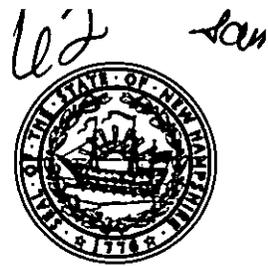




The State of New Hampshire  
**Department of Environmental Services**

**Robert R. Scott, Commissioner**



November 8, 2021

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu  
and the Honorable Council  
State House  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

**REQUESTED ACTION**

Authorize the Department of Environmental Services to **RETROACTIVELY** amend a Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund grant (PO#1077264) to Abenaki Water Co., Inc. (VC#312329-B001), Plainville, CT, for the Tioga River Water System in Belmont, NH, by extending the completion date from December 1, 2021 to June 1, 2023, effective upon Governor and Council approval. The original grant agreement was approved by Governor and Council on November 18, 2020, Item #96. 100% Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund.

**EXPLANATION**

We are requesting **retroactive** approval of this amendment due to delays in submittal of the required paperwork by Abenaki Water Co., Inc. (Abenaki). This amendment is requested in order to provide Abenaki additional time to complete the agreed upon scope of services. In February 2020, the Drinking Water and Groundwater Advisory Commission approved grant and loan funding for a total of \$50,000 to the Abenaki's Tioga River System (Belmont, NH) for distribution system upgrades and a larger water storage tank in order to address chronic leakage. The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) approved the project to improve water supply and reliability.

As part of Abenaki's due diligence for the project, they identified an alternative method to more efficiently address the chronic leakage and requested changing the project to focus on the distribution upgrades to better identify and repair system leaks before the system tank supply is depleted. Abenaki submitted a letter to the PUC outlining the proposed, more proactive approach to achieve the same goal, and is awaiting approval from PUC for the revised project. To date, none of the original loan and grant has been spent.

In the event that other funds become no longer available, General funds will not be requested to support this program. This amendment has been approved by the Attorney General's Office as to form, substance and execution.

We respectfully request your approval of this item.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert R. Scott  
Commissioner

**Grant Agreement with Abenaki Water Co., Inc.  
Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund Grant  
Amendment No. 1**

This Agreement (hereinafter called the Amendment) dated this 8<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2021, is by and between the State of New Hampshire, acting by and through its Department of Environmental Services (hereinafter referred to as the State) and Abenaki Water Co., Inc. acting by and through the Vice President, Nicholas LaChance (hereinafter referred to as the Grantee).

WHEREAS, pursuant to an Agreement (hereinafter called the Agreement) approved by the Governor and Council on November 18, 2020, the Grantee agreed to perform certain services upon the terms and conditions specified in the Agreement and in consideration of payment by the State of certain sums as specified therein; and

WHEREAS, The Grantee and the State have agreed to amend the Agreement in certain respects;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing, and the covenants and conditions contained in the Agreement and set forth herein, the parties hereto do hereby agree as follows:

1. Amendment and Modification of Agreement: The Agreement is hereby amended as follows:
  - (A) The Completion Date as set forth in sub-paragraph 1.6 of the Agreement shall be changed from December 1, 2021 to June 1, 2023.
2. Effective Date of Amendment: This Amendment shall take effect upon the date of approval of this Amendment by the Governor and Executive Council of the State of New Hampshire.
3. Continuance of Agreement: Except as specifically amended and modified by the terms and conditions of this Amendment, the Agreement, and the obligations of the parties thereunder, shall remain in full force and effect in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth therein.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have hereunto set their hands as of the day and year first above written.

Abenaki Water Co., Inc.

By [Signature]  
Nicholas LaChance, Vice President

STATE OF Connecticut  
COUNTY OF Hartford

On this the 26 day of October 2021, before the undersigned officer, personally appeared Nicholas LaChance who acknowledged himself to be the person who executed the foregoing instrument for the purpose therein contained.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and official seal.

[Signature]  
My Commission Expires: Sheryl L Fairchild  
Notary Public-Connecticut  
My Commission Expires  
August 31, 2024

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
Department of Environmental Services

By: [Signature] 11/08/21  
For Robert R. Scott, Commissioner Date

Approved by Attorney General this 15<sup>th</sup> day of November 2021, as to form, substance and execution.

OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

[Signature]

A Certificate of Vote of Authorization is a certificate that states that a grant applicant is willing to enter into a grant agreement with the State of NH Department of Environmental Services, that whoever signs the Grant Agreement has the authority to do so. All certificates must include:

- Certificate should be completed and signed by someone other than the person being given authority (a signature other than the person that will sign the Grant Agreement)
- Must state that the person who signed the Grant Agreement has the authority to do so
- Must be notarized
- Original is needed for submittal. No copies.

### Certificate of Vote of Authorization

**Abenaki Water Company  
32 Artisan Ct. Gilford, CT 03249**

I, Ryan Caouette, Secretary of the Abenaki Water Company, do hereby certify that at a meeting held on 10/26/2021, the Board of Directors voted to enter into a Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund grant agreement with the NH Department Environmental Services to fund a water system improvement project.

The Abenaki Water Company further authorized the Nicholas LaChance / Vice President to execute any documents which may be necessary to effectuate this grant agreement.

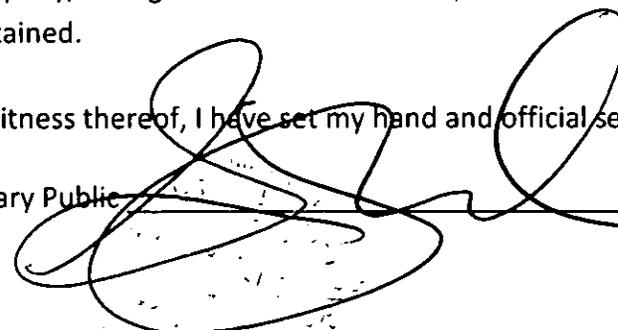
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand as Secretary of Abenaki Water Company the 1 day of November 2021.

Signature  \_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF Connecticut County of Hartford

On this 1<sup>st</sup> day of November, 2021 before me Sheryl Fairchild the undersigned Officer, personally appeared. Ryan Caouette, who acknowledged himself to be the Secretary of Abenaki Water Company, being authorized so to do, execute the foregoing instrument for the purpose therein contained.

In witness thereof, I have set my hand and official seal.

Notary Public  My commission expires \_\_\_\_\_

Sheryl L Fairchild  
Notary Public-Connecticut  
My Commission Expires  
August 31, 2024

# State of New Hampshire

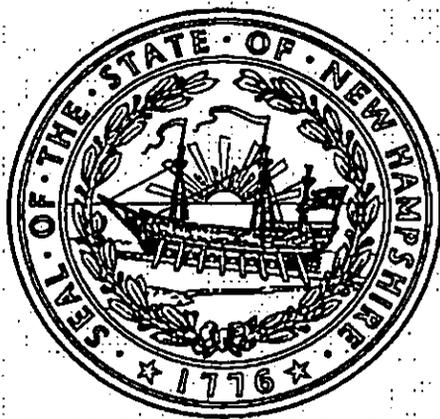
## Department of State

### CERTIFICATE

I, William M. Gardner, Secretary of State of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby certify that ABENAKI WATER CO., INC. is a New Hampshire Profit Corporation registered to transact business in New Hampshire on June 24, 2013. I further certify that all fees and documents required by the Secretary of State's office have been received and is in good standing as far as this office is concerned.

Business ID: 693607

Certificate Number: 0005456820



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF,  
I hereto set my hand and cause to be affixed  
the Seal of the State of New Hampshire,  
this 18th day of October A.D. 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wm Gardner".

William M. Gardner  
Secretary of State



# CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE

DATE (MM/DD/YYYY)  
04/29/2021

THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS A MATTER OF INFORMATION ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AFFIRMATIVELY OR NEGATIVELY AMEND, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES BELOW. THIS CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE ISSUING INSURER(S), AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OR PRODUCER, AND THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER.

**IMPORTANT:** If the certificate holder is an ADDITIONAL INSURED, the policy(ies) must have ADDITIONAL INSURED provisions or be endorsed. If SUBROGATION IS WAIVED, subject to the terms and conditions of the policy, certain policies may require an endorsement. A statement on this certificate does not confer rights to the certificate holder in lieu of such endorsement(s).

<b>PRODUCER</b> Grundy Insurance P.O. Box 1957 400 Horsham Road, Suite 150 Horsham PA 19044	<b>CONTACT NAME:</b> Kevin Connor <b>PHONE (A/C, No., Ext):</b> (877) 338-4004 <b>E-MAIL ADDRESS:</b> kevin.connor@Grundy.com	<b>FAX (A/C, No.):</b> (215) 674-5718
	<b>INSURER(S) AFFORDING COVERAGE</b>	
<b>INSURED</b> New England Service Co., Valley Water Systems, Inc., & Colonial Water 37 NORTHWEST DRIVE PLAINVILLE CT 06062	<b>INSURER A:</b> Philadelphia Indemnity Insurance Company	<b>NAIC #</b> 18058
	<b>INSURER B:</b> Berkley Net Underwriters, LLC	
	<b>INSURER C:</b>	
	<b>INSURER D:</b>	
	<b>INSURER E:</b>	
	<b>INSURER F:</b>	

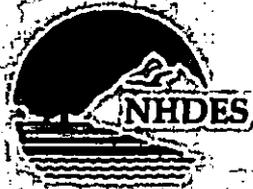
**COVERAGES**      **CERTIFICATE NUMBER:** CL2142909127      **REVISION NUMBER:**

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE POLICIES OF INSURANCE LISTED BELOW HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THE INSURED NAMED ABOVE FOR THE POLICY PERIOD INDICATED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REQUIREMENT, TERM OR CONDITION OF ANY CONTRACT OR OTHER DOCUMENT WITH RESPECT TO WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED OR MAY PERTAIN, THE INSURANCE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES DESCRIBED HEREIN IS SUBJECT TO ALL THE TERMS, EXCLUSIONS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH POLICIES. LIMITS SHOWN MAY HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY PAID CLAIMS.

INSR LTR	TYPE OF INSURANCE	ADDL INSD	SUBR WVD	POLICY NUMBER	POLICY EFF (MM/DD/YYYY)	POLICY EXP (MM/DD/YYYY)	LIMITS
A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS-MADE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUR  GEN'L AGGREGATE LIMIT APPLIES PER: <input type="checkbox"/> POLICY <input type="checkbox"/> PRO-JECT <input type="checkbox"/> LOC OTHER:			PHPK2218514	01/01/2021	01/01/2022	EACH OCCURRENCE \$ 1,000,000 DAMAGE TO RENTED PREMISES (Ea occurrence) \$ 1,000,000 MED EXP (Any one person) \$ 10,000 PERSONAL & ADV INJURY \$ 1,000,000 GENERAL AGGREGATE \$ 3,000,000 PRODUCTS - COMPOP AGG \$ 3,000,000
A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ANY AUTO <input type="checkbox"/> OWNED AUTOS ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULED AUTOS <input type="checkbox"/> HIRED AUTOS ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> NON-OWNED AUTOS ONLY			PHPK2218514	01/01/2021	01/01/2022	COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT (Ea accident) \$ 1,000,000 BODILY INJURY (Per person) \$ BODILY INJURY (Per accident) \$ PROPERTY DAMAGE (Per accident) \$ Medical payments \$ 5,000
A	<input type="checkbox"/> UMBRELLA LIAB <input type="checkbox"/> OCCUR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCESS LIAB <input type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS-MADE DED    RETENTION \$			PHUB749599	01/01/2021	01/01/2022	EACH OCCURRENCE \$ 7,000,000 AGGREGATE \$ 7,000,000
B	WORKERS COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ANY PROPRIETOR/PARTNER/EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEMBER EXCLUDED? (Mandatory in NH) <input type="checkbox"/> Y/N If yes, describe under DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS below		N/A	BNUWC0108078	01/01/2021	01/01/2022	PER STATUTE    OTHER E.L. EACH ACCIDENT \$ 500,000 E.L. DISEASE - EA EMPLOYEE \$ 500,000 E.L. DISEASE - POLICY LIMIT \$ 500,000

DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS / LOCATIONS / VEHICLES (ACORD 101, Additional Remarks Schedule, may be attached if more space is required)

<b>CERTIFICATE HOLDER</b> NH Department of Environmental Services and Abenaki Belmont P.O. Box 0095 29 Hazen Drive Concord NH 03302-0095	<b>CANCELLATION</b> SHOULD ANY OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED POLICIES BE CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, NOTICE WILL BE DELIVERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY PROVISIONS.  AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE 
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The State of New Hampshire  
**Department of Environmental Services**



**Robert R. Scott, Commissioner**

**October 20, 2020**

**His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu  
and the Honorable Council  
State House  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301**

**APPROVED G & C**

DATE 18 November 2020

**REQUESTED ACTIONS**

ITEM # 916

1. **Authorize the Department of Environmental Services to approve a loan agreement with Abenaki Water Co., Inc. (VC# 312329-8001), Plainville, CT, in the amount not to exceed \$45,000 to finance water system improvements for the Abenaki Water/Tioga Belmont water system in Belmont, NH, subject to conditions as outlined in documents substantially in the form presented, under the provisions of RSA 485-F and N.H. Code of Administrative Rules Env-Dw 1300 et seq. effective upon Governor & Council approval. 100% Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund.**

Funding is available in the following account:

**03-44-44-442010-3904-301-504059**

**FY 2021**

**\$45,000**

**Dept Environmental Services, DWGTF, Loans Non-Federal**

2. **Authorize the Department of Environmental Services to award a Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund grant to Abenaki Water Co., Inc. (VC# 312329-8001), Plainville, CT, in the amount not to exceed \$5,000 to finance water system improvements under the provisions of RSA 485-F and N.H. Code of Administrative Rules Env-Dw 1300 et seq. effective upon Governor & Council approval through December 1, 2021. 100% Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund.**

Funding is available in the following account:

**03-44-44-442010-3904-073-500580**

**FY 2021**

**\$5,000**

**Dept Environmental Services, DWGWT, Grants Non-Federal**

**EXPLANATION**

**Abenaki Water Co., Inc. requested \$50,000 in funding to finance water system improvements from the Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund (DWGTF). The DWGTF was created in 2016 using \$276 million of MtBE trial judgement funds, as authorized by RSA 485-F. The purpose of the Trust Fund is to provide sustainable, long-term funding for the protection, preservation, and enhancement of the drinking water and groundwater resources of the state. The Drinking Water and Groundwater**

DES Website: [www.des.nh.gov](http://www.des.nh.gov)

P.O. Box 95, 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, New Hampshire 03302-0095

Telephone: (603) 271-2513 • Fax: (603) 271-5171 • TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964

Advisory Commission (Advisory Commission) was established to administer the Trust Fund and to provide guidance to the State on the use of the Trust Fund.

The improvements include upgrades to the distribution system and to provide additional storage capacity for their Abenaki Water/Tioga Belmont water system in Belmont, NH. The existing storage tank is insufficiently sized to maintain consistent water service to the 22 service connections in the event the system distribution has a minor leak. Further, the lack of distribution valves makes leak detection and repairs much more difficult and time consuming to complete. This project will improve water quantity and reliability.

The purpose of the DWGTF loan agreement is to authorize Abenaki Water Co. Inc. to borrow up to \$45,000 for the project. The final loan amount will be based on the total DWGTF funds disbursed, and may be less than \$45,000. The remaining \$5,000 will be grant funds from the DWGTF.

Abenaki's request for the loan and grant was approved by the Advisory Commission on February 10, 2020. Grant funds will be disbursed in concert with the loan. Each disbursement will be paid 10% grant funds and 90% loan funds. The final grant amount will be based on the total DWGTF funds disbursed, and may be less than the approved amount. The grant agreement has been approved by the Attorney General's Office as to form, substance, and execution. In the event that these funds become no longer available, General funds will not be requested to support this program.

We respectfully request your approval of this item.

  
Robert R. Scott  
Commissioner

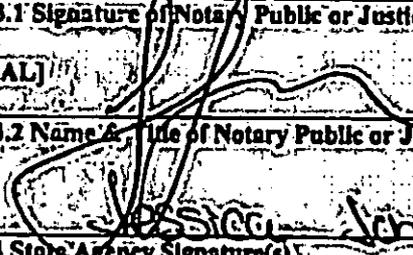
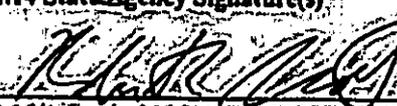
**Subject: Abenaki Water Co., Inc.**

**GRANT AGREEMENT**

The State of New Hampshire and the Grantee hereby mutually agree as follows:

**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**1. Identification**

1.1 State Agency Name NH Department of Environmental Services		1.2 State Agency Address 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03301	
1.3 Grantee Name Abenaki Water Co., Inc.		1.4 Grantee Address 37 Northwest Drive, Plainville, CT 06062-1234	
1.5 Effective Date Upon G&C Approval	1.6 Completion Date December 1, 2021	1.7 Audit Date N/A	1.8 Grant Limitation \$5,000.00
1.9 Grant Officer, for State Agency Erin Holmes, Drinking Water & Groundwater Trust Fund, NH Department of Environmental Services		1.10 State Agency Telephone Number 603-271-8321	
1.11 Grantee Signature 		1.12 Name & Title of Grantee Signor Nicholas P. Chene, Vice President	
1.13 Acknowledgment: State of <u>Connecticut</u> , County of <u>Hartford</u> On <u>October 2, 2020</u> , before the undersigned officer, personally appeared the person identified in block 1.12, or satisfactorily proven to be the person whose name is signed in block 1.11; and acknowledged that s/he executed this document in the capacity indicated in block 1.12.			
1.13.1 Signature of Notary Public or Justice of the Peace 			
1.13.2 Name & Title of Notary Public or Justice of the Peace Jessica Johnson, Notary Public			
1.14 State Agency Signature(s) 		1.15 Name/Title of State Agency Signor(s) Robert R. Scott, Commissioner NH Department of Environmental Services	
1.16 Approval by Attorney General (Form, Substance and Execution) By:  On: <u>10/27/2020</u>			
1.17 Approval by the Governor and Executive Council By: _____ On: _____			

2. **SCOPE OF WORK:** In exchange for grant funds provided by the state of New Hampshire, acting through the agency identified in block 1.1 (hereinafter referred to as "the State") pursuant to RSA 21-O, the Grantee (identified in block 1.3 (hereinafter referred to as "the Grantee"), shall perform that work identified and more particularly described in the scope of work attached hereto as EXHIBIT A (the scope of work being referred to as "the Project").

3. **'AREA COVERED:** Except as otherwise specifically provided for herein, the Grantee shall perform the Project in, and with respect to, the State of New Hampshire.

4. **EFFECTIVE DATE; COMPLETION OF PROJECT.**

4.1 This Agreement, and all obligations of the parties hereunder, shall become effective on the date in block 1.5 or on the date of approval of this Agreement by the Governor and Council of the State of New Hampshire whichever is later (hereinafter referred to as the "Effective Date").

4.2 Except as otherwise specifically provided for herein, the Project, including all reports required by this Agreement, shall be completed in ITS entirety prior to the date in block 1.6 (hereinafter referred to as the "Completion Date").

5. **GRANT AMOUNT; LIMITATION ON AMOUNT; PAYMENT.**

5.1 The Grant Amount is identified and more particularly described in EXHIBIT D, attached hereto.

5.2 The manner of, and schedule of payment shall be as set forth in EXHIBIT D.

5.3 In accordance with the provisions set forth in EXHIBIT D, and in consideration of the satisfactory performance of the Project, as determined by the State, and as limited by subparagraph 5.5 of these general provisions, the State shall pay the Grantee the Grant Amount. The State shall withhold from the amount otherwise payable to the Grantee under this subparagraph 5.3 those sums required, or permitted, to be withheld pursuant to N.H. RSA 80:7 through 7-c.

5.4 The payment by the State of the Grant amount shall be the only, and the complete, compensation to the Grantee for all expenses, of whatever nature, incurred by the Grantee in the performance hereof, and shall be the only, and the complete, compensation to the Grantee for the Project. The State shall have no liabilities to the Grantee other than the Grant Amount.

5.5 Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, and notwithstanding unexpected circumstances, in no event shall the total of all payments authorized, or actually made, hereunder exceed the Grant limitation set forth in block 1.8 of these general provisions.

6. **COMPLIANCE BY GRANTEE WITH LAWS AND REGULATIONS.**

In connection with the performance of the Project, the Grantee shall comply with all statutes, laws, regulations, and orders of federal, state, county, or municipal authorities, which shall impose any obligations, or duty upon the Grantee, including the acquisition of any and all necessary permits.

7. **RECORDS AND ACCOUNTS.**

7.1 Between the Effective Date and the date seven (7) years after the Completion Date the Grantee shall keep detailed accounts of all expenses incurred in connection with the Project, including, but not limited to, costs of administration, transportation, insurance, telephone calls, and clerical materials and services. Such accounts shall be supported by receipts, invoices, bills and other similar documents.

7.2 Between the Effective Date and the date seven (7) years after the Completion Date, at any time during the Grantee's normal business hours, and as often as the State shall demand, the Grantee shall make available to the State all records pertaining to matters covered by this Agreement. The Grantee shall permit the State to audit, examine, and reproduce such records, and to make audits of all contracts, invoices, materials, payrolls, records or personnel, data (as that term is hereinafter defined), and other information relating to all matters covered by this Agreement. As used in this paragraph, "Grantee" includes all persons, natural or fictional, affiliated with, controlled by, or under common ownership with, the entity identified as the Grantee in block 1.3 of these general provisions.

8. **PERSONNEL.**

8.1 The Grantee shall, at its own expense, provide all personnel necessary to perform the Project. The Grantee warrants that all personnel engaged in the Project shall be qualified to perform such Project, and shall be properly licensed and authorized to perform such Project under all applicable laws.

8.2 The Grantee shall not hire, and it shall not permit any subcontractor, subgrantee, or other person, firm or corporation with whom it is engaged in a combined effort to perform such Project, to hire any person who has a contractual relationship with the State, or who is a State officer or employee, elected or appointed.

8.3 The Grantee officer shall be the representative of the State hereunder. In the event of any dispute hereunder, the interpretation of this Agreement by the Grantee Officer, and his/her decision on any dispute, shall be final.

9. **DATA; RETENTION OF DATA; ACCESS.**

9.1 As used in this Agreement, the word data shall mean all information and things developed or obtained during the performance of, or acquired or developed or obtained during the performance of, or acquired or developed by reason of, this Agreement, including, but not limited to, all studies, reports, files, forecasts, surveys, maps, charts, sound recordings, video recordings, pictorial reproductions, drawings, analyses, graphic representations, computer programs, computer printouts, notes, letters, memoranda, papers, and documents, all whether finished or unfinished.

9.2 Between the Effective Date and the Completion Date the Grantee shall grant to the State, or any person designated by it, unrestricted access to all data for examination, duplication, publication, translation, sale, disposal, or for any other purpose whatsoever.

9.3 No data shall be subject to copyright in the United States or any other country by anyone other than the State.

9.4 On and after the Effective Date all data, and any property which has been received from the State or purchased with funds provided for this purpose under this Agreement, shall be the property of the State, and shall be returned to the State upon demand or upon termination of this Agreement for any reason, whichever shall first occur.

9.5 The State, and anyone it shall designate, shall have unrestricted authority to publish, disclose, distribute and otherwise use, in whole or in part, all data.

10. **CONDITIONAL NATURE OF AGREEMENT.**

Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, all obligations of the State hereunder, including without limitation, the continuance of payments hereunder, are contingent upon the availability or continued appropriation of funds, and in no event shall the State be liable for any payments hereunder in excess of such available or appropriated funds. In the event of a reduction or termination of these funds, the State shall have the right to withhold payment until such funds become available, if ever, and shall have the right to terminate this Agreement immediately upon giving the Grantee notice of such termination.

11. **EVENT OF DEFAULT; REMEDIES.**

11.1 Any one or more of the following acts or omissions of the Grantee shall constitute an event of default hereunder (hereinafter referred to as "Events of Default"):

- 11.1.1 failure to perform the Project satisfactorily or on schedule; or
- 11.1.2 failure to submit any report required hereunder; or
- 11.1.3 failure to maintain, or permit access to, the records required hereunder; or
- 11.1.4 failure to perform any of the other covenants and conditions of this Agreement.

11.2 Upon the occurrence of any Event of Default, the State may take any one, or more, or all, of the following actions:

11.2.1 give the Grantee a written notice specifying the Event of Default and requiring it to be remedied within, in the absence of a greater or lesser specification of time, thirty (30) days from the date of the notice; and if the Event of Default is not timely remedied, terminate this Agreement, effective two (2) days after giving the Grantee notice of termination; and

11.2.2 give the Grantee a written notice specifying the Event of Default and suspending all payments to be made under this Agreement and ordering that the portion of the grant amount which would otherwise accrue to the Grantee during the period from the date of such notice until such time as the State determines that the Grantee has cured the Event of Default shall never be paid to the Grantee; and

11.2.3 set off against any other obligation the State may owe to the Grantee any damages the State suffers by reason of any Event of Default; and

11.2.4 treat the Agreement as breached and pursue any of its remedies as law or in equity, or both.

12. **TERMINATION.**

12.1 In the event of any early termination of this Agreement for any reason other than the completion of the Project, the Grantee shall deliver to the Grantee Officer, not later than fifteen (15) days after the date of termination, a report ("Termination Report") describing in detail all Project Work performed, and the Grant Amount earned, to and including the date of termination.

12.2 In the event of Termination under paragraphs 10 or 12.4 of these general provisions, the approval of such a Termination Report by the State shall entitle the Grantee to receive that portion of the Grant amount earned to and including the date of termination.

12.3 In the event of Termination under paragraphs 10 or 12.4 of these general provisions, the approval of such a Termination Report by the State shall in no

Grantee Initials *M*  
Date *10/2/00*

event relieve the Grantee from any and all liability for damages sustained or incurred by the State as a result of the Grantee's breach of its obligations hereunder.

17.4 Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, either the State or except where notice default has been given to the Grantee hereunder, the Grantee may terminate this Agreement without cause upon thirty (30) days written notice.

13. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST.** No officer, member or employee of the Grantee, and no representative, officer or employee of the State of New Hampshire or of the governing body of the locality or localities in which the Project is to be performed, who exercises any functions or responsibilities in the review or approval of the undertaking or carrying out of such Project, shall participate in any decision relating to this Agreement which affects his or her personal interests or the interest of any corporation, partnership, or association in which he or she is directly or indirectly interested, nor shall he or she have any personal or pecuniary interest, direct or indirect, in this Agreement or the proceeds thereof.

14. **GRANTEE'S RELATION TO THE STATE.** In the performance of this Agreement the Grantee, its employees, and any subcontractor or subgrantee of the Grantee are in all respects independent contractors, and are neither agents nor employees of the State. Neither the Grantee nor any of its officers, employees, agents, members, subcontractors or subgrantees, shall have authority to bind the State nor are they entitled to any of the benefits, workers' compensation or emoluments provided by the State to its employees.

15. **ASSIGNMENT AND SUBCONTRACTS.** The Grantee shall not assign, or otherwise transfer any interest in this Agreement without the prior written consent of the State. None of the Project Work shall be subcontracted or subgranted by the Grantee other than as set forth in Exhibit A without the prior written consent of the State.

16. **INDEMNIFICATION.** The Grantee shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the State, its officers and employees, from and against any and all losses suffered by the State, its officers and employees, and any and all claims, liabilities or penalties asserted against the State, its officers and employees, by or on behalf of any person, on account of, based on or resulting from, arising out of (or which may be claimed to arise out of) the acts or omissions of the Grantee, subcontractor, or subgrantee or other agent of the Grantee. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing herein contained shall be deemed to constitute a waiver of the sovereign immunity of the State, which immunity is hereby reserved to the State. This covenant shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

17. **INSURANCE AND BOND.**

17.1 The Grantee shall, at its sole expense, obtain and maintain in force, or shall require any subcontractor, subgrantee or assignee performing Project work to obtain and maintain in force, both for the benefit of the State, the following insurance:

17.1.1 statutory workers' compensation and employees liability insurance for all employees engaged in the performance of the Project; and

17.1.2 comprehensive public liability insurance against all claims of bodily injuries, death or property damage, in amounts not less than \$2,000,000 for bodily injury or death any one incident, and \$500,000 for property damage in any one incident; and

17.2 The policies described in subparagraph 17.1 of this paragraph shall be the standard form employed in the State of New Hampshire, issued by underwriters acceptable to the State, and authorized to do business in the State of New Hampshire. Each policy shall contain a clause prohibiting cancellation or modification of the policy earlier than ten (10) days after written notice thereof has been received by the State.

18. **WAIVER OF BREACH.** No failure by the State to enforce any provisions hereof after any Event of Default shall be deemed a waiver of its rights with regard to that Event, or any subsequent Event. No express waiver of any Event of Default shall be deemed a waiver of any provisions hereof. No such failure or waiver shall be deemed a waiver of the right of the State to enforce each and all of the provisions hereof upon any further or other default on the part of the Grantee.

19. **NOTICE.** Any notice by a party hereto to the other party shall be deemed to have been duly delivered or given at the time of mailing by certified mail, postage prepaid, in a United States Post Office addressed to the parties at the addresses first above given.

20. **AMENDMENT.** This Agreement may be amended, waived or discharged only by an instrument in writing signed by the parties hereto and only after approval of such amendment, waiver or discharge by the Governor and Council of the State of New Hampshire.

21. **CONSTRUCTION OF AGREEMENT AND TERMS.** This Agreement shall be construed in accordance with the law of the State of New

Hampshire, and is binding upon and issues to the benefit of the parties and their respective successors and assignees. The captions and contents of the "subject" blank are used only as a matter of convenience, and are not to be considered a part of this Agreement or to be used in determining the intent of the parties hereto.

22. **THIRD PARTIES.** The parties hereto do not intend to benefit any third parties and this Agreement shall not be construed to confer any such benefit.

23. **ENTIRE AGREEMENT.** This Agreement, which may be executed in a number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, constitutes the entire Agreement and understanding between the parties, and supersedes all prior Agreements and understandings relating hereto.

Grantee Initials

Date 1/17/20

**EXHIBIT A**  
**SCOPE OF SERVICES**

**Abenaki Water Company, Inc.:**

The Abenaki Water Co., Inc. will use the grant funds for upgrades to the distribution system and to provide additional storage capacity for their Abenaki Water/Tioga Belmont water system in Belmont, NH. Grant funds will be used in conjunction with loan funds to install three to six-inch isolation valves within the distribution network and add a storage tank for increased system reliability. Abenaki Water Company, Inc. is required to develop and adhere to an asset maintenance and renewal plan for the funded improvements and provide documentation supporting this requirement.

**EXHIBIT B**  
**BUDGET & PAYMENT METHOD**

The NHDES shall pay to the Grantee the total reimbursable program costs in accordance with the following requirements:

Reimbursement requests for program costs shall be made no more than once per calendar month by the Grantee using the Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Disbursement form as supplied by the NHDES, which shall be completed and signed by the Grantee. The disbursement form shall be accompanied by proper supporting documentation based upon direct costs. The Grantee will maintain adequate documentation to substantiate all Program related costs. All work shall be performed to the satisfaction of the NHDES before payment is made.

In concert with Abenaki Water Co., Inc.'s Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund (DWGTF) loan for \$45,000, each disbursement will be paid 10% grant funds and 90% loan funds. The total reimbursement shall not exceed the grant award of \$5,000.

**EXHIBIT C**  
**SPECIAL PROVISIONS**

Changes to the Scope of Services require NHDES approval in advance. Work must be completed and request for reimbursement must be made by the completion date listed on the grant agreement (section 1.6).

Grantee Initials

Date

*ML*  
10/2/20

**A Certificate of Vote of Authorization is a certificate that states that a grant applicant is willing to enter into a grant agreement with the State of NH Department of Environmental Services, that whoever signs the Grant Agreement has the authority to do so. All certificates must include:**

- **Certificate should be completed and signed by someone other than the person being given authority (a signature other than the person that will sign the Grant Agreement)**
- **Must state that the person who signed the Grant Agreement has the authority to do so**
- **Must be notarized**
- **Original is needed for submittal. No copies:**

### Certificate of Vote of Authorization

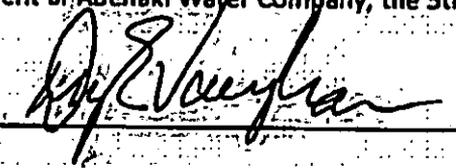
**WATER SYSTEM NAME/TOWN**  
**Address, Town, NH Zip**

I, Donald Vaughan/President of the Abenaki Water Company do hereby certify that at a meeting held on April 30, 2020, the Board of Directors voted to enter into a Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund grant agreement with the NH Department Environmental Services to fund a water system improvement project.

The Abenaki Water Company further authorized the Nicholas LaChance/Treasurer to execute any documents which may be necessary to effectuate this grant agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand as President of Abenaki Water Company, the 5th day of May 2020.

Signature



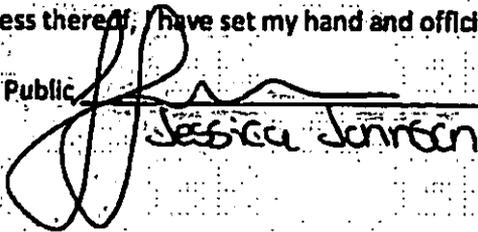
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

County of Hartford

On this 5th day of May, 2020, before me Jessica Johnson (Notary Public) the undersigned Officer, personally appeared: Donald Vaughan, who acknowledged himself to be the President of Abenaki Water Company, being authorized so to do, execute the foregoing instrument for the purpose therein contained.

In witness thereof, I have set my hand and official seal.

Notary Public



My commission expires:

April 30 2023

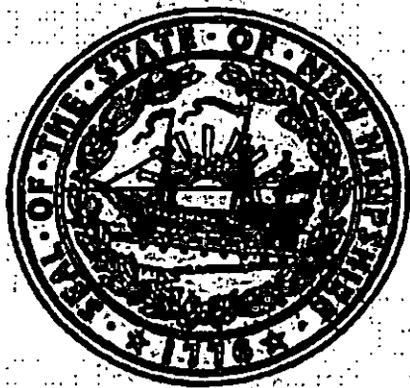
**State of New Hampshire**  
**Department of State**

**CERTIFICATE**

I, William M. Gardner, Secretary of State of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby certify that **ABENAKI WATER CO., INC.** is a New Hampshire Profit Corporation registered to transact business in New Hampshire on June 24, 2013. I further certify that all fees and documents required by the Secretary of State's office have been received and is in good standing as far as this office is concerned.

Business ID: 693607

Certificate Number: 0004624050



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF,

I hereto set my hand and cause to be affixed  
the Seal of the State of New Hampshire,  
this 4th day of December A.D. 2019.

William M. Gardner  
Secretary of State



# CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE

DATE (MMDDYYTT)  
03/28/2020

THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS A MATTER OF INFORMATION ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AFFIRMATIVELY OR NEGATIVELY AMEND, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES BELOW. THIS CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE ISSUING INSURER(S), AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OR PRODUCER, AND THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER.

IMPORTANT: If the certificate holder is an ADDITIONAL INSURED, the policy(ies) must have ADDITIONAL INSURED provisions or be endorsed. If SUBROGATION IS WAIVED, subject to the terms and conditions of the policy, certain policies may require an endorsement. A statement on this certificate does not confer rights to the certificate holder in lieu of such endorsement(s).

**PRODUCER**  
Grundy Insurance  
P.O. Box 1857  
400 Hingham Road, Suite 180  
Hingham PA 19044

**INSURED**  
New England Service Co., Valley Water Systems, Inc., & Colonial Water  
37 NORTHWEST DRIVE  
PLAINVILLE CT 06062

**CONTACT NAME**: Marilyn Schuck  
**PHONE (AG No. Ext)**: (877) 338-4004  
**FAX (AG No.)**: (215) 674-6716  
**EMAIL ADDRESS**: Marilyn@Grundy.com

**INSURER(S) AFFORDING COVERAGE**

<b>INSURER A</b>	Philadelphia Indemnity Insurance Company	<b>RATE #</b>	18058
<b>INSURER B</b>	Berkley Nat Underwriters, LLC		
<b>INSURER C</b>			
<b>INSURER D</b>			
<b>INSURER E</b>			
<b>INSURER F</b>			

**COVERAGES** \_\_\_\_\_ **CERTIFICATE NUMBER**: CL18123007435 **REVISION NUMBER**: \_\_\_\_\_

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE POLICIES OF INSURANCE LISTED BELOW HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THE INSURED NAMED ABOVE FOR THE POLICY PERIOD INDICATED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REQUIREMENT, TERM OR CONDITION OF ANY CONTRACT OR OTHER DOCUMENT WITH RESPECT TO WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED OR MAY PERTAIN, THE INSURANCE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES DESCRIBED HEREIN IS SUBJECT TO ALL THE TERMS, EXCLUSIONS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH POLICIES. LIMITS SHOWN MAY HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY PAID CLAIMS.

TYPE	TYPE OF INSURANCE	ADDED	SUBS	WVD	POLICY NUMBER	POLICY EFF (MMDDYYTT)	POLICY EXP (MMDDYYTT)	LIMITS
A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS-MADE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUR <input type="checkbox"/> GEN'L AGGREGATE LIMIT APPLIES PER POLICY <input type="checkbox"/> PRO-TECT <input type="checkbox"/> LOC <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER				PHPK2077232	01/01/2020	01/01/2021	EACH OCCURRENCE: \$1,000,000 DAMAGE TO RENTED EQUIPMENT (per occurrence): \$100,000 MED EXP (per occurrence): \$10,000 PERSONAL BODILY INJURY: \$1,000,000 GENERAL AGGREGATE: \$3,000,000 PRODUCTS - COMP/OP AGG: \$3,000,000
A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> ANY AUTO <input type="checkbox"/> OWNED AUTOS ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> HIRED AUTOS ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULED AUTOS <input type="checkbox"/> NON-OWNED AUTOS ONLY				PHPK2077232	01/01/2020	01/01/2021	COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT (per accident): \$1,000,000 BODILY INJURY (per person): \$1,000,000 BODILY INJURY (per accident): \$1,000,000 PROPERTY DAMAGE (per occurrence): \$1,000,000 Medical payments: \$5,000
A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UMBRELLA LIAB <input type="checkbox"/> EXCESS LIAB <input type="checkbox"/> OCCUR <input type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS-MADE <input type="checkbox"/> DEF <input type="checkbox"/> RETENTION \$				PHU8705388	01/01/2020	01/01/2021	EACH OCCURRENCE: \$7,000,000 AGGREGATE: \$7,000,000
B	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WORKERS COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYERS LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> ANY PROPRIETOR/PARTNER/EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEMBER EXCLUDED? (mandatory to file) If yes, describe under DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS below	Y/N		N/A	BNUWC0108078	01/01/2020	01/01/2021	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EA <input type="checkbox"/> PR <input type="checkbox"/> R EA: \$500,000 EA: \$500,000 EA: \$500,000

DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS / LOCATIONS / VEHICLES (ACORD 101, Additional Remarks Schedule, may be attached if more space is required)

**CERTIFICATE HOLDER**

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
29 HAZEN DRIVE  
P.O. BOX 95  
CONCORD NH 03302-0095

**CANCELLATION**

SHOULD ANY OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED POLICIES BE CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, NOTICE WILL BE DELIVERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY PROVISIONS.

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE:

**CLOSING AGENDA**

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
DRINKING WATER AND GROUNDWATER TRUST FUND  
RE: LOAN TO ABENAKI WATER CO., INC.  
TIOGA RIVER  
BELMONT, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
Project # DWGT-52**

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

- |    |                             |       |
|----|-----------------------------|-------|
| 1. | State of New Hampshire      | "SNH" |
| 2. | Abenaki Water Co., Inc.     | "B"   |
| 3. | Borrower's Counsel          | "BC"  |
| 4. | State's Counsel: David Howe | "DMH" |

No.	Item:	Responsible Party:
1	Certified Copy of Articles of Incorporation of Borrower	B
2	Certified Bylaws of Borrower	B
3	Certificate of Existence of Borrower	B
4	Certificate of Resolution of Borrower	B
5	Certified Articles of Incorporation of New England Service Company	B
6	Certified Bylaws of NESC	B
7	Certificate of Good Standing in Conn. Of NESC	B
8	Certificate of Resolution of NESC	B
9	Description of Premises (Exhibit A)	B
10	Schedule of Costs (Budget) (Exhibit B)	B
11	Guarantee of New England Service Company	SNH
12	Loan Agreement	SNH
13	Promissory Note (Exhibit C)	SNH
14	Security Agreement	SNH
15	Mortgage and Security Agreement	SNH
16	Commitment for Title Insurance and policy	BC
17	Collateral Assignment of Contracts, Plans and Permits	SNH
18	UCC Search	SNH
19	UCC-1 Financing Statement	DMH
20	Opinion of Borrower's Counsel	BC
21	Public Utilities Commission Order (PUC Approval)	B
22	Certificate of Insurance: A certificate of insurance on Accord Form 27 naming the NH Department of Environmental Services as mortgagee and loss payee and additional insured as to liability insurance if the Borrower is executing a mortgage.	B
23	Governor and Council approval	SNH
24	399-B Disclosure	SNH

## **GUARANTY**

(Abenaki Water Co., Inc. DWGT-52)

THIS GUARANTY is made this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020 by New England Service Company, a Connecticut corporation with an address of 37 Northwest Drive, Plainville, Connecticut 06062 ("Guarantor"), to and with the State of New Hampshire with an address of c/o Department of Environmental Services, 29 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95, Concord, New Hampshire 03302-0095 ("State").

WHEREAS, contemporaneously herewith, subject to certain terms and conditions, State has agreed to loan to Abenaki Water Co., Inc., a New Hampshire corporation ("Borrower"), the principal sum of Forty-Five Thousand (\$45,000), which is to be repaid with interest in accordance with the terms of a certain promissory note of even date issued by Borrower to State (the "Note") in said principal amount;

WHEREAS, Guarantor is the parent company of the Borrower owning 100% of Borrower's issued and outstanding common stock;

WHEREAS, State has advised Guarantor that it will not engage in the aforesaid transactions unless, among other things, Guarantor guarantees all obligations of Borrower under the Note, including but not limited to the punctual payment of both principal and interest due and payable, as hereinafter set forth;

WHEREAS, Guarantor is willing and has agreed to guarantee the payment of the aforesaid obligations as hereinafter provided;

WHEREAS, Guarantor will benefit from the loan evidenced by the Note;

NOW THEREFORE, in order to induce State to engage in the aforesaid loan transaction and to make said loan to Borrower and in consideration of the premises stated above and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, Guarantor agrees as follows:

1. Guarantor hereby unconditionally and irrevocably, guarantees: (i) the due and punctual payment in full (and not merely the collectability) of the principal of the Note and the interest thereon, when due and payable, according to the terms of the Note and the Loan Agreement of even date between State and Borrower (the "Loan Agreement"); (ii) the due and punctual payment in full (and not merely the collectability) of all other sums and charges which may at any time be due and payable in accordance with, or under the terms of the Note; (iii) the accuracy of the representations and warranties made by Borrower in the Loan Agreement, and certain affidavits and certificates delivered by Borrower to State on or about the date hereof and (iv) the due and punctual performance and observance of all of the other terms, covenants and conditions contained in the Note, the Loan Agreement or the Security Instruments (as defined in the Loan Agreement (collectively, the "Guaranteed Obligations").

2. Guarantor expressly agrees that State may, in its sole and absolute discretion, without notice to or further assent of Guarantor, and without in any way releasing, affecting or impairing the obligations and liabilities of Guarantor, hereunder: (i) waive compliance with, or any default under, or grant any other indulgences with respect to, the Note or the Loan Agreement; (ii) modify, amend or change any provisions of the Note (other than to increase the principal amount due under the Note); (iii) grant extensions or renewals of or with respect to the Note, and/or effect any release, compromise or settlement in connection therewith; (iv) make advances for the purpose of performing any term or covenant contained in the Note with respect to which Borrower shall be in default; (v) assign or otherwise transfer the Note, the Loan Agreement, or this Guaranty, or any interest therein; and (vi) deal in all respects with Borrower as if this Guaranty were not in effect. The obligations of Guarantor under this Guaranty shall be unconditional, irrespective of the genuineness, validity, regularity or enforceability of the Note or any security given therefor or in connection therewith or any other circumstances that might otherwise constitute a legal or equitable discharge of a surety or guarantor.

3. The liability of Guarantor under this Guaranty shall be primary, direct and immediate and not conditional or contingent upon pursuit by State of any remedies it may have against Borrower or any other party with respect to the Note, whether pursuant to the terms thereof or otherwise. No exercise or nonexercise by State of any right given to it under this Guaranty, the Note or the Loan Agreement, and no change, impairment or suspension of any right or remedy of State shall in any way affect any of Guarantor's obligations hereunder or give Guarantor any recourse against State. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, State shall not be required to make any demand on Borrower and/or any other party, or otherwise pursue to exhaustion its remedies against Borrower or any other party, before, simultaneously with or after, enforcing its rights and remedies hereunder against Guarantor. Any one or more successive and/or concurrent actions may be brought hereon against Guarantor, either in the same action, if any, brought against Borrower and/or any other party, or in separate actions, as often as State, in its sole discretion, may deem advisable.

4. Guarantor hereby expressly waives: (i) presentment and demand for payment and protest of nonpayment; (ii) notice of acceptance of this Guaranty and of presentment, demand and protest; (iii) notice of any default hereunder or under the Note, this Guaranty and the Loan Agreement and of all indulgences; (iv) demand for observance or performance of, and enforcement of, any terms or provisions of this Guaranty, the Note, and the Loan Agreement; and (v) all other notices and demands otherwise required by law that Guarantor may lawfully waive.

5. Any claim against the Borrower or any guarantor to which Guarantor may be or become entitled (including, without limitation, claims by subrogation or otherwise by reason of any payment or performance by Guarantor in satisfaction and discharge, in whole or in part, of his obligations under this Guaranty) shall be and hereby is made subject and subordinate to the prior payment or performance in full of the Guaranteed Obligations. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to give Guarantor any right of subrogation in and to the rights of State under the Note or any instrument or agreement securing the Note until all amounts owing to State under the Note have been paid in full.

In addition to any other security given by Guarantor to State, State is hereby authorized and empowered, at its option, to appropriate and apply to the payment and extinguishment of the Guaranteed Obligations, at any time after such liability becomes payable, any and all moneys or other property of Guarantor and any proceeds thereof (including proceeds of sales provided for below) now or hereafter in the possession of State for any purpose, including safekeeping or pledge for this or any other liability of Guarantor, and including any balance on deposit or otherwise for the account of, to the credit of, or belonging to Guarantor.

6. Any notice, demand, request or other communication given hereunder or in connection herewith (hereinafter "Notices") shall be deemed sufficient if in writing and sent by certified mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, addressed to the party to receive such Notice at its address first above set forth or at such other address as such party may hereafter designate by Notice given in like fashion. Notices shall be deemed given when mailed.

7. Any payments made by Guarantor under the provisions of this Guaranty shall, if made to State, be made at its address first set forth above, unless some other address is hereafter designated by State.

8. All rights and remedies afforded to State by reason of this Guaranty, the Note and the Loan Agreement, are separate and cumulative and the exercise of one shall not in any way limit or prejudice the exercise of any other such rights or remedies. No delay or omission by State in exercising any such right or remedy shall operate as a waiver thereof. No waiver of any rights and remedies hereunder, and no modification or amendment hereof, shall be deemed made by State unless in writing and duly executed. Any such written waiver shall apply only to the particular instance specified therein and shall not impair the further exercise of such right or remedy or of any other right or remedy of State, and no single or partial exercise of any right or remedy hereunder shall preclude further exercise of any other right or remedy.

9. The obligations of Guarantor to make payment in accordance with the terms of this Guaranty shall not be impaired, modified, changed, released, or limited in any manner whatsoever by any impairment, modification, change, release or limitation of the liability of Borrower or its estate in bankruptcy or reorganization resulting from the operation of any present or future provision of federal bankruptcy laws or other statute or from the decision of any court.

10. Guarantor hereby covenants and agrees that, if requested by State, Guarantor will, at Guarantor's expense, annually deliver to State within ninety (90) days of the end of each fiscal year audited financial statements of the Guarantor for such fiscal year in form and content satisfactory to State.

11. Guarantor agrees that if this Guaranty shall be enforced by suit or otherwise, or if State shall exercise or endeavor to exercise any of its remedies under the Note, the Guarantor will reimburse State, upon demand, for all expenses incurred in connection therewith, including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees.

12. This Guaranty has been made in the State of New Hampshire, and the provisions hereof shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New Hampshire (excluding the laws applicable to conflicts or choice of laws).

13. The terms, covenants, agreements and conditions contained herein shall extend to, include, and inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns of Guarantor, as the case may be, and the successors and assigns of State. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, Guarantor shall not be permitted to assign its rights and obligations hereunder without the prior written consent of State.

14. Whenever the context so requires, reference herein to the neuter gender shall include the masculine and /or feminine gender, and the singular number shall include the plural.

15. If more than one person executes this Guaranty or if the Guarantor consists of more than one person or entity, all such persons and entities shall have joint and several liability.

16. Guarantor hereby consents to the jurisdiction of all state and local courts of the State of New Hampshire and the United States District Court of the District of New Hampshire in connection with any suit to enforce any rights of the State under this Guaranty.

17. All references herein to the Loan Agreement, the Note and this Guaranty shall be deemed to include such instruments as they may be amended from time to time.

18. If any provision or condition of this Guaranty is prohibited or rendered invalid or unenforceable, such prohibition, invalidity or unenforceability shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provisions and conditions of this Guaranty.

19. Nothing contained in this Guaranty, the Loan Agreement or, the Note shall be deemed to constitute a waiver of the sovereign immunity of the State, which immunity is hereby reserved to the State.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Guarantor has executed this Guaranty as of the day and year first above written.

**NEW ENGLAND SERVICE COMPANY**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name  
Title

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

**Drinking Water & Groundwater Trust Fund**

**Loan Agreement**  
**(Abenaki Water Co., Inc. - Tioga Belmont DWGT-52)**

THIS LOAN AGREEMENT (the "Agreement"), dated \_\_\_\_\_, 2020, has two parties:

- (1) the State of New Hampshire (the "State"), whose address is c/o Department of Environmental Services, 29 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95, Concord, New Hampshire 03302-0095, and
- (2) the following person which is borrowing funds from the State:

Abenaki Water Co., Inc.  
37 Northwest Drive  
Plainville, Connecticut 06062  
(the "Borrower")

**FUNDAMENTAL PREMISES FOR THIS AGREEMENT**

A: Pursuant to New Hampshire Revised Statute Annotated ("RSA") 6-D:1 the State has established the drinking water and groundwater trust fund for financing drinking water improvement projects within the State.

B: The Borrower is a New Hampshire corporation and a water utility subject to regulation by the Public Utilities Commission ("PUC"). The Borrower owns and operates the Abenaki Water/Tioga Belmont community public water system which serves approximately 22 single family homes in the Town of Belmont ("Abenaki Water/Tioga Belmont Water System"). The Borrower intends to borrow up to \$45,000 to finance improvements including installation of isolation valves within the distribution system and the addition of a new water storage tank (the "Project").

C: The State has determined that the Borrower's request for a loan financing the cost of the Project and made in accordance with this Agreement is eligible for funding from the Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund in accordance with guidelines adopted pursuant to RSA 6-D:1.

## **TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THIS AGREEMENT**

The State and the Borrower agree as follows:

1. **Definitions.** The following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

"Construction Contract" means the agreement between the Borrower and a contractor for construction of the Improvements.

"Contractor" means the contractor who enters into the Construction Contract.

"State" means the State of New Hampshire.

"DWGTF" means the Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund under RSA 6-D:1.

"Engineer" means the engineer or construction supervisor who enters into the Engineering Contract.

"Engineering Contract" means the agreement between the Borrower and an engineer for engineering the design of the Improvements or construction supervision services.

"Event of Default" has the meaning provided in Section 8.

"Guarantor" means New England Service Company.

"Guaranty" means the Guaranty made by the Guarantor of even date of this Agreement.

"Hazardous Materials" has the meaning provided in Section 10.1(a).

"Improvements" means the improvements to be constructed in accordance with the Plans.

"Legal Requirements" has the meaning provided in Section 10.1(b).

"Loan Proceeds" has the meaning provided in Section 2.

"Note" means the Borrower's Promissory Note of even date in the principal amount of \$45,000 payable to the order of the State in the form attached hereto as Exhibit C.

"Mortgage" means the Mortgage and Security Agreement of even date of the Borrower to the State.

"Plans" mean the plans, specifications, and drawings furnished and acceptable to the State.

"Premises" means the real property and real property interests of the Borrower described in Exhibit A attached hereto on or in which the Improvements will be constructed.

**"Security Instruments"** mean the Security Agreement of near or even date herewith between the Borrower and the State, the Collateral Assignment of Contracts, Plans and Permits of near or even date herewith of the Borrower to the State and the Mortgage and any other instruments now or hereafter securing the Note.

**"Total Budget"** means the budget for all costs of constructing and equipping the Improvements set forth in Exhibit B attached hereto.

2. **The State's Agreement to Disburse Proceeds.** Provided the terms, covenants and agreements hereof shall be observed and performed, the State agrees to make disbursements to the Borrower of, and the Borrower agrees to borrow from the State, an amount not to exceed the total principal amount of the Note (such disbursements made, from time to time hereafter, being hereinafter referred to as the "Loan Proceeds").

3. **Representations**

3.1 **Representations of the Borrower.** The Borrower represents and warrants as follows:

(a) **Recitals.** The Recitals set forth at the beginning of this Agreement are true and correct;

(b) **Plans.** The Borrower will file the Plans with all governmental authorities having jurisdiction with respect to the Improvements;

(c) **Approvals.** The Borrower will obtain all necessary approvals of the Plans and all necessary permits, licenses and approvals for the construction of the Improvements from all governmental authorities having jurisdiction over the Improvements;

(d) **No Violation.** Construction of the Improvements will not violate any zoning, environmental, subdivision or land use ordinance, regulation or law;

(e) **Water Distribution Rights.** The Borrower holds all property rights and other interests or licenses necessary for the ownership and operation of its water distribution system;

(f) **No Litigation.** No litigation or proceedings are pending or threatened against the Borrower or the Guarantor or affecting the Improvements or the Premises that could affect the validity or priority of the Note or the Guaranty or that could affect the Borrower's or the Guarantor's ability to perform its obligations under this Agreement, the Note, and the Guaranty;

(g) **Financial Statements.** The balance sheets and financial statements of the Borrower and the Guarantor, which were submitted in connection with the Borrower's request for the loan contemplated herein, were prepared in accordance with generally accepted principles of accounting applied on a basis consistent with that of preceding periods and are complete and correct and fairly present the financial condition of the Borrower and the Guarantor, respectively, as of said dates. Neither the Borrower nor the Guarantor has any contingent obligations, liabilities for taxes or unusual forward or long-term commitments except as set forth in the foregoing financial statements.

specifically mentioned. Since the date of such financial statements, there has been no material adverse change in the financial condition of the Borrower or the Guarantor;

(h) **Due Organization and Authority.** The Borrower is a duly organized corporation under the laws of the State of New Hampshire, and the Guarantor is a duly organized corporation under the laws of the State of Connecticut. Each of the Borrower and the Guarantor has the power and authority to own its properties and to carry on business as now being conducted and is qualified to do business in every jurisdiction where such qualification is necessary and has the power to execute and deliver, and perform its obligations under this Agreement, the Note, the Guaranty and Security Instruments, as the case may be;

(i) **No Conflict; No Required Approvals.** The execution and delivery and performance by the Borrower and the Guarantor of its obligations under this Agreement, the Note, the Guaranty and each of the Security Instruments have been duly authorized by all requisite corporate action and will not violate any provision of law, any order of any court or other agency of government, or any indenture, agreement or other instrument to which the Borrower or Guarantor is a party, or by which it is bound, or be in conflict with, result in a breach of, or constitute (with due notice or lapse of time or both) a default under, or except as may be provided by this Agreement, result in the creation or imposition of any lien, charge or encumbrance of any nature whatsoever upon any of the property or assets of the Borrower or Guarantor pursuant to, any such indenture, agreement or instrument. The Borrower or the Guarantor is not required to obtain any consent, approval or authorization from, or to file any declaration or statement with, any governmental instrumentality or other agency in connection with or as a condition to the execution, delivery or performance of this Agreement, the Note, the Guaranty or the Security Instruments except certain approvals of the Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau of the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services and certain local permits with respect to the construction of the Improvements;

(j) **Bankruptcy.** Any borrowings made by the Borrower under this Agreement do not and will not render the Borrower insolvent. Neither the Borrower nor the Guarantor is contemplating the filing of a petition by it under any state or federal bankruptcy or insolvency laws or the liquidating of all or a major portion of its property, and neither the Borrower nor the Guarantor has knowledge of any person contemplating the filing of any such petition against it, including the properties and assets reflected in its financial statements referred to herein;

(k) **No Material Misstatement.** No statement of fact made by or on behalf of the Borrower, and no statement of fact made on behalf of the Guarantor, in this Agreement or in any certificate or schedule furnished to the State pursuant thereto, contains any untrue statement of a material fact or omits to state any material fact necessary to make statements contained therein or herein not misleading. There is no fact presently known to the Borrower that has not been disclosed to the State that materially affects adversely, nor as far as the Borrower can foresee, will materially affect adversely the property, business, operations or conditions (financial or otherwise) of the Borrower or the Guarantor;

(l) **Taxes.** Each of the Borrower and the Guarantor has filed all federal, state and local tax returns required to be filed and has paid or made adequate provision for the payment of all federal, state and local taxes, charges and assessments;

(m) **Enforceability.** This Agreement, the Note and each of the Security Instruments, upon execution and delivery, will be the valid and binding obligations of the Borrower, and the Guaranty, upon execution and delivery will be the valid and binding obligations of the Guarantor, in each case enforceable in accordance with their respective terms, and will not violate any other agreements or instruments to which the Borrower or the Guarantor, as the case may be, is a party or by which the Borrower or the Guarantor, as the case may be, is bound;

(n) **No Broker.** The making of the loan contemplated hereunder or the State's acquisition of the Note or any of the Security Instruments will not subject the State to any claim for a brokerage commission; and

(o) **Total Budget.** Exhibit B attached hereto contains and will contain a complete and full enumeration of all costs (hard, soft and acquisition) that Borrower anticipates will be incurred in connection with the construction, the development and equipping of the Improvements and in connection with the starting up of the operation of the Improvements.

3.2 **Survival of Representations.** Each of the foregoing representations and warranties shall survive the making of the loan hereunder, and the Borrower shall indemnify and hold harmless the State from and against any loss, damage or liability attributable to the breach thereof, including all fees and expenses incurred in the defense or settlement of any claim arising therefrom against the State.

4. **Conditions Precedent.** The State's obligation to advance any of the Loan Proceeds shall be subject to the satisfaction of the following conditions precedent:

(a) **Insurance.** The Borrower shall deliver an updated insurance certificate evidencing casualty and/ or builders risk insurance for the Premises with the State listed as loss payee;

(b) **Loan Documents.** The Borrower and the Guarantor shall have executed and delivered to the State the Note, the Guaranty, and each of the Security Instruments other than the Mortgage, each of which shall be in form and substance satisfactory to State;

(c) **Construction Contract.** The Borrower shall prepare a public bid offer for the Construction Contract, which shall be reviewed and approved by the State. The Borrower shall receive authorization to award contract from the State and enter into the Construction Contract with the Contractor in accordance with the requirements of such contract, and the Borrower shall have assigned its rights thereunder to State by an assignment in form and substance satisfactory to State;

(d) **Engineering Contract.** Unless the Engineer is an employee of the Borrower, the Borrower shall prepare a request for qualifications for the Engineering Contract; the Borrower shall have entered into the Engineering Contract in accordance with the requirements of such request, and the Borrower shall have assigned its rights thereunder to the State by an assignment in form and substance satisfactory to State;

(e) Assurances. The State shall receive written assurances from the Engineer and the Contractor that the State shall have the same rights as the Borrower to the continued use of the Plans, and all services related thereto for the construction of the Improvements;

(g) Plans. The Borrower shall deliver a complete copy of the Plans to the State which Plans shall be satisfactory to the State in all respects;

(h) Environmental Review. The State has received an environmental report and has been completed with respect to the Premises satisfactory to the State;

(i) Additional Instruments. The State shall have received such additional instruments, certificates, opinions, surveys and other documents as the State may reasonably request;

(j) No Event of Default. No Event of Default (as defined herein) nor any event which with the giving of notice or passage of time, or both, would constitute an Event of Default shall have occurred; and

(k) UCC Search. The State shall have received a satisfactory report concerning liens and security interests affecting property of the Borrower.

5. Covenants of the Borrower. Until payment in full of all sums required to be paid by the Borrower to the State under the Note and pursuant to the provisions of this Agreement or any Security Instrument, the Borrower shall:

(a) Construction. Enter into the Construction Contract, which shall be binding upon the Borrower and the Contractor and cause the Improvements and any utility facilities necessary for the operation of the Borrower's business or the occupancy of the Premises and the Improvements and not currently available to the Premises to be constructed, equipped and completed, with all reasonable dispatch, but in any event within twelve (12) months from the date hereof, in accordance with the Plans and all laws, rules, regulations and requirements of governmental authorities having jurisdiction with respect to the Improvements;

(b) Changes. Make no significant changes in or amendments to the Plans without first obtaining the written approval of the State and any governmental agency whose approval is required. Minor changes on project work that are consistent with the objectives of the project and within the scope of this agreement do not require the prior approval of the State;

(c) Inspection. Permit the State and its representatives to enter upon the Premises and inspect the Improvements and the Premises at all reasonable times and examine all detailed plans, drawings and specifications and any books and records relating to the Premises and the Improvements;

(d) Inadequate Loan Proceeds. If for any reason the amount of undistributed Loan Proceeds shall at any time be or become insufficient to pay for the completion of the Improvements, including: (i) all items set forth in the Total Budget, (ii) all incurred cost overruns

and incurred costs for items not included in the Total Budget and (iii) all cost overruns and costs not included in the Total Budget that the State deems likely to be incurred, (regardless of how such condition may be caused) then prior to any further disbursement of Loan Proceeds, either (A) expend from funds other than Loan Proceeds an amount equal to such deficiency for amounts shown on the Total Budget, or (B) provide State with an unconditional and irrevocable letter of credit in an amount equal to such deficiency from a bank and in form and substance satisfactory to State;

(e) **Sign.** Borrower shall erect a sign in accordance with the state specifications on the Premises at such location as the State in its reasonable discretion may determine, indicating that the Improvements are being financed by the DWGTF;

(f) **Insurance.** Maintain or cause to be maintained liability, casualty and/or builder's risk insurance (the latter to the extent commercially available and applicable) on the Improvements, any material or equipment stored on the Premises, and worker's compensation insurance with such companies, in such amounts and covering such risks as shall be satisfactory to the State and furnish such insurance policies to the State (premiums prepaid or, after failure of the Borrower to prepay the premiums or to procure such insurance policies, the State may procure any such insurance policies it deems satisfactory at the expense of the Borrower); insuring the interests of the Borrower and the State, as their respective interests may appear and, upon request, certificates evidencing such insurance coverage shall be promptly delivered to the State;

(g) **Casualty.** If the Improvements shall be damaged or destroyed by fire or any other casualty, proceed with the restoration thereof and diligently prosecute the work of restoration to completion, provided that the Loan Proceeds shall not be advanced to pay any part of the cost of such restoration;

(h) **No Purchase Money Security Agreements, Etc.** Neither purchase nor install materials, equipment, fixtures, furnishings, or any other part of the Improvements under purchase money security agreements, conditional sales contracts or lease agreements, or other arrangements wherein title to or a security interest in such property is retained or the right is reserved or accrues to anyone to remove or repossess any such property that is a part of the Improvements;

(i) **Expenses.** Pay the State's reasonable expenses (including attorneys' fees) that State incurs in the approval, making and administration of this loan if requested and itemized by the State, and in the enforcement of this Agreement, the Note and related documents;

(j) **Cooperation.** Cooperate fully with the State with respect to any proceedings before any court, board or governmental agency that may in any way affect the rights of the State hereunder or any rights obtained by the State under any of the Security Instruments and, in connection therewith, permit the State, at its election, to participate in any such proceedings;

(k) **Preserve Licenses.** Do or cause to be done all things necessary to preserve, renew and keep in full force and effect its existence, rights, licenses, permits and franchises and comply with all laws and regulations applicable to it;

(l) **Taxes.** Pay and discharge or cause to be paid and discharged all taxes, assessments and governmental charges or levies imposed upon it or upon its respective income and profits or upon any of its property, real, personal or mixed, or upon any part thereof, before the same shall become in default; provided that the Borrower shall not be required to pay and discharge or cause to be paid and discharged any such tax, assessment, charge, levy or claim so long as the validity thereof shall be contested in good faith by appropriate proceedings and it shall have set aside on its books adequate reserves with respect to any such tax, assessment, charge, levy or claim, so contested; and provided, further, that payment with respect to any such tax, assessment, charge, levy or claim shall be made before any of its property shall be seized or sold in satisfaction thereof;

(m) **Notice of Proceedings.** Give prompt written notice to the State of any proceedings instituted against it by or in any federal or state court or before any commission or other regulatory body, whether federal, state or local, which, if adversely determined, would have an adverse effect upon its business, operations, properties, assets, or condition, financial or otherwise;

(n) **Financial Statements.** If requested by the State, furnish to the State such information regarding its operation, assets, business affairs and financial condition, as the State may reasonably request and in particular shall furnish to the State (i) within ninety (90) days of the close of each fiscal year during the term of the loan annual financial statements of the Borrower and the Guarantor, in each case prepared on a basis consistent with previous periods and certified by the Borrower and the Guarantor as fairly presenting the financial condition of the Borrower and the Guarantor and otherwise in form and content reasonably acceptable to the State and (ii) as soon as practical after filing with the Internal Revenue Service a copy of the executed federal income tax returns of each of the Borrower and the Guarantor with all schedules thereto. The Borrower and the Guarantor shall use accounting, audit, and fiscal procedures as required by Env-Dw 1106.12;

(o) **No Other Indebtedness.** Not incur, create, assume, become or be liable in any manner with respect to, or permit to exist, any indebtedness or liability, except:

(i) indebtedness to the State;

(ii) indebtedness with respect to trade obligations and other normal accruals in the ordinary course of business;

(iii) other debt to which the State consents (such consent not to be unreasonably withheld;

(p) [Intentionally left blank;]

(q) **Construction Loan Notice.** Within five (5) business days after the later of (i) execution of this Agreement or (ii) the recording of the Mortgage, post a notice provided by the State in a conspicuous place on the Premises and provide the State with written certification that the Borrower has complied with this paragraph; and

(r) **Two Party Check Requirements.** If any contract between the Borrower or its agent and any person furnishing services, material, supplies or other things shall provide that the

disbursement of construction funds to pay such persons shall be by two-party check, the Borrower shall provide, or cause its agent to provide, the State with a copy of such contract.

(s) [Intentionally left blank]

(t) [Intentionally left blank]

(u) [Intentionally left blank]

(v) [Intentionally left blank]

(w) [Intentionally left blank]

(x) [Intentionally left blank]

(y) [Intentionally left blank]

(z) **Asset Management.** The Borrower is required to develop an asset management maintenance and renewal plan for the funded asset or incorporate the funded asset into the Borrowers existing asset management program. At a minimum the plan must include a commitment to asset management, financing and implementation strategy and an inventory of the funded asset(s).

## 6. Loan Disbursements.

6.1 **Written Applications.** Upon compliance with, and subject to, the provisions of this Agreement, and provided there shall exist no Event of Default and no condition or event which with the giving of notice or lapse of time would constitute such an Event of Default, the State shall, upon written application by the Borrower (made not less than fourteen (14) business days prior to the date of the requested disbursement under this Section 6 and made not more often than once a month), make disbursements to the Borrower from the Loan Proceeds in the amounts hereinafter specified, but not in any event to exceed in the aggregate the amount of the Loan Proceeds.

6.2 **Amount of Disbursement.** Each such disbursement for costs incurred by the Borrower shall be disbursed by the State from the Loan Proceeds in such a manner as to protect the priority of State's lien as required by New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated 447:12-a. The amount of each disbursement shall represent the total costs incurred by Borrower and approved by State in conformance with the Total Budget as of any such date of the disbursement application, in excess of funds required to be provided and expended by Borrower under the terms hereof as of the date of said advance application, less any amounts previously advanced by State from the Loan Proceeds.

6.3 **Application Documents.** Each application for disbursement of the Loan Proceeds, must be accompanied by the following unless waived by the State in writing:

(a) Invoices from Engineer for services in accordance with the Engineering Contract;

(b) A completed disbursement request form signed by the authorized representative of the Borrower with the Contractor's payment estimate and invoices, in form approved by the State and with such backup information as the State may reasonably request;

(c) A certificate of the inspecting engineer or construction supervisor as may be selected by or otherwise be satisfactory to the State, that all work performed at the site of construction as of the date of such disbursement request form has been performed in good and workmanlike manner, that all materials and fixtures usually furnished and installed at that time have been furnished and installed, all in accordance with the Plans, and that sufficient Loan Proceeds remain undisbursed to complete the Improvements in accordance with the Plans and the Total Budget;

(d) [Intentionally left blank]

(e) [Intentionally left blank]

(f) [Intentionally left blank]

(g) Any other documents that the State shall reasonably request the Borrower to provide to protect its interests, including without limitation, lien waivers of the Contractor or subcontractors.

6.4 Lien Releases or Waivers. In connection with any disbursement of Loan Proceeds, the State may require lien releases or affidavits from, or the submission of other appropriate forms by, the Borrower, the Contractor, subcontractors or materialmen as may be required by the State.

6.5 Quality of Work. No disbursement shall be made unless all work usually done at the stage of construction when the disbursement is requested is done in a good and workmanlike manner and without defects, and all materials and fixtures usually furnished and installed at that time are furnished and installed, but the State may disburse all or part of any installments before the same shall become due and payable if the State believes it advisable to do so, and all such disbursements or payments shall be deemed to have been made pursuant to this Agreement.

6.6 No Acceptance. The making of any disbursement or any part of a disbursement shall not be deemed an approval or acceptance by the State of the work theretofore done or of materials theretofore furnished.

6.7 Two Party Checks. Disbursements may be made, at the election of the State, by checks payable to the Borrower and the Contractor jointly and delivered, at the State's election, either to the Borrower or the Contractor or each subcontractor or vendor; provided, however, that disbursement shall be by check payable to the Borrower and the Contractor or any subcontractor for which the Borrower or its agent has supplied the State with a copy of a contract as provided in Section 5(q).

6.8 Limited Duty. The Borrower agrees that the State shall assume no duty with respect to disbursement of the Loan Proceeds except to disburse upon the conditions as set forth in this

Agreement and that any sums disbursed by the State in good faith and in reliance upon this Agreement; or the Security Instruments, shall be secured by the lien of the Security Instruments.

6.9 Deemed Disbursements. Any sum which, in accordance with any provision of this Agreement shall be payable by the Borrower to the State shall, at the election of the State, be deemed a disbursement by the State to the Borrower pursuant to the provisions of this Agreement, and shall be charged against the Loan Proceeds and secured by the Security Instruments.

7. Completion of Improvements. Upon completion in full of the Improvements, the Borrower shall promptly deliver to the State:

- (a) Engineer's Certificate. A written certificate of the inspecting engineer or construction supervisor that the construction of the Improvements has been fully completed in a good and workmanlike manner in accordance with the Plans;
- (b) [Intentionally left blank]
- (c) Project Costs. A certificate by the Borrower, in form and substance satisfactory to the State, listing all categories of project costs and expenses in connection with the construction and completion of the Improvements and the amount paid by the Borrower with respect to each; and
- (d) Permits. A copy of the applicable certificates, licenses, consents and approvals issued by governmental authorities with respect to the Improvements.

8. Events of Default. The occurrence of any of the following events shall constitute an Event of Default under this Agreement:

- (a) [Intentionally left blank]
- (b) Assignment. The Borrower attempts to assign its rights under this Agreement or any advance made or to be made hereunder or any interest therein, or if the Improvements or the Premises are conveyed or encumbered in any way without the written consent of the State;
- (c) Encroachment or Violation. Any survey, report or examination discloses that the Improvements or any portion thereof encroach upon or project over or in a street (except as contemplated by the Plans) or upon or over adjoining property or violate any setback or other restriction, however created, or any zoning regulations or any building restriction of any governmental authority having jurisdiction with respect to the Improvements;
- (d) Casualty. The Improvements or the improvements on the Premises are materially damaged or destroyed by fire or other casualty or cause and the insurance proceeds therefrom (subject to the terms of the Mortgage) are inadequate to rebuild or restore the Improvements or the improvements on the Premises to their condition immediately prior to such casualty;
- (e) Failure to Construct. The Borrower or the Contractor does not construct the Improvements in accordance with the Plans;

(f) Misrepresentation. Any representation or warranty made herein or in any report, certificate, financial statement or other instrument furnished in connection with this Agreement or any advances made hereunder, by or in behalf of the Borrower, shall prove to be false or misleading in any material respect;

(g) Mechanics' Liens. Any mechanics', laborers', materialmen's or similar statutory liens, or any notice thereof, shall be filed against the Premises and/or the Improvements and shall not be discharged within thirty (30) days of such filing or a greater time if such liens are being contested in good faith by appropriate proceedings with a stay of execution having been served or such greater period of time as shall be permitted by the terms of the Mortgage or other Security Instrument;

(h) Other Defaults. The Borrower shall default in the due observance or performance of any covenant, condition or agreement to be observed or performed by the Borrower under this Agreement not otherwise specifically referred to in this Section 8, provided in the case of a default the Borrower's obligations under Section 5(h) or 5(i) that such default shall continue for more than thirty (30) days after written notice of such default;

(i) Other Loan Documents. Any event of default as defined in the Note or any Security Instrument, or any event which, with the giving of notice or passage of time, or both, would become an event of default under such instruments shall occur;

(j) Cessation of Work. Any substantial cessation occurs at any time in construction of the Improvements except for strikes, riots, or other causes beyond the Borrower's control, or if any substantial change is made in the schedule for the construction of the Improvements from that provided in the Plans or this Agreement without the approval of the State;

(k) Voluntary Bankruptcy. The Borrower or the Guarantor shall (i) apply for or consent to the appointment of a receiver, trustee or liquidator of it or any of its property, (ii) admit in writing its inability to pay its debts as they mature, (iii) make a general assignment for the benefit of creditors, (iv) be adjudicated as bankrupt or insolvent or (v) file a voluntary petition in bankruptcy, or a petition or an answer seeking reorganization or an arrangement with creditors or to take advantage of any bankruptcy, reorganization, arrangement, insolvency, readjustment of debt, dissolution or liquidation law or statute, or an answer admitting the material allegations of a petition filed against it in any proceeding under any such law;

(l) Involuntary Bankruptcy. A petition, order, judgment or decree shall be entered, without the application, approval or consent of the Borrower or the Guarantor by any court of competent jurisdiction, approving a petition seeking reorganization or approving the appointment of a receiver, trustee or liquidator of the Borrower or the Guarantor of all or a substantial part of its assets, and such order, judgment or decree shall continue unstayed and in effect for any period of sixty (60) days;

(m) Dissolution, Etc. The death, dissolution, termination of existence, merger or consolidation (as applicable) of the Borrower or the Guarantor, or a sale of assets of the Borrower

or the Guarantor out of the ordinary course of business without the prior written consent of the State;

(n) Other Obligations to State. Default by the Borrower or Guarantor, as the case may be, in the payment or performance of any other obligations of the Borrower or the Guarantor owed to the State, whether created prior to, concurrent with, or subsequent to the obligations arising out of this Agreement, provided such default continues after any applicable notice and expiration of any applicable grace period;

(o) Other Obligations. Default by the Borrower in any other obligation for borrowed money in excess of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00);

(p) Judgment. Final judgment for the payment of money of more than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) in excess of any insurance proceeds shall be rendered against the Borrower and shall remain undischarged for a period of thirty (30) days during which execution shall not be effectively stayed; and

(q) Insecure. The State shall deem itself insecure within the meaning of New Hampshire RSA 382-A:1-208.

## 9. State's Rights and Remedies Upon Default

9.1 General State Rights. Upon the occurrence of any Event of Default, all obligations on the part of the State to make disbursements under this Agreement shall, if the State so elects, cease, and, at the option of the State (but subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the Note and any applicable Security Instrument), the Note shall become immediately due and payable, and the State shall thereupon be authorized and empowered to exercise any rights of foreclosure or as otherwise provided for the realization of any security for the Note covered by any of the Security Instruments; but the State may make any disbursements or portions of disbursements, after the occurrence of any such Event of Default, without thereby waiving its right to demand payment of the Borrower's indebtedness evidenced by the Note and secured by the Security Instruments and without becoming liable to make any other or further advances as hereinabove contemplated by this Agreement.

9.2 Possession. In addition to the remedies hereinabove provided by Section 9.1, upon the occurrence of any Event of Default, the State shall be authorized and empowered, at its election, (i) to enter upon the Premises and construct, equip and/or complete the Improvements in accordance with the Plans, with such changes therein as the State may from time to time, in its sole discretion, deem appropriate, and to appoint watchmen to protect the Improvements, all at the risk, cost and expense of the Borrower, (ii) to discontinue, at any time, any work with respect to the Improvements commenced by it or change any course of action undertaken by it in connection therewith, and shall not be bound by any limitations or requirements of time, whether set forth herein or otherwise, and/or (iii) to assume the Construction Contract or related agreement made by the Borrower in any way pertaining to the Improvements and to take over and use all or any part or parts of the labor, materials, supplies and equipment contracted for by the Borrower, whether or not previously incorporated into the Improvements, all in the sole discretion of the State.

**9.3 Completion of Improvements.** In connection with any construction, equipping and/or completion of the Improvements undertaken by the State pursuant to the provisions of Section 9.2 (but without intending hereby to limit the powers and discretions conferred therein), the State may engage builders, contractors, architects and engineers and others for the purposes of furnishing labor, materials and equipment for the Improvements; pay, settle or compromise all bills or claims which may become liens against the Improvements and the Premises or which have been or shall be incurred in any manner in connection with such construction, equipping and/or completion; and take such action or refrain from acting hereunder as the State may, in its sole discretion, from time to time determine.

**9.4 Costs.** The Borrower shall be liable to the State for all costs paid or incurred for the construction, completion and/or equipping of the Improvements, whether the same shall be paid or incurred pursuant to the provisions of Sections 9.2 or 9.3 or otherwise, and all payments made or liabilities incurred by the State hereunder of any kind whatsoever shall be paid by the Borrower to the State on demand, with interest at the rate specified in the Note to the date of payment.

**9.5 Cumulative Rights.** Upon the occurrence of any Event of Default, the rights, powers, privileges and other remedies available to the State under this Agreement or at law or in equity may be exercised by the State at any time and from time to time, whether or not the indebtedness evidenced and secured by the Note and the Security Instruments shall be due and payable, and whether or not the State shall have instituted any foreclosure proceedings or other action for the enforcement of its rights under the Note or any of the Security Instruments.

**9.6 Right of Set-Off.** Any deposits or other sums at any time credited by or due from the State to the Borrower and any securities or other property of the Borrower at any time in possession of the State may at all times be held or treated as collateral security for the payment of the loan and all liabilities of the Borrower to the State. Upon an Event of Default the State may apply or set-off such deposits or other sums or property against such liabilities.

**9.7 Power of Attorney.** For the purpose of carrying out the provisions and exercising the rights, powers and privileges granted by this Agreement, effective upon an Event of Default, the Borrower hereby irrevocably constitutes and appoints the State its true and lawful attorney-in-fact, with full power of substitution, to execute, acknowledge and deliver any instruments and do and perform any acts that are referred to herein in the name and behalf of the Borrower other than amend this Agreement, the Note or the Security Instruments. The power vested in said attorney-in-fact is, and shall be deemed to be, coupled with an interest and cannot be revoked.

**10. Hazardous Materials Indemnification.**

**10.1 Definitions.**

(a) The term "Hazardous Materials" shall mean and include asbestos, polychlorinated biphenyls ("PCB's"), other carcinogens, oil and other petroleum products, and any other hazardous or toxic materials, wastes and substances which are defined, determined or identified as such under

RSA Chapters 146-A, 146-C, 147-A and 147-B, CERCLA, or any other applicable federal, state or local laws, rules, codes or regulations or any judicial or administrative interpretation thereof; and

(b) The term "Legal Requirements" shall mean all federal, state or local laws, rules, codes or regulations, or any judicial or administrative interpretation thereof, including, without limitation, all orders, decrees, judgments and rulings imposed through any public or private enforcement proceedings, relating to Hazardous Materials or the existence, use, discharge, release, containment, transportation or disposal thereof.

10.2 Indemnification. At all times, both before and after any conveyance or foreclosure of the Premises, the Borrower shall at its sole cost and expense indemnify, exonerate, protect and save the State harmless against and from any and all damages, losses, liabilities, obligations, penalties, claims, litigation, demands, defenses, judgment, suits, proceedings, costs, disbursements or expenses of any kind or nature whatsoever, including without implied limitation, attorneys' and experts' fees and disbursements, which may at any time be imposed upon, incurred by or asserted or awarded against the State and arising from or out of:

(a) Any Hazardous Materials on, in, under or affecting all or any portion of the Premises or any areas surrounding the same before the Borrower is divested of title to the Property by conveyance or foreclosure or divested of possession of the Premises following an Event of Default;

(b) The violation by the Borrower of any Legal Requirements with respect to the Premises or other real property; or

(c) The enforcement of this Section 10 of the Agreement or the assertion by the Borrower or the Guarantor of any defense to its obligations hereunder, whether any of such matters arise before or after foreclosure of the Mortgage or other taking of title to or possession of all or any portion of the Premises by the State, and specifically including therein, without limitation, the following to the extent they are a result of the matters described in clauses (a) or (b) above:

- (i) costs of removal of any and all Hazardous Materials from all or any portion of the Premises or any areas surrounding the same;
- (ii) additional costs required to take necessary precautions to protect against the release of Hazardous Materials on, in, under, or affecting, the Premises, or into the air, any body of water or wetland, any other public domain, or any areas surrounding the Premises;
- (iii) costs incurred to avoid the imposition of, or to discharge, any lien on the Premises arising from any failure to comply with Legal Requirements;
- (iv) costs incurred to comply with all Legal Requirements relating to the Premises or any other collateral for the Loan, including without limitation, fines, penalties or other charges imposed by any lawful authority; and

- (v) costs and expenses incurred in ascertaining the existence or extent of any asserted violation of any Legal Requirements relating to the Premises and any remedial action taken on account thereof including, without limitation, the costs, fees and expenses of engineers, geologists, chemists, other scientists, attorneys, surveyors and other professionals; and testing and analyses performed in connection therewith. The foregoing shall not apply to precautionary testing which is not in response to a specific identified potential release at the Premises.

11. Assignments. The State may assign, negotiate or pledge all or any portion of its rights under this Agreement or any of its rights or security with respect to the Note and the Security Instruments, and, in case of such assignment, the Borrower shall accord full recognition thereto. The Borrower hereby consents to the State's delivery of any and all financial or other information concerning the Borrower to any assignee or participating lender. The Borrower shall not assign or attempt to assign directly or indirectly, any of its rights under this Agreement or under any instrument referred to herein without the prior written consent of the State.

12. [Intentionally left blank]

13. General Provisions

13.1. Captions. The captions in this instrument are for convenience and reference only and do not define, limit or describe the scope of the provisions hereof.

13.2. Number and Gender. Whenever the context so requires, reference herein to the neuter gender shall include the masculine and/or feminine gender, and the singular number shall include the plural.

13.3. Binding Effect. The terms, covenants, agreements and conditions contained herein shall extend to, include, and inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns of the Borrower and the Guarantor, as the case may be, and the successors and assigns of the State.

13.4. Notices. Any notice, demand, request or other communication given hereunder or in connection herewith shall be in writing and sent by certified mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, addressed to the party to receive the same at its address set forth herein or at such other address as such party may hereafter designate by notice given in like fashion. Any such notice, demand, request or other communication shall be deemed given when mailed as aforesaid.

13.5. Governing Law. This Agreement has been made in the State of New Hampshire, and the provisions thereof shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the law of the State of New Hampshire (excluding the laws applicable to conflicts or choice of laws).

13.6. Entire Agreement. This Agreement, together with any and all schedules and exhibits hereto and the Note and the Security Instruments, contains the full, final and exclusive statement of the agreement of the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersedes

all prior understandings, representations or agreements, whether written or oral, with respect to such subject matter.

13.7 Amendment and Waiver. No amendment, modification, termination or waiver of any provision of this Agreement or the Note shall be effective unless it is in a writing executed by the State and in the case of an amendment, modification or termination by the Borrower.

13.8 Consent to Jurisdiction. The Borrower hereby consents to the jurisdiction of all state and local courts of the State of New Hampshire and the United States District Court of the District of New Hampshire in connection with any suit to enforce any right of the State under the Note, this Agreement or any Security Instrument.

13.9 Joint and Several. If the Borrower consists of more than one person or entity, such persons and entities shall have joint and several liability hereunder.

13.10 Severability. If any provision or condition of this Agreement is prohibited or rendered invalid or unenforceable, such prohibition, invalidity or unenforceability shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provisions and conditions of this Agreement.

13.11 References. All references herein to the Note, the Mortgage and the other Security Instruments shall be construed to refer to such instruments as they may be amended from time to time.

13.11 Sovereign Immunity. Nothing contained in this Agreement, the Note or the Security Instruments shall be deemed to constitute a waiver of the sovereign immunity of the State, which immunity is hereby reserved to the State.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the State and the Borrower have each duly caused this Agreement to be executed, by their respective officers, thereunto duly authorized, as of the day and year indicated above.

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Robert R. Scott, Commissioner  
Department of Environmental Services

**ABENAKI WATER CO., INC.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Nicholas LaChance  
Treasurer  
Duly Authorized

**JOINDER OF GUARANTOR**

The undersigned, being the person named as the Guarantor in the foregoing Loan Agreement, hereby joins therein and agrees to be legally and equitably bound by all of the terms, covenants, warranties, representations, conditions and thereof, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

**NEW ENGLAND SERVICE COMPANY**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name  
Title

**LIST OF EXHIBITS**

**EXHIBIT A THE PREMISES**

**EXHIBIT B THE TOTAL BUDGET**

**EXHIBIT C PROMISSORY NOTE**

**EXHIBIT C**  
**PROMISSORY NOTE**

**\$45,000**

**(DWGT-52 Tioga-Belmont Valving and Storage)**

**Concord, New Hampshire**

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, Abenaki Water Co., Inc., a New Hampshire corporation with a principal place of business at 37 Northwest Drive, Plainville, Connecticut 06062 (the "Maker"), promises to pay to the State of New Hampshire with an address of c/o Department of Environmental Services, 29 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95, Concord, New Hampshire 03302-0095, or its order (the "Payee"), the sum of Forty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$45,000) or such lesser amount as shall be disbursed from time to time to Borrower by State pursuant to a Loan Agreement of near or even date by and between Borrower and State (the "Loan Agreement"), in lawful money of the United States, together with interest thereon at the annual rate of one percent (1%) until the earlier of (i) December 1, 2021 or (ii) the date of substantial completion of the Improvements (as defined in the Loan Agreement) as determined by State ("Interest Rate Change Date") and commencing on the Interest Rate Change Date at the annual rate of 1.55% (the interest rate at any given time, the "Applicable Interest Rate") until paid in full as set forth herein. Capitalized terms used but not defined herein have the meaning given to them in the Loan Agreement.

1. **Payments.** The interest and principal of this Note shall be paid as follows:

(a) Commencing on the first day of the sixth month after the Interest Rate Change Date, interest only shall be paid in six (6) consecutive monthly installments on the first day of each month.

(b) Commencing with the first day of the thirteenth month after the Interest Rate Change Date, the principal and interest of the Note shall be paid in Two Hundred and Forty (240) consecutive equal monthly installments of principal and interest on the first day of each month with the installment amount calculated to amortize the principal balance of the Note over the 240 month period at the Applicable Interest Rate; provided, however, that the Maker shall have the option to elect prior to the first installment payment under paragraph 1(a) to have the interest accruing prior to the Interest Rate Change Date be capitalized and added to the principal amount of the Note rather than paid in the first installment of interest to be paid pursuant to paragraph 1(a); so long as the sum of the principal balance of the Note plus interest accruing prior to the Interest Rate Change Date (such sum being the "Capitalized Amortization Amount") shall not exceed \$45,000, and if the sum of unpaid principal plus interest accruing prior to the Interest Rate Change Date exceeds \$45,000, such excess amount of interest shall be due and payable with the first payment of interest pursuant to paragraph 1(a) above. If the Maker elects to have such interest capitalized, then the Capitalized Amortization Amount shall be paid in two Hundred and Forty (240) consecutive equal monthly installments of principal on the first day of each month, commencing with the first day of the thirteenth month after the Interest Rate Change Date, with interest with the installments calculated to amortize the Capitalized Amortization Amount over such 240 month Period at the Applicable Interest Rate.

2. **Prepayment.** The Maker shall have the right to prepay any or all sums due under this Note without penalty. Prepayments shall be applied first to accrued interest and then to principal. Partial prepayments of principal shall be applied against the outstanding principal balance, provided, however, that the Maker shall continue to make principal payments in the amounts specified above and on the dates specified above, with interest on the outstanding principal balance recomputed accordingly, until the Maker's obligations under this Note are satisfied in full.

3. **Due Date; Late Payment.** All payments of principal and interest shall be due on or before the due date specified above; provided, however, that the Maker shall not be deemed in default hereunder if payment is received by the Payee on or before 4:00 p.m. of the seventh day following the due date. The Maker agrees to pay a late charge of five percent (5%) of the amount of any payment due under this Note that is not paid within seven (7) days of its due date.

4. **Applicable Interest.** The Maker expressly agrees that the Applicable Interest Rate specified in this Note shall be the applicable interest rate due (i) on amounts outstanding during the term hereof and (ii) with respect to any amount outstanding on and after the maturity date hereof.

5. **Default; Acceleration.** The Maker shall be in default of this Note, and all principal and accrued interest thereon shall immediately become due and payable, without notice or demand, upon the occurrence of any of the following events: (a) failure to make prompt payment of any principal or interest installment due hereunder (or within such grace period as may be provided herein), (b) the failure of the Maker to observe or perform any of the other obligations to the Payee under this Note, and the same remains unremedied for a period of thirty (30) days after the date of notice thereof to the Maker by the Payee, (c) the occurrence of an Event of Default under the Loan Agreement or a default under the Guaranty of even date of New England Service Company (the "Guaranty") or a default under any Security Instrument (as defined in the Loan Agreement) or (d) a default in any other obligation of the Maker to the Payee, whether now existing or hereinafter incurred.

If the Maker shall file a petition under any section of the Bankruptcy Code, shall make an assignment for the benefit of creditors, shall have a receiver appointed over its affairs who shall not be discharged within sixty (60) days from the date of appointment, or shall have filed against it a petition under a section of the Bankruptcy Code, or any debtor-creditor act, which petition shall not be dismissed within sixty (60) days of the date of filing of the same, then the balance of principal and interest remaining unpaid on this Note shall become due and payable forthwith without demand or notice.

6. **Costs of Collection.** If this Note is not paid in full when it becomes due, or if any payment required hereunder shall not be paid when due, or within such grace period as may be expressly provided herein, the Maker agrees to pay all costs and expenses of collection, including attorneys' fees, regardless of whether legal proceedings have been formally commenced.

7. **Waiver of Presentment.** The Maker hereby waives presentment, demand for payment, notice of dishonor, and all other notices or demands in connection with the delivery, acceptance, performance, default, or endorsement of this Note.

8. **Non-Forfeiture of Rights.** It is agreed and understood that the waiver by the Payee of any particular default in the terms of this Note shall not constitute waiver of any further default and that acceptance of any payment after it is due shall not be deemed a waiver of the right to require prompt payment when due on all other sums and that acceptance of any payment after default shall not cure said default or operate as a waiver of any rights of the Payee hereunder unless otherwise agreed in writing.

9. **Payments, Notices.** All payments due under this Note, and any notice required to be made hereunder shall be directed to the Payee or to the Maker, as the case may be, at the addresses above specified, or such other address as the Payee and the Maker may hereafter direct, in writing.

10. **Binding on Successors, Etc.** The obligation of this Note shall be binding upon the heirs, successors and assigns of the Maker herein and shall inure to the benefit of the successors or assigns of the Payee herein or any holder hereof. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, the Maker shall not assign this Note without the prior written consent of the Payee.

11. **Gender.** Whenever the content so requires, reference herein to the neuter gender shall include the masculine and/or feminine gender, and the singular number shall include the plural.

12. **References.** All references herein to the Loan Agreement and the Guaranty shall be construed to refer to such instruments as they may be amended from time to time.

13. **Governing Law.** The Note has been made in the State of New Hampshire, and the provisions hereof shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New Hampshire (excluding the laws applicable to conflicts or choice of laws).

14. **Jurisdiction.** The Maker hereby consents to the jurisdiction of all state and local courts of the State of New Hampshire and the United States District Court of the District of New Hampshire in connection with any suit to enforce any rights of the Payee under this Note.

15. **Security.** The Maker's obligations hereunder are guaranteed pursuant to the Guaranty and secured by the Security Instruments.

16. **Sovereign Immunity.** Nothing contained in this Note, the Loan Agreement, or any guaranty guarantying this Note shall be deemed to constitute a waiver of the sovereign immunity of the Payee, which immunity is hereby reserved to the Payee.

EXECUTED as of the day and year first above written.

**ABENAKI WATER CO., INC.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Nicholas LaChance**  
Treasurer

## SECURITY AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is made this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020 between ABENAKI WATER CO., INC., a duly organized corporation existing under the laws of the State of New Hampshire with a place of business at 37 NORTHWEST DRIVE, PLAINVILLE, CONNECTICUT 06062 (sometimes hereinafter called the "Debtor"), and the State of New Hampshire with an address of c/o Department of Environmental Services, 29 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95, Concord, New Hampshire 03302-0095 (hereinafter the "Secured Party") for themselves and their successors and assigns.

### RECITALS

A. The Debtor and the Secured Party have entered into a Loan Agreement of near or even date (the "Loan Agreement"), which Agreement sets forth certain undertakings and obligations of the Debtor to the Secured Party.

B. Pursuant to the Loan Agreement, the Secured Party has agreed to extend credit to the Debtor in an amount not to exceed Forty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$45,000), in exchange for the Debtor's promissory note (the "Note") to the Secured Party.

C. To secure the obligations it has undertaken under the Loan Agreement and the Note and certain security instruments described in the Loan Agreement and to secure the payment of said sum to the Secured Party and to secure any other obligations of the Debtor to the Secured Party of every kind and description, whether direct or indirect, absolute or contingent, primary or secondary, joint or several, due or to become due, or now existing or hereafter arising or acquired and whether by way of loan, discount, letter of credit, lease or otherwise (collectively the "Obligations"), the Debtor desires to create in the Secured Party a security interest in accordance with the terms of the Uniform Commercial Code, N.H.R.S.A. 382-A.

NOW, THEREFORE the Debtor agrees as follows:

1. Collateral. The Debtor, for valuable consideration received from the Secured Party, hereby grants to the Secured Party to secure all the foregoing Obligations a security interest in the following property (the "Collateral"):

(a) All the Debtor's goods, machinery, equipment, furnishings and fixtures, and personal property, including but not limited to such property located on the Debtor's premises at Belmont, New Hampshire, (the Debtor's "Business Premises") or used in connection with the Debtor's business conducted at said Business Premises, and in all inventory including, without limitation, all items held for sale or lease or furnished or to be furnished under contracts of service, or used or consumed in the Debtor's business (all hereinafter called the "Inventory"), and in contract rights with respect thereto and proceeds thereof, all whether now owned or hereafter acquired. The above collateral is now kept and, in the absence of written notice from the Debtor to the Secured Party, will always be kept only at the Debtor's Business Premises.

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ABENAKI WATER CO., INC.

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(b) The Debtor, for valuable consideration received from the Secured Party, hereby also conveys to the Secured Party a security interest in all the Debtor's accounts, accounts receivable, contract rights, notes, personal property leases, mailing lists and customer lists, rents receivable, choses in action, drafts, acceptances, instruments, investment property, letter of credit rights, chattel paper, general intangibles, cash and all other forms of obligations due or to become due to the Debtor, whether now existing or hereafter arising and whether joint, several, or joint and several, and proceeds of any of the foregoing, arising from or relating to the Debtor's business.

The Secured Party, by virtue of this Agreement, in addition to any other security or collateral that it may hold, shall have a continuing security interest in said Collateral and in contract rights with respect thereto and proceeds of both, to secure payment and performance of the liabilities and obligations of the Debtor to the Secured Party hereunder.

2. Records and Audits. The Debtor will keep an accurate record of the Collateral, and all additions thereto, and removals therefrom, and of any of its accounts, accounts receivable, contract rights, leases, general intangibles, rents receivable, notes and choses in action, as they from time to time exist, and the proceeds received or receivable therefrom, and will deliver a copy of such records to the Secured Party at such regular intervals as the Secured Party reasonably may require. If the Secured Party deems itself insecure, when requested by the Secured Party the Debtor shall, at the Debtor's own expense, cause a verification of the Collateral to be made by some independent appraiser approved by the Secured Party and an audit of the accounts receivable, contract rights and proceeds of both, to be made by some independent auditor.

3. Maintenance and Insurance. The Debtor agrees to keep the Collateral in good condition, deterioration resulting from normal use excepted, and also to keep it insured against loss from such hazards and in such amounts as the Secured Party may require and in such companies as the Secured Party may approve, payable in case of loss to the Secured Party as its interest may appear, and the policies evidencing such insurance, or certificates thereof, shall, upon request, be deposited with the Secured Party.

4. No Liens. The Debtor represents and warrants that its title to the Collateral is free and clear of any liens or encumbrances except those listed in Schedule 4 and agrees to keep the Collateral free and clear of any future lien or encumbrance unless it obtains the advance consent of the Secured Party for any such lien or encumbrance.

5. Sale and Use in the Ordinary Course. Until Default the Debtor may sell or lease the Collateral in the ordinary course of business and may also use or consume any raw materials and supplies, the use and consumption of which is necessary in order to carry on the Debtor's business.

6. Lists of Accounts and Proceeds. Upon request of the Secured Party at any time after Default, the Debtor will deliver to the Secured Party lists or copies of all accounts promptly after they arise and will deliver to the Secured Party, promptly upon receipt, all rents and other

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proceeds received by the Debtor including proceeds of the accounts referred to above and proceeds of any insurance policies in the exact form in which they are received. The Secured Party in its discretion may apply cash proceeds to the payment of any obligations secured hereby or may release such cash proceeds to the Debtor for use in the operation of the Debtor's business.

7. Default. The Debtor shall be deemed in "Default" of this Agreement:

- (a) if the Debtor fails to observe or perform any of the Debtor's agreements expressed herein;
- (b) upon default of the Debtor under the terms of any Obligation of the Debtor to the Secured Party secured hereby, or if notice or lapse of time, or both, are therein provided, then upon such notice or lapse of time, or both;
- (c) upon the loss, unauthorized sale, unauthorized removal of the Collateral from the locations specified in Section 1, or the theft, damage or destruction of the Collateral;
- (d) if the Secured Party shall deem the Collateral in danger of misuse or loss or removal from this State; or
- (e) if the Debtor changes its name or state of organization without at least thirty (30) days prior notice.

8. Remedies. Upon a Default the Secured Party shall have all the rights and remedies of a secured party under the Uniform Commercial Code to the same extent as if they were expressly set forth herein in addition to the remedies provided herein or in any other instrument or paper executed by the Debtor, as well as the right to sell all or part of the Collateral, pursuant to New Hampshire law. In such event the Debtor shall pay all the Secured Party's costs of repossession, collection, custody, storage, sale or other dispossession and delivery, (including reasonable attorneys' fees), all of which the Secured Party may deduct from the proceeds. If the Secured Party seeks to take possession of any or all of the Collateral by judicial process, the Debtor hereby irrevocably waives any requirement of bonds, surety or security, whether required by statute, court rule or otherwise, as an incident to such possession and waives any requirement for demand for possession before the commencement of any suit or action to recover with respect thereto.

9. Certain Remedies. The Secured Party may at any time after Default notify the Debtor's account debtors, or persons otherwise indebted to the Debtor whose obligations are covered by this Agreement, that the Collateral has been assigned to the Secured Party and that payment shall be made directly to the Secured Party. Upon request of the Secured Party at any time after Default, the Debtor will so notify such debtors and will indicate on all billings to such debtors that their accounts must be paid to the Secured Party. The Secured Party shall have full power to collect, compromise, endorse, sell or otherwise deal with the Collateral or proceeds thereof in its own name or in the name of the Debtor. The Debtor shall pay to the Secured Party on demand a collection charge on all accounts collected, that shall include all reasonable

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attorneys' fees and expenses, and all other reasonable expenses of like or unlike nature that may be expended by the Secured Party to obtain or enforce payment of any account either as against the account debtor, the Debtor or any guarantor or surety of the Debtor or in the prosecution or defense of any action or concerning any matter arising out of or connected with the subject matter of this Agreement, the obligations secured hereby, or the Collateral, or any of Secured Party's rights or interests therein or thereto, including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing any reasonable counsel fees or expenses incurred in any bankruptcy or insolvency proceedings.

10. Power of Attorney. The Debtor does hereby make, constitute and appoint any officer of the Secured Party as the Debtor's true and lawful attorney-in-fact, with power, in the event of a default, to endorse the name of the Debtor or any of the Debtor's officers or agents upon any notes, checks, drafts, money orders, or other instruments of payment (including payments payable under any policy of insurance on the Collateral) or Collateral that may come into possession of the Secured Party in full or part payment of any amounts owing to the Secured Party, to sign and endorse the name of the Debtor or any of the Debtor's officers or agents upon any invoice, freight or express bill, bill of lading, storage or warehouse receipts, drafts against debtors, assignments, verifications and notices, in connection with accounts, and any instrument or document relating thereto or to the Debtor's rights therein; to give written notice to such office and officials of the United States Post Office to effect such change or changes of address so that all mail addressed to the Debtor may be delivered directly to the Secured Party; granting upon the Debtor's said attorney full power to do any and all things necessary to be done in and about the premises fully and effectually as might or could be done, and hereby ratifying all that said attorney shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof. This power of attorney shall be irrevocable for the term of this Agreement and all transactions hereunder as long as the Debtor may be indebted to the Secured Party.

11. Cooperation; Secured Party Sales; No Waiver. The Debtor covenants that it will execute any documents requested by the Secured Party to perfect its security interest in the Collateral. When requested by the Secured Party following a Default by the Debtor, the Debtor shall cooperate in the Secured Party's repossession of the Collateral and will assemble the Collateral and make it available to the Secured Party at such place as the Secured Party shall designate which shall be reasonably convenient to both parties. The Secured Party may dispose of the Collateral by public or private sale, upon the place where it is then located, and the Secured Party itself may acquire the Collateral at any such sale. The Debtor agrees that notice of ten (10) days prior to such sale shall constitute reasonable notice thereof, but that if the Collateral is perishable or threatens to decline quickly in value or is a kind customarily sold on a recognized market, the Secured Party may provide shorter notice or no notice of the sale. The Secured Party shall also have the right to remove the Collateral. No waiver of the Secured Party of any defaults hereunder shall constitute a waiver of any other default or of the same default upon a future occasion.

12. Reinstatement. If after receipt of any payment of, or the proceeds of any Collateral for, all or any part of the Obligations, the Secured Party is compelled to surrender or voluntarily surrenders such payment or proceeds to any person because such payment or

application of proceeds is or may be avoided, invalidated, recaptured, or set aside as a preference, fraudulent conveyance, impermissible setoff or for any other reason, whether or not such surrender is the result of (i) any judgment, decree or order of any court or administrative body having jurisdiction over the Secured Party, or (ii) any settlement or compromise by the Secured Party of any claim as to any of the foregoing with any person (including the primary obligor with respect to any of the Obligations), then the Obligations or part thereof affected shall be reinstated and continue and this Agreement shall be reinstated and continue in full force as to such Obligations or part thereof as if such payment or proceeds had not been received, notwithstanding any previous cancellation of any instrument evidencing any such Obligation or any previous instrument delivered to evidence the satisfaction thereof or the termination of this Agreement.

13. Governing Law. This Agreement shall be governed by and be construed in accordance with New Hampshire law.

14. Amendment. This Agreement may be amended only by a written instrument executed by the parties.

15. Notice. Any demand, notice or request by either party to the other shall be sufficiently given if delivered to the party intended to receive the same, or if mailed by registered or certified mail addressed to such party at the address of such party stated above, or at such other address as may be stated in a notice delivered or mailed as herein provided.

16. Binding Effect. The covenants and agreements herein contained shall bind, and the benefits and advantages thereof shall inure to, the respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors and permitted assigns of the Debtor and the Secured Party.

17. Conflicting Provisions; References. In the event of any conflict between the terms, covenants, conditions and restrictions contained in this Agreement, the Note, the Loan Agreement and the Security Instruments, the term, covenant and condition or restriction that imposes the greater burden or obligation upon the Debtor shall control. The determination as to which term, covenant, condition or restriction is the more burdensome or imposes the greater obligation shall be made by the Secured Party in its sole discretion. All references herein to the Note, the Loan Agreement and the Security Instruments shall be construed to include such instruments as they may be amended from time to time. Wherever used the singular number shall include the plural, the plural the singular, the use of any gender shall be applicable to all genders as the context requires.

18. Invalidity. In any case where any one or more of the provisions of this Agreement are held to be invalid, illegal or enforceable in any respect, such invalidity, illegality or unenforceability shall not affect any other provisions hereof.

19. Sovereign Immunity. Nothing contained in this Agreement, the Loan Agreement, the Note or the other Security Instruments shall be deemed to constitute a waiver of the sovereign immunity of the Secured Party, which immunity is hereby reserved to the Secured

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**ABENAKI WATER CO., INC.**

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**Party.**

**Executed on the day and year first of written.**

**Debtor:**

**ABENAKI WATER CO., INC.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Witness**

**By:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Nicholas LaChance**  
**Treasurer**  
**Duly Authorized**

**SCHEDULE 4**

**LIENS AND ENCUMBRANCES**

The Collateral is subject to no liens or encumbrances except:

Return to:

### **MORTGAGE, SECURITY AGREEMENT AND FIXTURE FILING**

**ABENAKI WATER CO., INC.**, a New Hampshire corporation with a principal place of business at **37 NORTHWEST DRIVE, PLAINVILLE, CONNECTICUT 06062** (the "Mortgagor"); for consideration paid, grants to the State of New Hampshire with an address c/o Department of Environmental Service, 29 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95, Concord, New Hampshire 03302-0095 (the "Mortgagee"), with **MORTGAGE COVENANTS**, to secure (i) the payment of **Forty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$45,000)** with interest and other charges as provided in the Mortgagor's Promissory Note of even date and any and all amendments, deferrals, extensions, renewals and thereof and therefor (collectively, the "Note"), including without limitation, the future advances and readvances evidenced by the Note; (ii) the payment of all other sums with interest thereon advanced in accordance herewith to protect the security and priority of this Mortgage and Security Agreement (the "Mortgage"); and (iii) the performance of all of the Mortgagor's agreements, obligations and covenants as contained in the Note, the Mortgage, a certain Loan Agreement of even date by and between the Mortgagor and the Mortgagee (the "Loan Agreement") and certain security instruments described with more particularity in the Loan Agreement (the "Security Instruments"); (the Note, the Loan Agreement and the Security Instruments are collectively the "Loan Documents") the following:

Certain tracts or parcels of land together with all buildings and improvements thereon and appurtenances thereto located in **BELMONT, New Hampshire**, more particularly described in **Exhibit A**, attached hereto and made a part hereof (the "Premises"); together with all fixtures, machinery and all other tangible personal property intended for use in the building and other improvements on said premises, now or hereafter owned by the Mortgagor and now affixed or to be affixed, or now hereafter located upon said land, including all appurtenant easements;

Also conveying and granting hereby as part of the realty and as property mortgaged hereunder, all of the following articles now and hereafter on the above-described premises or used therewith: All water storage, collection, distribution and treatment equipment and facilities, plumbing, heating, lighting, refrigerating, ventilating, and air conditioning apparatus and equipment, elevators and elevator machinery, boilers, tanks, motors, sprinkler and fire extinguishing systems, alarm systems, screens, awnings, screen doors, storm and other

detachable windows and doors mantels, built-in cases, counters, trees, hardy shrubs and perennial flowers, and other equipment, machinery, furniture and furnishings, fixtures, and articles of personal property, excepting motor vehicles, now and hereafter owned by the Mortgagor and now and hereafter affixed to, placed upon or used in connection with the operation of said premises for commercial uses, and all other purposes whether or not included in the foregoing enumeration, together with cash proceeds and non-cash proceeds of all of the foregoing, all of which are covered by this Mortgage, whether or not such property is subject to prior conditional sales agreements, chattel mortgages or other liens, excepting inventory and personal property to be consumed or sold in the normal course of business of the Mortgagor. If the lien of this mortgage on any fixtures or personal property is subject to a conditional sales agreement or chattel mortgage or security agreement covering such property, then in the event of any default hereunder all the rights, title and interest of the Mortgagor in and to any and all deposits made thereon or therefor are hereby assigned to the Mortgagee, together with the benefit of any payments now or hereafter made thereon. There are also transferred, set over and assigned to the Mortgagee, its successors and assigns hereby all conditional sales agreements, leases and use agreements of machinery, equipment and other personal property of the Mortgagor in the categories hereinabove set forth and now and hereafter affixed to, placed upon or used in connection with the operation of said premises under which the Mortgagor is the lessee of, or entitled to use, such items, and the Mortgagor agrees to execute and deliver to the Mortgagee specific separate assignments thereof to the Mortgagee of such leases and agreements when requested by the Mortgagee; and nothing herein shall obligate the Mortgagee to perform any obligations of the Mortgagor under such leases or agreements, unless it so chooses, which obligations the Mortgagor hereby covenants and agrees to well and punctually perform.

As further security for payment of the indebtedness and performance of the obligations, covenants and agreements secured hereby, the Mortgagor hereby transfers, sets over and assigns to the Mortgagee:

(a) All rents, security deposits, issues and profits, revenues, royalties, bonuses, rights and benefits under any and all leases or tenancies now existing or hereafter created of the Premises or any part thereof, with the right to receive and apply the same to said indebtedness, and the Mortgagee may demand, sue for and recover such payments, but shall not be required to do so; provided, however, that so long as the Mortgagor is not in default hereunder, the right to receive and retain such rents, issues and profits is reserved to the Mortgagor. To carry out the foregoing, the Mortgagor agrees (1) to execute and deliver to the Mortgagee such conditional assignments of leases and rents applicable to the Premises as the Mortgagee may from time to time request, while this Mortgage and the debt secured hereby are outstanding, and further (2) not to cancel, accept a surrender of, reduce the rentals under, anticipate any rentals under, or modify any such leases or tenancies, or consent to an assignment or subletting thereof, in whole or in part, without the Mortgagee's written consent except as in the ordinary course of business. Nothing herein shall obligate the Mortgagee to perform the duties of the Mortgagor as landlord or lessor under any such leases or tenancies, which duties the Mortgagor hereby covenants and agrees to well and punctually perform.

(b) All judgments, awards of damages and settlements hereinafter and as a result or in lieu of any taking of the premises or any interest therein or part thereof under the power of eminent domain, or for any damage (whether caused by such taking or otherwise) to the Premises or the improvements thereon or any part thereof, including any award for change of grade of streets. The Mortgagee may apply all such sums or any part thereof so received on the indebtedness secured hereby in such manner as it elects, or, at its option, the entire amount or any part thereof so received may be released. The Mortgagor hereby irrevocably authorizes and appoints the Mortgagee its attorney-in-fact to collect and receive any such judgments, awards and settlements from the authorities or entities making the same, to appear in any proceeding therefor, to give receipts and acquittances therefore, and to apply the same to payment on account of the debt secured hereby, whether then matured or not, and the Mortgagor will execute and deliver to the Mortgagee on demand such assignments and other instruments as the Mortgagee may require for said purposes and will reimburse the Mortgagee for its cost (including reasonable counsel fees) in the collection of such judgments and settlements.

Receipt of rents, awards, and any other monies or evidences thereof, pursuant to the provisions of the foregoing paragraphs (a) and (b) and any disposition of the same by the Mortgagee shall not constitute a waiver of the right of foreclosure by the Mortgagee in the event of default or failure of performance by the Mortgagor of any covenant or agreement contained herein or the Note, the Loan Agreement or the Security Document.

**TO HAVE AND TO HOLD** the aforegranted and bargained premises with all privileges and appurtenances thereof, to the said Mortgagee and its successors and assigns, to its and their use and behalf forever. And the said Mortgagor, for itself and its successors and assigns, does hereby covenant, grant and agree to and with the Mortgagee and its successors and assigns, that until the delivery hereof it is the lawful owner of the said granted premises seized and possessed thereof in its own right in fee simple, has full power and lawful authority to grant and convey the same in manner aforesaid, that the premises are free and clear from any encumbrance whatsoever, except as otherwise recited in Schedule A, that it and its successors shall warrant and defend the same to the said Mortgagee and its successors and assigns against the lawful claims and demands of any person or persons whatsoever, except as otherwise herein recited; and that it will not cause or permit any lien to arise against the premises that is superior to the lien of this Mortgage.

The Mortgagor further covenants and agrees with the said Mortgagee, its successors and assigns, as follows:

1. **Payment and Performance.** The Mortgagor shall pay the Note hereby secured and interest thereon as the same shall become due and payable, and also any other indebtedness that may accrue to the Mortgagee under the terms of this Mortgage, and to perform all other agreements set forth herein and in said Note, the Loan Agreement and the Security Instruments.

Mortgage and Security Agreement  
Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund  
ABENAKI WATER CO., INC.

The Mortgagor has no right of setoff with respect to the Note, and the Mortgagor must pay all sums due without deduction for any.

2. **Insurance.** The Mortgagor will keep Mortgagor's buildings, improvements and personal property now existing or hereafter erected or located on the Premises and the interests and liabilities incident to the ownership thereof insured against loss by fire and such other hazards, casualties and contingencies, and in manner, form and companies as may be required by the Mortgagee. In no event shall the amount of coverage be less than one hundred percent (100%) of the insurable value based on replacement cost, and in default thereof the Mortgagee shall have (in addition to other rights set forth herein) the right to obtain such insurance at the cost of Mortgagor, such cost to be secured hereby. Such policy shall be endorsed with the standard New Hampshire mortgagee clause with loss payable to the Mortgagee, as its interest may appear, and shall be deposited with the Mortgagee, and the Mortgagor shall deliver to the Mortgagee a new policy as replacement for any expiring policy at least fifteen (15) days before the date of such expiration; all such policies will contain a provision or endorsement that they may not be canceled without sixty (60) days written notice from the insurer to the Mortgagee; all amounts recoverable under any policy are hereby assigned to the Mortgagee. In event of a loss, the amount collected may, at the option of the Mortgagee, be used in any one or more of the following ways: (1) applied upon the indebtedness then matured or unmatured; (2) used to fulfill any of the covenants contained herein as the Mortgagee may determine; (3) used to replace or restore the property to a condition satisfactory to the Mortgagee; or (4) released to the Mortgagor; the Mortgagee is hereby irrevocably appointed by the Mortgagor as attorney-in-fact of the Mortgagor to assign any policy in the event of the foreclosure of this mortgage or other extinguishment of the indebtedness secured hereby. The insurance carrier providing the insurance shall be a carrier qualified to write such insurance in the State of New Hampshire and shall be chosen by the Mortgagor subject to the approval of the Mortgagee. Additionally, the Borrower shall maintain or cause to be maintained public liability insurance on the Premises in an amount acceptable to the Mortgagee (in no event less than \$1,000,000.00) from a carrier acceptable to Mortgagee. If the Premises are located in an area which has been identified by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development as a flood hazard area it will keep the Premises insured against loss by flood for the term of the Notes, in an amount at least equal to the outstanding principal balance of the Notes or the maximum limit of coverage available for the Premises under the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, whichever, is less.

3. **Taxes and Assessments.** The Mortgagor will pay, before the same become delinquent or any penalty attached thereto for nonpayment, all taxes, assessments and charges of every nature that may now or hereafter be levied or assessed against Mortgagor, upon the Premises or any part thereof, or upon the rents, issues, income or profits thereof, whether any or all of said taxes, assessments or charges be levied directly or indirectly, and will pay, before the same become delinquent or any penalty attached thereto for the nonpayment, all taxes that by reason of nonpayment create a lien prior to the lien of the Mortgage; and will thereon submit to the Mortgagee such evidence of the due and punctual payment of such taxes, etc. as the Mortgagee may require, and the Mortgagor will also pay all taxes, assessments or charges that

may be levied on the Note secured hereby, or on the interest thereon, excepting the federal income tax imposed under the laws of the United States of America or any future general income tax levied by the State of New Hampshire.

4. **Maintenance of the Premises.** The Mortgagor will keep protected in good order, repair and condition (reasonable wear and tear and casualty insured against excepted) at all times the buildings and improvements owned by Mortgagor (including the Mortgagor's fixtures) now standing or hereafter erected or placed upon the Premises and any and all of the Mortgagor's appurtenances, apparatus and articles of personal property, including, but not limited to, furniture, furnishings and equipment, now or hereafter in or attached to or used in connection with said buildings or improvements, promptly replacing any of the aforesaid that may become lost, destroyed or unsuitable for use, will always maintain in good order and condition all the facilities, easements, works, and ways set forth in the description and easements of the Mortgage, whether located upon the premises hereby mortgaged or elsewhere; and will not commit or suffer any strip or waste of the Premises, or any violation of any law, regulation, ordinance or contract affecting the Premises; and will not commit or suffer any demolition, removal or material alteration of any buildings or improvements (including fixtures) on the Premises without the written consent of the Mortgagee. The Mortgagor shall maintain and preserve the parking areas, passageways and drives now or hereafter existing on the Premises, and without prior written consent of the Mortgagee, no building or other structure other than those designated on the project layout plans shall be erected thereon and no new buildings or additions to existing buildings shall be erected on the remainder of the Premises herein mortgaged without prior written consent of Mortgagee, excepting only Manufactured Housing erected in the ordinary course of business.

5. **Actions of the Mortgagee.** If the Mortgagor shall neglect or refuse to keep in good repair the property conveyed by this Mortgage and Security Agreement, to replace the same as herein agreed, to maintain and pay the premiums for insurance that may be required under Paragraph 2, or to pay and discharge all taxes, assessments and charges of every nature and to whomever assessed, as provided for in Paragraph 3, the Mortgagee may, at its election, cause such repairs or replacements to be made, obtain such insurance or pay said taxes, assessments and charges, and any amounts paid as a result thereof, together with interest thereon at the highest rate of interest specified in the Note secured hereby from the date of payment, shall be immediately due and payable by the Mortgagor to the Mortgagee, and until paid shall be added and become part of the principal debt secured hereby, and the same may be collected as a part of said principal debt in any suit herein or upon the Note; or the Mortgagee, by the payment of any tax, assessment or charge, may if it sees fit if allowed by law, be thereby subrogated to the rights of the state, county, village and all political or governmental subdivisions. No such actions or advances shall be deemed to relieve the Mortgagor of any default hereunder or impair any right or remedy consequent thereon, and the exercise of the rights to make advances granted in this paragraph shall be optional with the Mortgagee and not obligatory; and the Mortgagee shall not in any case be liable to the Mortgagor for a failure to exercise any such right. Mortgagee shall have no responsibility with respect to the legality, validity and priority of any

such claim, lien, encumbrance, tax, assessment and premium, and of the amount necessary to be paid in satisfaction thereof.

6. Tax and Insurance Escrow. After an Event of Default, the Mortgagor shall, upon written request therefor by the Mortgagee, which request may be withdrawn and remade from time to time at the discretion of the Mortgagee, pay to the Mortgagee on a monthly basis as hereafter set forth a sum equal to the municipal and other governmental real estate taxes, assessed against the Premises and all premiums next due for fire and other casualty insurance required of Mortgagor hereunder, less all sums already paid therefor, divided by the number of months to lapse not less than one (1) month prior to the date when said taxes and assessments will become delinquent and when such premiums will become due. Such sums as estimated by the Mortgagee shall be paid with monthly payments due under the Note, and such sums shall be held by the Mortgagee to pay said taxes, assessments and premiums before the same become delinquent. The Mortgagor agrees that should there be insufficient funds so deposited with the Mortgagee for said taxes, assessments and premiums when due, it will upon demand by the Mortgagee promptly pay to the Mortgagee amounts necessary to make such payments in full; any surplus funds may be applied toward the payment of the indebtedness secured by the Mortgage or credited toward future such taxes, assessments and premiums. If the Mortgagee shall have commenced foreclosure proceedings, the Mortgagee may apply such funds toward the payment of the mortgage indebtedness without causing thereby a waiver of any rights, statutory or otherwise, and specifically such application shall not constitute a waiver of the right of foreclosure hereunder. The Mortgagor hereby assigns to the Mortgagee all the foregoing sums so held hereunder for such purposes.

7. Security Agreement and Financing Statement. The Mortgagor further covenants and agrees that the Mortgage shall constitute a security agreement and financing statement with respect to any and all machinery, equipment, chattels, articles of personal property, excluding; motor vehicles, and fixtures described and included in the Mortgage, and all additions, accessions, substitutions and replacements thereto and therefor, together with the proceeds thereof, and all of which are hereinafter referred to as the collateral, and the Mortgagor hereby grants and conveys to the Mortgagee, its successors and assigns, a security interest therein. The Mortgagee warrants that for purposes of the Uniform Commercial Code its state of organization and its principal place of business are as stated in the first paragraph of this Mortgage and agrees that it shall not change such state of organization or principal place of business without providing thirty (30) days advance written notice to the Mortgagee. Upon default of any term, condition or covenant of the Mortgage and acceleration of any indebtedness hereby secured, the Mortgagee may, at its discretion, require the Mortgagor to assemble the collateral and make it available to the Mortgagee at a place reasonably convenient to both parties to be designated by the Mortgagee. The Mortgagee shall give the Mortgagor notice, by registered mail, postage prepaid, of the time and place of any public sale of any of the collateral or of the time any private sale or other intended disposition thereof is to be made by sending notice to the Mortgagor at least ten (10) days before the time of the sale or other disposition, which provisions for notice the Mortgagor and the Mortgagee agree are reasonable; provided, however, that nothing herein shall

preclude the Mortgagee from proceeding as to both real and personal property in accordance with Mortgagee's rights and remedies in respect of the real property. The Mortgagee shall have all of the remedies of a secured party under the Uniform Commercial Code as now in effect in the State of New Hampshire, and such further remedies as may from time to time hereafter be provided in New Hampshire for a secured party. The Mortgagor agrees that all rights of the Mortgagee as to said collateral and as to said real estate, and rights and interest appurtenant thereto, may be exercised together or separately and further agrees that in exercising its power of sale as to said collateral and as to said real estate, and rights and interests appurtenant thereto, the Mortgagee may sell the collateral or any part thereof, either separately from or together with the sale of the real estate, rights and interests appurtenant thereto, or any part thereof, all as the Mortgagee may in its discretion elect.

8. **Books and Records.** The Mortgagor shall maintain full and correct books and records showing in detail the earnings and expenses of the Premises; will permit the Mortgagee and its representatives to examine said books and records and all supporting vouchers and data any time from time to time upon request by the Mortgagee. Upon request of the Mortgagee, the Mortgagor shall provide financial statements of the Premises to the Mortgagee at least annually.

9. **Other Proceedings.** If any action or proceeding be commenced, to which action or proceeding the Mortgagee is made a party by reason of the execution of the Mortgage or the Note that it secures, or, in which it becomes necessary to defend or uphold the lien of the Mortgage, all sums paid by the Mortgagee for the expense of any litigation to prosecute or defend the rights and lien created hereby including attorneys' fees, shall be paid by the Mortgagor, together with interest thereon from date of payment at the highest rate specified in the Note secured hereby, and any such sum, and the interest thereon, shall be immediately due and payable and be secured hereby, having the benefit of the lien hereby created, as a part thereof and of its priority.

10. **Releases, Etc.** Without affecting the liability of the Mortgagor or any other person (except any person expressly released in writing) for payment of any indebtedness secured hereby or for performance of any obligation contained herein, and without affecting the rights of the Mortgagee with respect to any security not expressly released in writing, the Mortgagee may at any time and from time to time, either before or after the maturity of the Note and without notice or consent:

- a. Release any person liable for payment of all or any part of the indebtedness or for performance of any obligation.
- b. Make any agreement extending the time or otherwise altering the terms of payment of all or any part of the indebtedness, or modifying or waiving any obligation, or subordinating, modifying or otherwise dealing with the lien or charge hereof.
- c. Exercise or refrain from exercising or waive any right the Mortgagee may have.

d. Accept additional security of any kind.

e. Release or otherwise deal with any property, real or personal, securing the indebtedness, including all or any part of the property mortgaged hereby.

11. Zoning and Other Law. If at any time the then-existing use or occupancy of the mortgaged premises shall, pursuant to any zoning or other law, ordinance or regulation, be permitted only so long as such use or occupancy shall continue, that the Mortgagor shall not cause or permit such use or occupancy to be discontinued without the prior written consent of the Mortgagee.

12. Leases. Except for leases for Manufactured Housing entered into by Mortgagor in the ordinary course of business, the Mortgagee must examine and approve (which approval will not be unreasonably withheld) in writing prior to execution, delivery and commencement thereof, all leases, tenancies and occupancies of the Premises entered into by the Mortgagor; and the Mortgagor at its cost and expense, upon request of the Mortgagee, shall cause any parties in possession of the premises under any such leases, tenancies and occupancies, not so approved, to vacate the premises immediately; and the Mortgagor acknowledges that the Mortgagee may from time to time at its option enter upon the Premises and take any other action in court or otherwise to cause such parties to vacate the premises; the costs and expenses of the Mortgagee in so doing shall be paid by the Mortgagor to the Mortgagee on demand thereof and shall be part of the indebtedness secured by the Mortgage as costs and expenses incurred to preserve and protect the security; such rights of the Mortgagee shall be in addition to all its other rights as the Mortgagee, including the right of foreclosure, for breach by the Mortgagor in the requirements of this paragraph.

13. Receipt of Rents, Etc. Receipt and disposition of rents, income of the Premises, insurance proceeds, eminent domain awards, or any other sums under the provisions of the Mortgage, the Note, the Loan Agreement, or the Security Instruments by Mortgagee shall not be a waiver or release of any rights of the Mortgagee, including but not limited to, the right of foreclosure or acceleration of the Note, whether such receipt or disposition shall be before or after exercise of any such rights.

14. Assignment. This Mortgage is not assignable or assumable by the Mortgagor and if all or any part of the Premises is sold or conveyed or if there are transfers of any interests in the Mortgagor, then the Mortgagee may, at its option, require immediate payment in full of all sums secured by this Mortgage.

15. No Junior Security Interests. The Mortgagor shall not, without the prior written consent of the Mortgagee, which shall not be unreasonably withheld, grant any other mortgage, lien or security interest in the Premises; provided, however, that Mortgagee acknowledges and

consents to the existing mortgages and assignments of leases and rents from Mortgagor to People's United Bank.

16. **Default: Remedies**

(a) The Mortgagor shall be in default under this Mortgage upon the occurrence of an event of default under any of the Loan Documents, including the Loan Agreement and the expiration of the grace period as specified in the applicable Loan Document (herein called the "Events of Default"). Such Events of Default shall include without limitation, the following:

(i) Default in the due and punctual payment of any payment of principal or of premium, if any, or interest on the Note and such default shall continue beyond the expiration of the applicable period of grace, if any, or

(ii) Default in payment or performance under any of the obligations under the Loan Documents, and such default shall continue beyond the expiration of the applicable period of grace, if any, or

(iii) Default in the due performance or observance of any covenant or provision of this Mortgage and such default shall continue beyond the expiration of the applicable period of grace, if any.

(b) Upon the occurrence of an Event of Default which has not been cured within any applicable remedy period or demand under any demand instrument, and at the option of the Mortgagee, (i) the Mortgagee may declare the obligations of the Mortgagor to the Mortgagee to be immediately due and payable, (ii) the Mortgagee may immediately take possession of the Premises by forcible entry if necessary without being guilty of trespass or other claim by the Mortgagor or other party in possession, and (iii) the Mortgagee may forthwith exercise all other rights and remedies provided herein, or in any of the other Loan Documents, or which may be available to the Mortgagee by law, including without limitation, the STATUTORY POWER OF SALE;

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision set forth herein and not in limitation thereof, this Mortgage is upon the STATUTORY CONDITIONS as well as the other terms and conditions hereof, for any breach of which the Mortgagee shall have the STATUTORY POWER OF SALE; and

(d) All rights and remedies set forth herein shall be cumulative and concurrent, and may be pursued singly, successively, or together, at the Mortgagee's sole discretion, and may be exercised as often as occasion thereof shall occur.

(e) If the Mortgagor, its successors or assigns, pays the Mortgagee, all amounts under the Loan Documents, complies with and performs all terms and obligations as set forth in the

Note and the Loan Documents, pays all taxes, insurance premiums, escrow deposits and assessments on the Premises, to whomsoever laid or assessed, and shall not commit nor suffer any strip or waste of the Premises, nor default in any of the Mortgagor's covenants or obligations, nor commit any breach of any covenant herein contained, then the Mortgage shall be void; otherwise it shall remain in full force and effect.

**17. Possession by Mortgagee.**

(a) If the Mortgagee shall take possession of the Premises as permitted hereby, then in addition to, and not in limitation of, the Mortgagee's STATUTORY POWER OF SALE, Mortgagee may:

(i) hold, manage, operate, and lease the Premises to the Mortgagor or to any other entity on such terms and for such period(s) of time as the Mortgagee may deem proper, and the provisions of any lease made by the Mortgagee pursuant hereto shall be valid and binding upon Mortgagor notwithstanding the fact that the Mortgagee's right of possession may terminate or this Mortgage may be satisfied of record prior to the expiration of the term of such lease;

(ii) make such alterations, additions, improvements, renovations, repairs, and replacements to the Premises as the Mortgagee may deem proper;

(iii) remodel such improvements so as to make the same available in whole or in part for business purposes;

(iv) collect the rents, issues, and profits arising from the Premises, past due and thereafter becoming due, and apply the same, in such order of priority as the Mortgagee may determine, to the payment of all charges and commissions incidental to the collection of rents, the management of the Premises, and the obligations and all sums or charges required to be paid by the Mortgagor hereunder;

(v) take any other action the Mortgagee deems necessary or appropriate in its sole discretion to preserve, protect, or improve the Premises;

(b) All monies advanced by the Mortgagee for the above purposes and not repaid out of the rents collected shall immediately and without demand be repaid by the Mortgagor to the Mortgagee, together with interest thereon at the same rate as provided in the Note, and shall be added to the principal indebtedness secured hereby; and

(c) The taking of possession and the collection of rents by the Mortgagee as described above shall not be construed to be an affirmation of any lease of the Premises or any part thereof, and the Mortgagee, or any purchaser at any foreclosure sale, may terminate any

such lease at any time, whether or not such taking of possession and collection of rents has occurred.

**18. Foreclosure Pursuant to Power of Sale**

(a) Upon default, the Mortgagee or its legal representatives or assigns may on such terms and conditions as the Mortgagee deems appropriate in its sole discretion and pursuant to the **POWER OF SALE**, sell the Premises by public sale to the highest bidder as provided herein and in N.H. RSA 479:25-27a, as such statutes may be amended from time to time;

(b) If the Mortgagee invokes the **POWER OF SALE**, the Mortgagee may, without further demand upon the Mortgagor, sell the Premises or any estate therein, in one or more parcels, to the highest bidder for cash or other consideration acceptable to the Mortgagee at public sale to be held upon the Premises;

(c) If the Mortgagee seeks to enforce its rights and remedies hereunder, Mortgagor shall fully cooperate with Mortgagee in any foreclosure of the Premises scheduled by Mortgagee, including without limitation: (i) providing Mortgagee with any information concerning the Premises reasonably requested by Mortgagee, such as rental income information, taxes, water assessment charges and any maintenance costs associated with the Premises; (ii) arranging with the Mortgagee two (2) preview dates, each three hours in length, prior to the dates of any foreclosure sale; and (iii) granting the Mortgagee unlimited access to the Premises on the date of the foreclosure sale for one hour before and one hour after the foreclosure sale. In addition, the Mortgagor shall, without waiving its right to enjoin a foreclosure under RSA Chapter 479 or under the federal bankruptcy code, 11 U.S.C., Section 101, et seq, under no circumstances and in event in any way interfere with, any foreclosure sale of the Premises scheduled by the Mortgagee.

(d) The deed given by reason of such sale shall convey to the purchaser an indefeasible title to the Premises, discharged of all rights of redemption with respect to this mortgage by the Mortgagor and its successors or assigns, or any person claiming from or under it or them. The Mortgagee shall apply the proceeds of such sale first to all costs of notice and sale of the Premises including reasonable attorneys', accountants, and appraisers' fees, then to any and all accrued but unpaid interest due to the Mortgagee, and thereafter to the principal indebtedness evidenced by the Note and secured hereby, and to the other indebtedness secured hereby. Any excess may be paid to others having a lien on the Premises not having priority over this Mortgage and if none, then to the Mortgagor. Mortgagor shall be liable for any deficiency;

(e) In the event of foreclosure, at the option of the Mortgagee, the interest of each of the Mortgagor and the Mortgagee herein may be sold as a single unit together with the collateral as may secure the Note or be secured by the Loan Documents; and

(f) If the provisions of the Uniform Commercial Code apply, any property or security given to secure the indebtedness secured hereby may be sold with or as a part of the Premises, or any part thereof, at one or more foreclosure sales, and any notice required under such provisions shall be fully satisfied by the notice provided to be given hereby in execution of the POWER OF SALE.

19. Appointment of Receiver. The Mortgagee may, at any time following an Event of Default hereunder which has not been cured within any applicable remedy period or demand under any demand instrument (subject to any limitations in the Loan Documents), apply to any court having jurisdiction for appointment of receiver. That court shall promptly appoint a receiver of the Premises, who shall be authorized to receive and apply the income, profits, issues, rents and revenues from whatever source derived. The rents, profits, income, issues, and residues shall be applied by the receiver according to the lien of this Mortgage and the practice of the court. The appointment of the receiver shall be made by such court as an admitted equity in a matter of absolute right to the Mortgagee, and without references to the adequacy or inadequacy of the value of the Premises or to the solvency or insolvency of the Mortgagor or any co-borrower or guarantor of the obligations secured hereby.

20. Notice. Any demand, notice or request by either party to the other shall be sufficiently given if delivered to the party intended to receive the same, or if mailed by registered or certified mail addressed to such party at the address of such party stated above, or at such other address as may be stated in a notice delivered or mailed as herein provided.

21. Binding Effect. The covenants and agreements herein contained shall bind, and the benefits and advantages thereof shall inure to, the respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors and permitted assigns of the Mortgagor and Mortgagee.

22. Conflicting Provisions; References. In the event of any conflict between the terms, covenants, conditions and restrictions contained in this Mortgage, the Note, the Loan Agreement and the Security Instruments, the term, covenant and condition or restriction that imposes the greater burden or obligation upon the Mortgagor shall control. The determination as to which term, covenant, condition or restriction is the more burdensome or imposes the greater obligation shall be made by the Mortgagee in its sole discretion. All references herein to the Note, the Loan Agreement and the Security Instruments shall be construed to include such instruments as they may be amended from time to time. Wherever used the singular number shall include the plural, the plural the singular, the use of any gender shall be applicable to all genders as the context requires.

23. Invalidity. In any case where any one or more of the provisions of this Mortgage are held to be invalid, illegal or enforceable in any respect, such invalidity, illegality or unenforceability shall not affect any other provisions hereof.

24. Homestead Exemptions. This is not homestead property. Mortgagor, for the consideration aforesaid, hereby waives all rights of exemption in the Premises as the same are now or hereafter provided by virtue of the Bankruptcy provisions of the United States Code, including, without limitation, 11 U.S.C. §522.

25. Sovereign Immunity. Nothing herein contained or contained in the Loan Agreement, the Note or any other Security Instrument shall be deemed to constitute a waiver of the sovereign immunity of the Mortgagee, which immunity is hereby reserved to the Mortgagee.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

ABENAKI WATER CO., INC.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Nicholas LaChance  
Treasurer  
Duly Authorized

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
COUNTY OF MERRIMACK

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020 by \_\_\_\_\_, of ABENAKI WATER CO., INC., a New Hampshire corporation on behalf of said company.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Justice of the Peace/Notary Public  
My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_  
[Seal]

**EXHIBIT A**

**COLLATERAL ASSIGNMENT OF  
CONTRACTS, PLANS AND PERMITS**

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, ABENAKI WATER CO., INC., a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of New Hampshire, with a principal place of business at 37 NORTHWEST DRIVE, PLAINVILLE, CONNECTICUT 06062, ("Assignor"), hereby assigns to State of New Hampshire with a place of business at Department of Environmental Services, 29 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95, Concord, New Hampshire 03302-0095 ("Assignee"), all its right, title and interest in and to any contracts, written or oral (the "Contracts") relating to the design or construction of improvements on property of Assignor located in BELMONT, New Hampshire as more particularly described in a certain Loan Agreement between Assignor and Assignee (the "Loan Agreement") (the "Project"), including any plans and specifications prepared in connection therewith (the "Plans") and all governmental approvals and permits (the "Permits").

In addition, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. **Security.** This Assignment is made as additional security for the performance by the Assignor of all of its obligations under the Loan Agreement, Assignor's Promissory Note in the original principal amount of \$45,000 (the "Note") and certain security instruments as described in the Loan Agreement (the "Security Instruments"), each dated as of even date and delivered to or to be delivered to the Assignee.

2. **Representations.** Assignor represents, warrants and covenants to Assignee that:

(a) Assignor is and shall be the owner of the Collateral free and clear of any liens, security interests or encumbrances; and

(b) The execution, delivery and performance of the Assignment by Assignor does not and will not conflict with any material contract, statute, rule, judgment, decree or order to which Assignor.

3. **Default.** Unless Assignor shall be in default under the Note or the Loan Agreement or a Security Instrument (an "Event of Default"), Assignor shall be entitled to enjoy and enforce all of its rights under the Contracts, the Plans and the Permits. If such an Event of Default shall occur and Assignee shall have given written notice to the other party to the Contracts of its intention to exercise its rights hereunder, then Assignee shall be entitled thereafter to enjoy and enforce all of the rights of the Assignor under the Contracts, the Plans and the Permits, and shall become bound to perform all future obligations of the Assignor thereunder. Unless and until such notice is given, Assignee shall not be obligated to perform any of the obligations of the Assignor under the Contracts, the Plans or the Permits.

4. **UCC Rights and Remedies.** Without limiting the other remedies provided herein or provided by law, upon an Event of Default Assignee shall have the rights and remedies of a secured party under the Uniform Commercial Code, as enacted in New Hampshire, with respect

to the Collateral to the full extent provided by law. Assignor agrees that Assignee may file one or more UCC-1 financing statement in the appropriate filing offices at Assignor's expense to perfect Assignee's security interest in the Collateral and that Assignor shall take any and all actions reasonably requested by Assignee to perfect Assignee's security interest in the Collateral.

5. **Amendment.** Assignor shall not amend, modify or execute amendments to the Contracts, the Plans or Permits or change orders which would involve substantial changes in the cost or nature of the Project, without first obtaining the prior written consent of Assignee, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed.

6. **Governing Law.** This Agreement shall be governed by and be construed in accordance with New Hampshire law.

7. **Amendment.** This Agreement may be amended only by a written instrument executed by the parties.

8. **Notice.** Any demand, notice or request by either party to the other shall be sufficiently given if delivered to the party intended to receive the same, or if mailed by registered or certified mail addressed to such party at the address of such party stated above, or at such other address as may be stated in a notice delivered or mailed as herein provided.

9. **Binding Effect.** The covenants and agreements herein contained shall bind, and the benefits and advantages thereof shall inure to, the respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors and permitted assigns of Assignor and Assignee.

10. **Conflicting Provisions; References.** In the event of any conflict between the terms, covenants, conditions and restrictions contained in this Agreement, the Note, the Loan Agreement and the Security Instruments, the term, covenant and condition or restriction that imposes the greater burden or obligation upon Assignor shall control. The determination as to which term, covenant, condition or restriction is the more burdensome or imposes the greater obligation shall be made by Assignee in its sole discretion. All references herein to the Note, the Loan Agreement and the Security Instruments shall be construed to include such instruments as they may be amended from time to time. Wherever used the singular number shall include the plural, the plural the singular, the use of any gender shall be applicable to all genders as the context requires.

11. **Invalidity.** In any case where any one or more of the provisions of this Agreement are held to be invalid, illegal or enforceable in any respect, such invalidity, illegality or unenforceability shall not affect any other provisions hereof.

12. **Sovereign Immunity.** Nothing contained in this Agreement, the Loan Agreement, the Note, any guaranty guarantying the Note or the other Security Instruments shall be deemed to constitute a waiver of the sovereign immunity of the Assignee, which immunity is hereby reserved to the Assignee.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Assignee and Assignor, have executed this Assignment dated  
as of the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

In the presence of:

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Robert R. Scott, Commissioner**  
**Department of Environmental Services**

**ABENAKI WATER CO., INC.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Nicholas LaChance**  
**Treasurer**

**DISCLOSURE OF FINANCE CHARGES  
DRINKING WATER AND GROUNDWATER TRUST FUND**

Pursuant to New Hampshire RSA 6-D:1

**TO: ABENAKI WATER CO., INC.**

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount of Loan: \$45,000 (DWGT-52, Tioga - Belmont Valving and Storage)**

**Payable: 6 monthly installments of interest only followed by 240 monthly installments of interest and principal as further provided in the Promissory Note of even date of the Borrower (the "Note")**

**Finance Charges: 1% until the Interest Rate Change Date (as defined in the Note) then 1.55%.**

**Late fee: 5% of each payment will be assessed if not paid within 7 days of its due date.**

**Above interest is based on the number of days elapsed over a 360 day year, as the case may be.**

**Recording and filing fees:**

**\$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Title search fee:**

**\$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Title insurance premium**

**\$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Environmental Site Assessment:**

**\$ 0**

**Appraisal:**

**\$ 0**

**Acknowledged:**

**ABENAKI WATER CO., INC.**

**Borrower**

**By:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Nicholas LaChance**

**Treasurer**

**NEW ENGLAND SERVICE COMPANY**

**Guarantor**

**By:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:**

**Title:**