#### PENNICHUCK CORPORATION

# COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE MINUTES OF MARCH 21, 2016 MEETING

A meeting of the Communications Committee ("Committee") of the Board of Directors of Pennichuck Corporation ("Company") was held on Monday, March 21, 2016 at 4:38 p.m. at the Company's offices at 25 Manchester Street, Merrimack, New Hampshire.

The following persons were in attendance for all or a portion of the meeting:

Committee Members: Jay N. Lustig, Chairman

C. George Bower Thomas J. Leonard Preston J. Stanley, Jr.

From the Company: Elizabeth A. Dunn, Director

Larry D. Goodhue, Chief Executive Officer Donald L. Ware, Chief Operating Officer Suzanne L. Ansara, Corporate Secretary

John Boisvert, Chief Engineer

Christopher Countie, Water Supply Manager

# **Approval of Minutes**

The Chairman inquired whether there were any comments with respect to the draft minutes of the February 11, 2016 meeting of the Committee. There being none, on motion duly made by G. Bower and seconded by P. Stanley, all of the members of the Committee then voting, it was unanimously

Resolved: that the minutes of the February 11, 2016 meeting of the Communications Committee are hereby approved.

## Election of Chairman

On motion duly made by T. Leonard and seconded by P. Stanley, all of the Committee members then voting, it was unanimously

Resolved: that Jay N. Lustig is hereby elected Chairman of the Communications Committee.

#### Review of the Communications Committee Charter

The Committee discussed amending the Communications Committee Charter to properly reflect the purpose and responsibilities of the Committee. On motion duly made by T. Leonard and seconded by P. Stanley, all of the Committee members then voting, it was unanimously Resolved: that Section A and Section D of the Communications Committee Charter be amended to read as follows, and that the amended Charter be presented to the Board of Directors for approval:

- 1. Section A. Purpose The purpose of the Committee is to develop and assist with the policies and strategies of external communications between the Board, the Company and the Sole Shareholder, other stakeholders, and the public.
- 2. Section D. Authority and Responsibilities The Committee shall discharge its responsibilities to develop and assist with the policies and strategies of external communications between the Board, the Company and the Sole Shareholder, other stakeholders, and the public, in accordance with its business judgment.

### Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) Contamination

The Committee discussed the recent events relative to the investigation by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) of the drinking water in Merrimack and Litchfield contaminated by Perfluorooctanoic Acid ("PFOA").

- L. Goodhue indicated that, on March 7, 2016, the Company was informed by the Merrimack Valley District (MVD) that PFOA was detected in the tap water at the Saint-Gobain plant in Merrimack. Subsequent testing done by the NHDES has shown that several wells in Merrimack and Litchfield are contaminated with PFOA. L. Goodhue referred the Committee to the letters sent to customers in the Cabot Preserve (Bedford) and Souhegan Woods (Merrimack) communities, copies of which were included in the written materials. He indicated that those customers receive their drinking water from Pennichuck. A portion of the water supplied to those customers is mixed with water purchased from the MVD during the late spring/early fall season as a supplement to provide adequate water for lawn irrigation. The water purchased from the MVD does not mix with the Company's core supply.
- L. Goodhue then handed out to the Committee copies of a press release issued by the NHDES dated March 18, 2016, a data sheet from NIOSH relating to PFOA, and a news article relating to PFOA found in Merrimack and Litchfield drinking water.
- D. Ware reviewed the Company's testing procedures. He indicated that there is no long term standard issued by the Environmental Protection Agency for PFOA, only a health advisory for short term exposure of 400 parts per trillion. New Hampshire does not have an established standard for PFOA.
- D. Ware indicated that the Company has tested water samples from the Cabot Preserve and Souhegan Woods water systems, and samples from the Company's raw and treated water. Results of those tests were handed out to the Committee. The results of the testing showed that the Company is well within compliance with all standards.

A lengthy discussion ensued.

The Committee discussed the Company's policy regarding communications to and questions from customers relating to PFOA. It was agreed that since the Company is not a public health authority, customers with questions regarding the health effects of PFOA should be referred to the EPA and the NHDES for information, and any communications sent to customers will include a link to the websites of the EPA and the NHDES.

- E. Dunn left the meeting at 6:22 p.m. during the discussion on PFOA.
- T. Leonard discussed his meeting with Mayor Donchess.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

/s/ Suzanne L. Ansara
Suzanne L. Ansara
Corporate Secretary