

## THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

CHARLES D. BAKER GOVERNOR

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KATHLEEN A. THEOHARIDES SECRETARY OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS ONE SOUTH STATION BOSTON, MA 02110 (617) 305-3500 MATTHEW H. NELSON CHAIRMAN

ROBERT E. HAYDEN COMMISSIONER

CECILE M. FRASER
COMMISSIONER

July 29, 2020

All Investor-Owned Gas Distribution Companies Regulated by the Department of Public Utilities (<u>Exhibit A</u>)

All Investor-Owned Electric Distribution Companies Regulated by the Department of Public Utilities (Exhibit B)

All Investor-Owned Water Distribution Companies Regulated by the Department of Public Utilities (<u>Exhibit C</u>)

RE: Chairman's Fourth Set of Orders under G.L. c. 25, § 4B

Dear All,

On March 10, 2020, Governor Baker declared a state of emergency in response to the Coronavirus ("COVID-19"). Additionally, on March 24, 2020, pursuant to section 4B of chapter 25 of the General Laws, Governor Baker has granted me the authority to take such action as I consider necessary to assure public safety and welfare through the priority restoration or continuing availability of gas, electric, and water utility services.

In response to this public-safety issue and consistent with my previous letters, I address this letter to the investor-owned gas distribution companies, the investor-owned electric distribution companies, and the investor-owned water distribution companies (collectively, the "Companies") regulated by the Department of Public Utilities (the "Department"). In this letter, I issue the following orders that I deem necessary to assure

public safety and welfare through the priority restoration and continuing availability of gas, electric, and water service during the state of emergency related to COVID-19:

- Until September 1, 2020, or you receive further communication under section 4B of chapter 25 of the General Laws, whichever comes first, the Companies shall not shut off gas, electric, or water service to any of their commercial and industrial customers for failure to pay a bill or any portion of a bill the Companies issued to a customer.
- Until the state of emergency in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts related to COVID-19 is lifted or you receive further communication under section 4B of chapter 25 of the General Laws, whichever comes first, the Companies shall not shut off gas, electric, or water service to any of their residential customers for failure to pay a bill or any portion of a bill the Companies issued to a customer.
- Until the state of emergency in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts related to COVID-19 is lifted or you receive further communication under section 4B of chapter 25 of the General Laws, whichever comes first, the Companies shall not send communications that threaten to shut off gas, electric, or water service to any of their residential customers for failure to pay a bill or any portion of a bill the Companies issued to a customer.

Any of the Companies that fail to carry out any of these orders may be assessed penalties as provided for in section 4B of chapter 25 of the General Laws.

Sincerely,

/s/ Matthew H. Nelson

Matthew H. Nelson Chairman

## Exhibit A

(Investor-Owned Gas Distribution Companies)

President Mark Kempic Bay State Gas Company d/b/a Columbia Gas of Massachusetts 4 Technology Drive, Suite 250 Westborough, MA 01581

President Franklyn Reynolds Berkshire Gas Company 115 Cheshire Road Pittsfield, MA 01202

President James Wojcik Blackstone Gas Company 61 Main Street Blackstone, MA 01504

President William Akley NSTAR Gas Company d/b/a Eversource Energy 247 Station Drive Westwood, MA 02090 President Peter Eichler Liberty Utilities 36 5th Street Fall River, MA 02722-0911

President Marcy Reed Boston Gas Company & Colonial Gas Company, each d/b/a National Grid 40 Sylvan Road Waltham, MA 02451

President Thomas Meissner Unitil 6 Liberty Lane West Hampton, NH 03842

## Exhibit B

(Investor-Owned Electric Distribution Companies)

President Thomas Meissner Unitil 6 Liberty Lane West Hampton, NH 03842 President Marcy Reed Massachusetts Electric Company, & Nantucket Electric Company, each d/b/a National Grid 40 Sylvan Road Waltham, MA 02451

President Craig Hallstrom NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy 247 Station Drive Westwood, MA 02090

## **Exhibit C**

(Investor-Owned Water Distribution Companies)

Agawam Springs Water Company

158 Tihonet Road Wareham, MA 02751 Andrews Farm Water Company c/o Mark J. Favaloro, Esq.

Favaloro Law

159 Haven Street, Suite 1 Reading, MA 01867

Aquaria Water Company

170 Aquaria Drive P.O. Box 1000

North Dighton, MA 02764

Aquarion Water Company of MA

900 Main Street

Hingham, MA 02043

Ashmere Water Supply

P.O. Box 843

Hinsdale, MA 02135-0834

Butterworth Water Company

300 Salisbury Street

Worcester, MA 01609

Colonial Water Company

27 Northwest Drive Plainville, CT 06062

East Northfield Water Company

One Lamplighter Way Northfield, MA 01360

Granville Centre Water Company

c/o John Stevenson 29 Locust Drive

Bedford, NY 10506

Housatonic Water Company

80 Maple Avenue

Great Barrington, MA 01230

Hutchinson Water Company

c/o Matthew Hutchinson

P.O. Box 446

Grafton, MA 01519

Kings Grant Water Company

839 Newport Avenue S. Attleboro, MA 02703

Milford Water Company

66 Dilla Street

Milford, MA 01757

Monterey Water Company

P.O. Box 65

Monterey, MA 01245

Mountain Water Systems 27 Northwest Drive Plainville, CT 06062

Whitinsville Water Company 44 Lake Street Whitinsville, MA 01588 Pinehills Water Company 33 Summerhouse Drive Plymouth, MA 02360