 8, Paragraph B & C)					
	(Section 30, Paragraph C.1)	\$	15.00			
E.	Inspection Fee of Main Pipe Extensions					
	(Section 33, Paragraph A.2)	\$	3.00 p	er foot		
Issued:	Issued by:					
2554041		onalyn J. Hartley	,			
Effectiv	ve: Title: Vice Pr	esident Admin &	r Regular	tory Affairs		

DW 09-Exhibit A Page 3 of 4

## Pennichuck Water Works Service Inspection - Stop to End

						Dir	ect Labor		
Task Description	Ţ	ime	<u>Un</u>	<u>it</u>		Cos	t per hour	Ex	<u>tension</u>
Process service application		0.25	Hour		Eng Admin	\$	19.37	\$	4.84
Sizing service		0.25	Hour		Eng Inspector	\$	29.59	\$	7.40
Travel to service inspection		0.5	Hour		Eng Inspector	\$	29.59	\$	14.80
Inspect service		1	Hour		Eng Inspector	\$	29.59	\$	29.59
Take service ties		0.25	Hour		Eng Inspector	\$	29.59	\$	7.40
Complete SDS form		0.25	Hour		Eng Inspector	\$	29.59	\$	7.40
Input service record into data base		0.25	Hour		Eng Inspector	\$	29.59	\$	7.40
Process Work Order		0.25	Hour		Eng Admin	\$	19.37	\$	4.84
					Total di	rect labo	r expenses	\$	83.66
					Non- Unio	n Direct	overhead -	\$	32.29
				Tota	al direct labor wit	th direct	overhead -	\$	115.95
						Indired	t overhead	\$	28.99
							Total labor	\$	144.94
						Vel	hicle cost -	\$	19.25
					Total (	Cost of Ir	spection -	\$	164.19
Non-Union Direct Labor Overhead -		0.386			Rounded	Propose	d Charge -	\$.	160.00
Indirect Overhead* - Vehicle cost per hour -	\$	0.25 11.00							

<sup>\*</sup>Accounting, Customer Service (Scheduling appt.), Admistrative support

## Pennichuck Water Works, Inc. Service Connection and Disconnection of Water Service & Collection Fees

Rates Based on 2009 Union Hourly Rates:

 Utility Tech I
 \$ 24.35

 Utility Tech II
 \$ 21.65

 \$ 46.00

 Average hourly rate:
 \$ 23.00

	Hourly Rate		Benefit @50.3%		Truck Per Hour		Total		Rounded	
Labor Rate Regular Hours:	\$	23.00	_	11.57	\$ 11.00	\$	45.57	\$	46.00	
Labor Rate Non-Regular Hours:*	\$	34,50	\$	17.35	\$ 11.00	\$	62.85	\$	63.00	

<sup>\*</sup>Non-regular hourly rate at time and one-half.

DW 09-Exhibit B Page 1 of 2

NHPUC No. 1 WATER PENNICHUCK EAST UTILITY, INC.

Proposed Second Revised Page 46 Superseding First Revised Page 46

## **RATE SCHEDULES**

## MISCELLANEOUS UTILITY SERVICE FEES

The following fees are associated with miscellaneous services that the Company may provide from time to time:

Type of Service:	Amount
A. Initiation of Service (Section 30, Paragraph D)	\$ 20.00
B. Service Pipe Connection (Section 19, Paragraph B.2)	\$ 160.00
C. Service Connection and Disconnection of Water Service and Collection Charge (Section 30, Paragraphs A and B) During Regular Hours Non-Regular Hours	\$ 46.00 \$ 63.00
D. Returned Check Fee – Administrative Cost (Section 8, Paragraph B & C) (Section 30, Paragraph C.1)	\$ 15.00
E. Inspection Fee of Main Pipe Extensions (Section 33, Paragraph A.2)	\$ 3.00 per foot

Issued: May 19, 2009

Issued by:

Ronalyn I Hartlet

Effective: May 19, 2009

Title: Vice President Admin & Regulatory Affairs

DW 09-Exhibit B Page 2 of 2

NHPUC No. 5 WATER

PLANTEFFECK AQUEDUCT COMPANY, INC.

PLANTEFFECK

Proposed Second Revised Page 42 Superseding First Revised Page 42

## RATE SCHEDULES

## MISCELLANEOUS UTILITY SERVICE FEES

The following fees are associated with miscellaneous services that the Company may provide from time to time:

Type of Service:	Amount
A. Initiation of Service (Section 30, Paragraph D)	\$ 20.00
B. Service Pipe Connection (Section 19, Paragraph B.2)	\$ 160.00
C. Service Connection and Disconnection of Water Service and Collection Charge (Section 30, Paragraphs A and B) During Regular Hours Non-Regular Hours	\$ 46.00 \$ 63.00
D. Returned Check Fee – Administrative Cost (Section 8, Paragraph B & C) (Section 30, Paragraph C.1)	\$ 15.00
E. Inspection Fee of Main Pipe Extensions (Section 33, Paragraph A.2)	\$ 3.00 per foot

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