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March 7, 2024

Ms. Luly Massaro, Clerk Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission 89 Jefferson Boulevard Warwick, RI 02888

### *Re:* Docket No. 23-30-WW- Pawtucket Water Supply Board General Rate Filing

Dear Ms. Massaro:

Enclosed please find an original and nine copies of the following document:

1. The Pawtucket Water Supply Board's Miscellaneous Petition.

Please note that an electronic copy of this document has been provided to the service list.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

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Joseph A. Keough, Jr.

cc: Service List (via electronic mail)

RAYNHAM OFFICE: 90 NEW STATE HIGHWAY RAYNHAM, MA 02109 TEL. (508) 822-2813 FAX (508) 822-2832

## STATE OF RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

## IN RE: PAWTUCKET WATER SUPPLY BOARD APPLICATION TO CHANGE RATE SCHEDULES

DOCKET NO. 23-30-WW

#### THE PAWTUCKET WATER SUPPLY BOARD'S MISCELLANEOUS PETITION

### I. INTRODUCTION

Now comes the Pawtucket Water Supply Board ("PWSB") and files this Miscellaneous

Petition regarding Rule 5.6 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure of the Rhode Island Public

Utilities Commission ("Commission"). In particular, the PWSB seeks confirmation from the

Commission that it may use Fiscal Year ("FY") 2022 as the test year in this Docket.

### II. FACTS

- 1. On September 14, 2023, the PWSB filed an application for a multi-year rate increase with the Commission.
- 2. The PWSB's application used FY 2022 (ending June 30, 2022) as the test year.
- 3. As set forth in the PWSB's application, this test year is based on audited financial information. (See Direct Testimony of David M. Fox, p. 5, ll. 16-19)
- 4. Rule 5.6. A. of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure provides as follows:

"Test Year. The filing shall present cost of service and rate base schedules for a test year period. The test year constitutes a historic year of actual data for a period ending within nine (9) months of the filing date. The test year may be for such other period as the Commission may allow." (emphasis added)

- 5. Pursuant to this rule, the PWSB would have had to file its rate case by March 30, 2023 to be within nine months of the end of FY 2022.
- 6. Due to several factors, including, but not limited to, the retirement of the PWSB's longstanding Chief Financial Officer, the PWSB was delayed in making its filing.
- However, by September 2023, the PWSB needed to make a filing to address the pressing needs outlined in its filing, including, but not limited to, the expiration of its Treatment Plant Operating Contract.

- 8. At that time, the PWSB could not use FY 2023 (ending June 30, 2023) because that fiscal year had not been audited.
- 9. In fact, the audit is still not complete for FY 2023.
- 10. Recently, in discussing issues related to this Docket, the Division pointed out that the FY 2022 test year did not end within nine (9) months of the filing date, and PWSB realized it had inadvertently not sought confirmation that the Commission would "allow" the use of FY 2022 as the test year.

# **III. REQUEST FOR RELIEF**

The PWSB hereby requests that Commission allow the use of FY 2022 as the test year in

this Docket. Pursuant to Rule 1.16.B., the PWSB confirms that the Rhode Island Division of

Public Utilities and Carriers has no objection to this Miscellaneous Petition.

# IV. CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, for the reasons set forth hereinabove the Pawtucket Water Supply Board

prays that the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission grant the relief sought herein.

The Pawtucket Water Supply Board, By its attorney,

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Joseph A. Keough, Jr. (#4925) KEOUGH + SWEENEY, LTD. 41 Mendon Avenue Pawtucket, RI 02861 (401) 724-3600 (phone) jkeoughjr@keoughsweeney.com

#### CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that on March 7, 2024, I sent a copy of the within to all parties set forth on the attached Service List by electronic mail and copies to Luly Massaro, Commission Clerk, by electronic mail and regular mail.

Parties	Email Distribution	Phone
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