HARRIS BEACH MURTHA
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

265 Church Street
New Haven, CT 06510
203.772.7700

DANIEL R. CANAVAN
Direct: 203.772.7749
Fax: 203.772.7749
dcanavan@harrisbeachmurtha.com

VIA EMAIL ONLY

October 16, 2026

Annie Decker, Esq.
Chief of Legal, Planning & Regulatory Affairs
Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
79 Elm Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: Docket No. 26-09-08, *Petition in Objection of the Assessments Under Conn. Gen. Stat. § 16-49 (Aquarion Water Company of Connecticut, Inc. and Torrington Water Company) Aquarion Water Authority* – Objection to Invoice No. DEP460429

Dear Attorney Decker:

We are counsel to Aquarion Water Authority ("AWA") and its subsidiaries, Aquarion Water Company of Connecticut, Inc. ("AWC-CT") and the Torrington Water Company ("TWC"), in the above captioned matter. On September 15, 2026, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 16-49, AWA filed with the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority ("PURA") a Petition in opposition to the proposed regulatory assessments against AWC-CT and TWC for Fiscal Year 2027 by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection ("DEEP"). A copy of the Petition is enclosed for your reference.

As set forth in the Petition, AWA objects to DEEP's regulatory assessment for Fiscal Year 2027 against AWC-CT and TWC on the grounds that they are not public service companies during the applicable Fiscal Year 2027within the meaning of General Statutes § 16-1. Effective June 30, 2026, AWC-CT and TWC became subsidiaries of AWA and, as PURA has confirmed in its decision approving the transaction, ceased to be public service companies subject to its jurisdiction under Title 16.[1] The Petition requests PURA to determine that regulatory assessments imposed pursuant to § 16-49 on AWC-CT and TWC for periods effective June 30, 2026, or thereafter are unlawful.

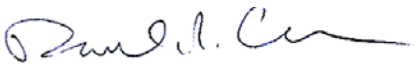
[1] *See* Docket No. 25-04-03, *Joint Application of Aquarion Water Authority, South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority and Eversource Energy for Approval of a Change of Control*, Final Decision, dated Mar. 25, 2026, at 33; *see also* at 18 ("Consequently, although PURA approval is required to effectuate the acquisition, PURA's jurisdiction over AWA and Aquarion is extinguished upon closing.").

General Statutes § 16-49(c)(2) expressly provides that AWA may lawfully withhold payment of the regulatory assessment subject to the Petition. More specifically, § 16-49(c)(2) states that "provided if the company files an objection in accordance with subsection (e) of this section, it may withhold the amount stated in its objection." Notwithstanding AWA's pending objection, DEEP issued Invoice No. DEP460429, dated October 11, 2026, assessing a $2,870.45 finance charge on an asserted overdue balance of $229,637.09, a copy of which is attached hereto. This letter constitutes AWA's objection pursuant to § 16-49 to that invoice and the associated finance charge.

In light of AWA's timely objection and its statutory right to withhold the disputed amount, AWA respectfully requests that DEEP withdraw Invoice No. DEP460429 and any other invoices, finance charges, penalties, or similar charges arising from AWA's withholding of the amounts that are the subject of its pending Petition.

We welcome the opportunity to discuss this matter further.

Very truly yours,



Daniel R. Canavan

DRC:awl
Enclosures