



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

### NOTICE OF FILING AND PUBLIC HEARING

D.P.U. 25-72

June 17, 2025

Petition of Whitinsville Water Company for approval by the Department of Public Utilities of its Acquisition of the Water System Assets owned by the Town of Northbridge's Water Division.

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On June 12, 2025, Whitinsville Water Company ("Company") filed with the Department of Public Utilities ("Department") a petition for approval of Company's acquisition of the water system assets owned by the Town of Northbridge's water division ("Northbridge Water Division"). The Company also seeks Department approval to provide water service to customers within the area now served by the Northbridge Water Division. The Department docketed this matter as D.P.U. 25-72.

The Company provides water treatment, distribution, and sales of water to approximately 2,400 customer connections in the Towns of Northbridge and Sutton, Massachusetts. The Company also sells water at wholesale to the Northbridge Water Division, which serves approximately 2,460 customer connections in the Town of Northbridge. Moreover, the Company currently provides service to the Northbridge Water Division that includes the operation of the Northbridge-owned water distribution system, billing, and other customer matters. The Company intends to acquire the water system assets of the Northbridge Water Division for a purchase price of \$1.1 million.

The Company does not propose any immediate changes to its rates or other terms of service from the transaction. Rates will remain at current levels until any change in those rates is authorized by the Department. Pursuant to the Department's general supervisory authority over water companies granted by G.L. c. 165, § 4, the Department will review the Company's proposed purchase of the Northbridge Water Division's assets to ensure that it is in the public interest and will not negatively impact the Company's existing customers in terms of its effect on rates and/or quality of service, among other factors.

The Department will conduct a public hearing to receive comments on the petition using Zoom videoconferencing on **July 7, 2025**, at 2:00 p.m. Attendees can join by entering the link, <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89625696689>, from a computer, smartphone, or tablet. No prior software download is required. For audio-only access to the hearings, attendees can dial in at **1 305 224 1968**, (not toll free) and then enter the Meeting ID# **896 2569 6689**.

Any person interested in commenting on the petition also may submit written comments to the Department no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **July 8, 2025**. Written

comments from the public should be sent by email to [dpu.efiling@mass.gov](mailto:dpu.efiling@mass.gov) and the Hearing Officer, Lauren Morris, at [lauren.morris@mass.gov](mailto:lauren.morris@mass.gov). The Department strongly encourages public comments to be submitted by email. If, however, a member of the public is unable to send written comments by email, a paper copy may be sent to Mark D. Marini, Secretary, Department of Public Utilities, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts, 02110.

Any person or entity who desires to participate in the evidentiary phase of this proceeding must file a written petition for leave to intervene with the Department not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on **July 6, 2025**. A petition for leave to intervene must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 220 CMR 1.03. Receipt by the Department constitutes filing and determines whether a petition has been timely filed. A petition filed late may be disallowed as untimely, unless good cause is shown for waiver under 220 CMR 1.01(4). To be allowed, a petition under 220 CMR 1.03(1) must satisfy the standing requirements of G.L. c. 30A § 10. All responses to petitions to intervene must be filed by the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on the second business day after the petition to intervene was filed.

All documents should be submitted to the Department in .pdf format by e-mail attachment to [dpu.efiling@mass.gov](mailto:dpu.efiling@mass.gov), and to the Hearing Officer, Lauren Morris, at [lauren.morris@mass.gov](mailto:lauren.morris@mass.gov). In addition, a copy of all documents should be emailed to Company's attorney, Joseph F. Dorfler, Esq. at [jdorfler@richmaylaw.com](mailto:jdorfler@richmaylaw.com). The text of the e-mail must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.P.U. 25-72); (2) the name of the person or company submitting the filing; and (3) a brief descriptive title of the document.

All documents submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's website through the Department's online File Room as soon as practicable (enter "25-72") at: <https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/DPU/Fileroom/dockets/bynumber>. Please note that in the interest of transparency any comments will be posted to our website as received, and without redacting personal information, such as addresses, telephone numbers, or email addresses. As such, consider the extent of information you wish to share when submitting comments.

To the extent a person or entity wishes to submit comments or intervene in accordance with this Notice, electronic submission, as detailed above, is sufficient. To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), please contact the Department's ADA coordinator at [eeadiversity@mass.gov](mailto:eeadiversity@mass.gov), 617-626-1282.

Translation and/or interpretation are available upon request. To request translation and/or interpretation in a language other than English, please contact Paralegal Specialist Kaylee Burgess at [dpu.ej@mass.gov](mailto:dpu.ej@mass.gov) no later than 5:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, June 23, 2025**.

For further information regarding the joint petition, please contact Company's attorney, Joseph F. Dorfler, Esq. at [jdorfler@richmaylaw.com](mailto:jdorfler@richmaylaw.com). For further information regarding this Notice, please contact Lauren Morris, Hearing Officer, Department of Public Utilities, at [lauren.morris@mass.gov](mailto:lauren.morris@mass.gov).

## Translation and Interpretation Services:

### English

ATTENTION: Translation and/or interpretation services are available upon request. Please email Kaylee Burgess at [dpu.ej@mass.gov](mailto:dpu.ej@mass.gov) to request language services, specifying your preferred language and contact information.

### Português (Portuguese)

ATENÇÃO: Disponibilizamos nossos serviços de tradução e/ou interpretação de acordo com a sua demanda. Para solicitar um serviço linguístico, envie um e-mail para Kaylee Burgess através do endereço [dpu.ej@mass.gov](mailto:dpu.ej@mass.gov), informando o idioma desejado e seus dados para contato.

### 繁體中文 (Traditional Chinese)

提醒您：您可依照需求申請筆譯和/或口譯服務。請以電郵聯絡 Kaylee Burgess ([dpu.ej@mass.gov](mailto:dpu.ej@mass.gov)) 來申請語言服務請求，請在電郵內註明需要的語言和聯絡資訊。

### Tiếng Việt (Vietnamese)

LƯU Ý: Các dịch vụ biên dịch và/hoặc phiên dịch có sẵn theo yêu cầu. Vui lòng gửi email đến Kaylee Burgess theo địa chỉ [dpu.ej@mass.gov](mailto:dpu.ej@mass.gov) để yêu cầu dịch vụ ngôn ngữ, nêu rõ ngôn ngữ ưa thích của quý vị và thông tin liên lạc

### (Arabic) العربية

يرجى الانتباه: تتوفر خدمات الترجمة و/أو الترجمة الفورية عند الطلب. لطلب خدمات لغوية يرجى التواصل مع Kaylee Burgess بإرسال رسالة إلكترونية إلى العنوان [dpu.ej@mass.gov](mailto:dpu.ej@mass.gov) ، تحدد فيها اللغة المفضلة لديك وتذكر معلومات الاتصال .

### ខ្មែរ (Khmer)

ជូនចំពោះ៖ សេវាកម្មប្រែក្លាយ និង/ឬអ្នកបកប្រែផ្ទាល់ គឺមានតាមការស្នើសុំ។ សូមផ្ញើអ៊ីមែលទៅ Kaylee Burgess តាម [dpu.ej@mass.gov](mailto:dpu.ej@mass.gov) ដើម្បីស្នើសុំសេវាកម្មបកប្រែក្នុងភាសា ដោយបញ្ជាក់ភាសាដែលអ្នកចង់បាន និងព័ត៌មានទំនាក់ទំនង។

### Español (Spanish)

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### 简体中文 (Simplified Chinese)

提醒您：您可依需要申請提供筆譯和/或口譯服務。  
• 請發送電子郵件給 Kaylee Burgess ([dpu.ej@mass.gov](mailto:dpu.ej@mass.gov)) 來申請語言服務要求，並注明您的首選語言和聯系信息。

### Kreyòl Ayisyen (Haitian Creole)

ATANSYON: Gen sèvis tradiksyon ak/oswa entèpretasyon ki disponib sou demann. Tanpri voye imèl bay Kaylee Burgess nan [dpu.ej@mass.gov](mailto:dpu.ej@mass.gov) pou mande sèvis lang, ki enfòm lang ou pi pito a ak enfòmasyon kontak ou.

### Français (French)

ATTENTION : Des services de traduction et/ou d'interprétation sont disponibles sur demande . Veuillez envoyer un e-mail à Kaylee Burgess à l'adresse [dpu.ej@mass.gov](mailto:dpu.ej@mass.gov) pour demander des services linguistiques ,en précisant votre langue préférée et vos coordonnées .

### Русский (Russian)

ВНИМАНИЕ!  
Услуги письменного и/или устного перевода предоставляются по запросу. Для запроса услуг перевода обращайтесь к Kaylee Burgess по адресу [dpu.ej@mass.gov](mailto:dpu.ej@mass.gov). В запросе укажите язык перевода и контактную информацию.

### 한국어 (Korean)

주의: 요청 시 번역 및/또는 통역 서비스가 제공됩니다. Kaylee Burgess에게 [dpu.ej@mass.gov](mailto:dpu.ej@mass.gov)로 이메일을 보내 선호하는 언어와 연락처 정보를 명시하여 언어 서비스를 요청하십시오.