

May 16, 2018

The Hon. Jorge O. Elorza
Mayor

Ricky Caruolo General Manager Mrs. Luly Massaro, Clerk Public Utilities Commission 89 Jefferson Boulevard Warwick, RI 02888

RE: Docket 4618 - Revenue Reserve Request

Dear Mrs. Massaro:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Xaykham Khamsyvoravong Chairperson

> Joseph D. Cataldi Vice Chairperson

> > Sabina Matos Councilperson

Michael J. Correia Councilperson

Lawrence J. Mancini Ex-Officio

Cristen L. Raucci, Esq. Member

Kerri Lynn Thurber Member

Carissa R. Richard Secretary

William E. O'Gara, Esq. Legal Advisor Enclosed please find an original and nine (9) copies of Providence Water's comments as they relate to the following:

- 1. Bristol County Water Authority's Supplemental Objection to The Providence Water Supply Board's Request to Transfer Funds filed on May 11, 2018.
- 2. City of Warwick's Position Statement in the above matter filed on May 11, 2018.

Electronic copies of these documents have been sent to the service list. If you have any questions, I can be reached at 521-6300 ext.7217.

seigner-W

Respectfully,

Mary L. Deignan-White

Senior Manager of Regulatory

MEMBER

Rhode Island Water Works Assn. New England Water Works Assn. American Water Works Assn. Water Research Foundation

An EPA WaterSense Partner

(401) 521-6300

125 Dupont Drive Providence, RI 02907

www.provwater.com

Follow us @provwater

facebook.com/Providencewater

cc:

Dk 4618 service list (via email) File

1	Q.	Please state your full name and title?
2	A.	Nancy E. Parrillo, Senior Manager – Finance for the Providence Water Supply Board
3		(Providence Water, PW).
4	Q.	How long have you been employed by Providence Water?
5	Α.	I have been employed since April of 2015 or 3 years.
6	Q.	Would you please state your education, background, and professional associations?
7	A.	I have a Master's Degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Finance from
8		Bryant University. I graduated from Wheaton College in Norton, Massachusetts with a
9		Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Economics.
10		Prior to joining Providence Water, I was the CFO for the RI Turnpike & Bridge Authority. I
11		have also spent 12 years in the water and wastewater sectors as CFO for the MA Water
12		Pollution Abatement Trust, which is the name of the Massachusetts State Revolving Fund
13		agency, and as CFO for the South Essex Sewerage District, Massachusetts's second largest
14		wastewater treatment facility.
15		l participated in Providence Water's Docket 4618 in May 2016 through February 2017 and
16		Docket 4571 in the summer of 2015. I also filed initial testimony in this Docket 4618 in
17		October 2017 in support of Providence Water's request to transfer \$2,394,651.28 from
18		the Revenue Reserve Fund to the Operating Fund.
19		

1	Q.	Please explain your duties and responsibilities.
2	Α.	I am responsible for the Finance Department which includes Accounting, Financia
3		Planning, Budgeting, Accounts Payable, Payroll, and Regulatory.
4	Q.	What is the purpose of your testimony?
5	A.	To provide rebuttal testimony for Providence Water in this Docket.
6	Q.	What issues will you address in you rebuttal testimony?
7	Α.	I will be addressing issues raised by the wholesale interveners in their statements filed with the
8		Commission on May 11, 2018 in response to Providence Water's transfer request.
9	Q.	How would you like to proceed?
10	A.	First, I will address Bristol County Water Authority's (BCWA) Supplemental Objection.
11		BCWA objects to the Providence Water's transfer request for 2 reasons:
12 13 14 15		 "1. Fiscal Year 2017 used to support Providence's request is a "mixed" year that incorporates projected consumption from two different dockets and is not a representative rate year. 2. Providence's request lacks an evidentiary basis." (BCWA Supp. Objection, at 1).
17 18		The correct years were used.
19		The correct years were used in the calculation. It is true that Providence Water used 2 dockets
20		to calculate the allowed revenues for this filing. However, that was necessary to properly make
21		the calculation. Rates set in Docket 4571 were used for consumption covered by those rates
22		(July 1, 2016 through February 16, 2017), and the rates set in Docket 4618 were used for
23		consumption covered by those rates (February 17, 2017 through June 30, 2017). See Exhibit

1 NEP1A of my initial testimony which illustrates how allowed revenue was properly calculated 2 based on this pro-rata basis. It represents the reality of the rate structure and revenue 3 generation. 4 Consumption was not addressed in Docket 4571. 5 BCWA also contends that consumption was addressed by the Commission in Docket 4571. This 6 is incorrect. Docket 4571 addressed only the additional debt service required by the issuance of 7 bonds to purchase and renovate the new Central Operating facility located at 125 Dupont Drive 8 in Providence. The new debt service amount was added to the Cost of Service summary from 9 Docket 4406 for retail sales, and the new rates were calculated based on the consumption 10 allowance in Docket 4406. 11 Consumption and revenue are directly correlated. 12 We also disagree with BCWA's claim that there is no direct correlation between consumption 13 and revenue. Revenues are primarily based on consumption (i.e., water sales) because 14

We also disagree with BCWA's claim that there is no direct correlation between consumption and revenue. Revenues are primarily based on consumption (i.e., water sales) because consumption is the unit of measure that we use to we invoice our customers. During the rate making process, future expenses are calculated, and then the revenue needed to cover those expenses is calculated based primarily on consumption (with various service charges added to cover related expenses). In FY2018, retail and wholesale consumption accounts for 77% of total revenue.

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

Providence Water did not submit contradictory information; information was updated.

BCWA asserts that PW submitted contradictory information. Schedule NEP1 filed with my initial testimony notes that the numbers shown in that Schedule were unaudited. At that time

1	(October 2017), Providence Water's audit was not yet complete. However, the numbers filed in
2	Providence Water's annual report filed on April 5, 2018 reflect the final audited numbers.
3	Although final audited revenues show an additional \$400,000, this revenue is attributed to
4	revenue that was income to the East Smithfield Water District and has offsetting expenses that
5	are related to their operation prior to their merging with Providence Water and thus was not
6	revenue available to Providence Water. This is required under GASB rules.
7	Providence Water correctly calculated the shortfall due to reduced consumption.
8	BCWA also asserts that PW should not be allowed to transfer the amount requested because
9	the deficit between revenue and expenses was only \$762,779 (BCWA Supp. Objection, pg.3).
10	However, the Docket 4061 Report and Order issued on October 12, 2010 on page 20 item 3
11	states:
12	"3. The Providence Water Supply Board is allowed a three percent (3%) net
13	operating reserve. Two percent (2%) of the reserve shall be restricted and may
14	only be used to cover shortfalls in allowed revenues upon a showing by
15	Providence Water Supply Board that the shortfall resulted from reduced
16	<u>consumption</u> ."(Emphasis added).
17	My initial testimony documented that the shortfall from reduced consumption was \$2,394,651.
18	Moreover, a transfer from the Revenue Reserve was not intended to trigger a new rate case
19	examination of all revenues and expenses.
20 21	

The information submitted to the Superior Court was based on a calendar year.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

1

In the Superior Court cases of Town of Burrillville vs. Clear River Energy, LLC, and et. al. (P.C. No. 2017-1039) and Conservation Law Foundation, Inc. vs. Clear River Energy, LLC, et. al. (P.C. No 2017-1037), the consumption information that was submitted was based on a calendar year and not a fiscal year. We used a fiscal year in this request. There is therefore no contradiction in these numbers.

Reduced consumption is continuing.

BCWA contends that reduced consumption and resulting revenues are not continuing. BCWA is incorrect. Please see attached Exhibits NEP-REB-1 and 2. Exhibit NEP-REB-1 illustrates that consumption and resulting revenues for FY2016 were down from the allowed consumption and revenue from Dockets 4406/4571. Consumption in FY2016 was 25,758,388 hcf versus an allowed amount of 26,033,052 hcf, a shortfall of 274,644 hcf. As a result, the revenues for FY2016 were \$53,820,837 versus the allowed revenue of \$56,015,821, a shortfall of \$2,194,984, which resulted from reduced consumption. Exhibit NEP-REB-2 further demonstrates that reduced consumption continues. Consumption numbers for FY2018 are anticipated to be approximately 24,461,349 based on the first 10 months of actual consumption (July through April, 2018) and estimated consumption for May and June of 2018 based on an average over the last 3 years. The anticipated shortfall is approximately 1,389,500 hcf. This FY2018 shortfall will result in an additional revenue shortfall of approximately \$3,627,750.

22

21

1	Q.	Do vou	have	anything	else?
and the		,		a,	-10-01

A. Yes. I would like to address the City of Warwick's objection.

Approval of the transfer will not create a structural deficit.

Mr. Ruggerio contends that this request will establish a "structural deficit" and is an illustration of a fundamental imbalance in government receipts and expenditures that if not addressed, will allegedly undermine the financial integrity of Providence Water. This contention is incorrect. The rate-making process requires that revenues and expenditures be vetted and approved by the Commission in each rate case. The transfer will reduce the amount that has accumulated in the revenue reserve, but PW cannot raise rates to refill that reserve by that amount in the following year as posited by Mr. Ruggerio. The reserve is funded through an allowed transfer from Operations annually, but PW is not required nor is it in a position to replace what was used from the reserve in addition to the required funding authorized in Docket 4618.

The requested transfer is in accordance with the intent of the Commission in establishing a Revenue Reserve.

The City further contends that PW has not examined options to reduce or eliminate expenses to reduce the need for the transfer from the Reserve. The Commission established the Reserve for the explicit purpose of declining consumption and transfers do not require a rate case to examine expenses. As revenues are received, there is a specific order in which they are applied to expenses. This is due to a combination of the Report & Orders issued by the Commission and the PW bond covenants which secure the

1		bondholders that are owed debt service. First, the monies required to pay debt service
2		are accounted for. Next operating expenses are paid to ensure the utility continues to
3		function properly. Last is the funding of the restricted funds as approved by the PUC in
4		the current Report & Order. In FY2017, as shown on Exhibit NEP-REB-3, the amount that
5		did not get transferred to the restricted funds at the close of the fiscal year was
6		\$2,426,468.64. The revenue reserve fund transfer request submitted here was
7		\$2,394,651.28, which is \$31,817.36 less than the final amount certified by the
8		independent auditors.
9	Q.	Do you have anything else to add to this testimony?
10	Α.	Yes. In conclusion, this transfer request, if approved, would allow Providence Water to
11		fund its restricted funds at the levels required for FY2017.
12		
13		

Providence Water Water Sales (hcf) FY2016

Customer Class	Jul-15	Aug-15	Sep-15	Oct-15	Nov-15	Dec-15	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16	Apr-16	May-16	Jun-16	Total	DK 4571	Variance
Residential	823,668	913,681	949,919	779,423	644,579	613,920	526,959	475,860	596,136	589,167	577,788	778,735	8,269,834	8,517,528	(247,694)
Commercial	393,374	423,632	487,961	412,642	374,029	307,687	274,516	249,586	315,992	298,267	311,411	401,957	4,250,335	4,427,015	(176,680)
Industrial	14,441	15,251	14,775	14,229	15,255	13,056	14,118	4,244	14,153	14,498	13,130	17,218	164,367	189,644	(25,277)
Total Retail	1,231,482	1,352,563	1,452,655	1,206,294	1,033,864	934,663	815,593	729,690	926,281	901,932	902,328	1,197,910	12,684,536	13,134,187	(449,651)
Wholesale	1,524,002	1,357,230	1,581,977	1,074,468	712,226	1,011,072	797,199	374	1,672,238	867,282	1,052,692	1,423,092	13,073,852	12,898,865	(174,987)
Total Consumption	2,755,485	2,709,793	3,034,632	2,280,762	1,746,090	1,945,735	1,612,793	730,064	2,598,519	1,769,214	1,955,021	2,621,002	25,758,388	26,033,052	(274,664)
					Consump	Consumption Revenue FY2016	3 FY2016								
Customer Class	Jul-15	Aug-15	Sep-15	Oct-15	Nov-15	Dec-15	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16	Apr-16	May-16	Jun-16	Total	DK 4571	Variance
Residential	2,378,382	2,645,741	2,804,676	2,376,227	1,964,469	1,858,897	1,603,053	1,441,948	1,807,940	1,785,239	1,782,990	2,373,785	24,512,003	25,931,493	(1,419,490)
Commercial	1,047,510	1,144,542	1,345,954	1,177,208	1,074,156	893,992	784,607	725,472	910,983	857,366	899,139	1,155,240	11,865,460	12,841,401	(975,941)
Industrial	45,401	44,626	45,922	46,072	48,796	41,467	43,377	17,701	44,743	46,328	41,053	54,852	513,852	540,135	(26,283)
Total Retail	3,471,293	3,834,910	4,196,552	3,599,507	3,087,421	2,794,356	2,431,037	2,185,121	2,763,665	2,688,933	2,723,182	3,583,877	36,891,315	39,313,029	(2,421,714)
Wholesale	1,973,442	1,757,487	2,048,513	1,391,337	922,267	1,309,244	1,032,330	1,143,573	1,022,273	1,123,050	1,363,139	1,842,865	16,929,522	16,702,792	226,730
Total Consumption	5.444.735	5.592.397	6.245.065	4.990.844	4.009.688	4.103.600	3,463,367	3,328,695	3.785.938	3,811,983	4,086,321	5,426,742	53,820,837	56,015,821	(2,194,984)

Providence Water Water Sales (hcf) FY2018

EXHIBIT NEP-REB-2

	Over/(Under)	(604,451)	(61,221)	4,167	(661,505)	(727,994)	(1,389,500)				Over/(Under)	\$ (2,074,322)	\$ (645,046)	\$ 64,740	\$ (2,654,628)	\$ (983,416)	\$ (3,638,044)
	DK. 4618	8,634,613	4,135,153	189,477	12,959,243	12,891,606	25,850,849				DK. 4618	\$ 29,383,587	\$ 13,327,598	\$ 600,452	\$ 43,311,637	\$ 17,414,729	\$ 60,726,366
	Total	8,030,162	4,073,932	193,644	12,297,738	12,163,612	24,461,349				Total	\$ 27,309,265	\$ 12,682,552	\$ 665,192	\$ 40,657,009	\$ 16,431,313	\$ 57,088,322 \$
	Jun-18	736,306	377,116	18,592	1,132,014	1,457,257	2,589,271				Jun-18	\$ 2,505,648	\$ 1,215,446	\$ 58,918	\$ 3,780,013	\$ 1,968,547	\$ 5,748,560
	May-18	594,332	299,881	13,305	907,517	1,059,401	1,966,918			May-18	\$ 2,022,511	\$ 966,515	\$ 42,162	\$ 3,031,189	\$ 1,431,100	\$ 4,462,289	
	Apr-18	588,637	267,953	14,145	870,735	759,389	1,630,125			Apr-18	\$ 2,000,404	\$ 857,570	\$ 43,303	\$ 2,901,277	\$ 1,025,827	\$ 3,927,104	
	Mar-18	590,195	285,782	14,119	760,088	745,903	1,635,999		Mar-18	\$ 1,999,238	\$ 916,664	\$ 57,625	\$ 2,973,527	\$ 1,007,609	\$ 3,981,136		
	Feb-18	496,747	290,663	15,892	803,302	754,067	1,557,369			Feb-18	1,698,357	918,380	56,564	2,673,301	1,018,637	3,691,938	
	Jan-18	631,014	294,320	17,012	942,346	794,781	1,737,127	9 FY2018	Jan-18	2,146,118 \$	942,219 \$	58,249 \$	3,146,586 \$	1,265,205 \$	4,411,791 \$		
	Dec-17	568,890	332,388	16,095	917,372	1,028,122	1,945,495		Consumption Revenue FY2018	Dec-17	1,931,387 \$	\$ 886,229	55,702 \$	2,610,077 \$	891,567 \$	3,501,644 \$	
	Nov-17	517,944	303,864	14,478	836,287	721,743	1,558,030	Consum	Nov-17	1,741,837 \$	1,242,914 \$	48,128 \$	\$ 3,032,880 \$	\$ 1,029,276 \$	4,062,156 \$		
	Oct-17	734,875	372,403	19,674	1,126,952	908,432	2,035,384		Oct-17	\$ 2,503,251 \$	\$ 1,199,698 \$	\$ 58,421 \$	\$ 3,761,371 \$	\$ 1,478,571 \$	5,863,783 \$ 6,425,729 \$ 5,772,249 \$ 5,239,941 \$ 4,062,156		
	Sep-17	867,659	453,952	16,380	1,337,991	1,096,214	2,434,205				Sep-17	\$ 2,969,198	\$ 1,260,874	\$ 61,348	\$ 4,291,420	\$ 1,480,829	\$ 5,772,249
	Aug-17	874,467	420,841	18,281	1,313,589	1,516,532	2,830,121					\$ 2,971,947	\$ 1,338,097	\$ 67,066	\$ 4,377,110	\$ 2,048,619	\$ 6,425,729
	Jul-17	829,095	374,768	15,672	1,219,536	1,321,770	2,541,306			Jul-17	2,819,368	1,201,186	57,706	4,078,259	1,785,524	5,863,783	
							7					45	\$	45	\$	\$	\$
	Customer Class	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Total Retail	Wholesale	Total Consumption				Customer Class \$\$\$	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Total Retail	Wholesale	Total

Restricted Fund Reconciliation

					(996,910.87) 3,423,379.51 2,426,468.64
	41,666.66	, ,	62,499.99	83,333.32	83,333.32
5,692,178.91	5,691,738.36	5,691,738.36 58,144.16 (1,225,000.00) 4,803.68	4,529,686.20 117,848.01 - 4,529,686.20	4,529,686.20 90,529.78 (7,643.57)	4,612,572.41 56,800.53 4,612,572.41
2,347,099.49 (96,685.22) 375,000.00	2,625,414.27 (4,823.89) 794,721.88 (76,862.04) 2,702,276.31	2,625,414.27 (86,596.06) (86,333.33	3,147,151.54 (4,823.89) 419,721.88 (29,616.63) 3,176,768.17	3,147,151.54 (109,140.77) 700,000.00 4,823.89	3,742,834,66 (4,823.89) (51,768.68) (42,462.45) 3,785,297.11
352,609.58 20,689.68 110.00	373,409.26 33,968.92 373,409.26	373,409.26	376,742.59 33,968.92 376,742.59	376,742.59 (65,299.40) 9,999.98	321,443.17 (65,293.40) 157,901.07 321,443.17
734,942.11	734,942.11 (10,766.91) - 734,942.11	734,942.11	734,942.11 (10,766.91) - 734,942.11	734,942.11 (127,433.58)	607,508.53 (4,610.85) (4,610.85)
1,560,611.96	1,556,859.81 (29,389.03) 199,154.00 1,556,859.81	1,556,859.81 (30,658.47) 250,000.00 1,000.00	1,777,201.34 (29,389.03) (846.00) (27,683.47) 1,804,884.81	1,777,201.34 (15,427.05) 150,000.00 19,764.97	1,931,539.26 (6,489.88) (150,000.00) 1,931,539.26
598,973.12 (36,982.62) 150,212.25 5.76	712,208,51 (10,701.00) 530,815,61 (1,494,77) 713,703.28	712,208.51 (11,286.32) 191,842.75 5.95	892,770.89 (8,678.00) 530,815.61 (1,488.82) 894,259.71	892,770.89 (7,818.00) 575,528.25 91,322.00 321.69	1,552,124.83 (67,507.06) 147,130.11 (4,283.26) 1,556,408.09
2,247,617.27 (18,410.98) 166,666.66	2,395,666.85 (44,340.58) 312,430.19 (5,731.44) 2,401,398.29	2,395,666.85 (27,402.80) 41,666.67 2,247.34	2,412,178.06 (44,405.02) 325,106.86 (9,814.15) 2,421,992.21	2,412,178.06 (128,119.68) 125,000.02 27,324.29	2,436,382.69 (8,511.23) 182,854.89 (43,353.09) 2,479,735.78
(174,815.34) (454,524.29) 1,275,000.00	645,660.37 (1,346,740.03) 2,934,558.82 (184,634.47) 830,294.84	645,660.37 (304,384.56) 1,275,000.00 28,800.00	1,645,075.81 (1,437,158.45) 3,934,558.81 (28,303.64) 1,673,379.45	1,645,075,81 (755,401.25) 3,275,000.00 (1,365,219.33)	2,799,455.23 (837,639.56) 3,084,627.75 SHORTFALL (56,176.91) 2,855,632.14
8,859,767.19 (167,899.06) 177,250.00 (641.50)	8,868,476.63 (59,081.00) 1,575,333.84 (147,081.04) 9,015,557.67	8,868,476.63 (487,072.38) 177,250.00 1,225,000.00 6,994.84	9,790,649.09 (40,925,50) 350,333.84 (386,833.53) 10,177,482.62	9,790,649.09 (300,797.68) 531,750.00 (79,203.12)	9,942,398,29 (2,029.00) (4,166.16) D DUE TO REVENUE: (126,007.38)
1-Apr-17 Opening Cash Balance April Expenditures Debt Service Reimbursement RIIB April Funding Misc. Income/Reimb.	30-Apr-17 Due FROM o/s checks Bank Balance	1-May-17 Opening Cash Balance May Expenditures Debt Service Reinbursement RIIB May Funding Transfer to CIP (per PUC) Misc. Income/Reimb.	31-May-17 Due TO Due FROM o/s checks Bank Balance	1-Jun-17 Opening Cash Balance June Expenditures Debt Service Reimbursement RIIB June Funding Misc. Income/Reimb.	30-Jun-17
1-7	30-7	1-N	31-N	1-1	30-7