

June 11, 2021

Mrs. Luly Massaro Commission Clerk RI Public Utilities Commission 89 Jefferson Boulevard Warwick, RI 02888

The Hon. Jorge O. Elorza Mayor

> Ricky Caruolo General Manager

RE: Dk 4994; Multi-Year Rate Filing-Rate Year 2

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William E. O'Gara, Esq. Legal Advisor Dear Mrs. Massaro:

Enclosed please find Providence Water's updated response to Commission 2-1 filed earlier today.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Mary L. Deignan-White

Mary L. Deignan-White Division Manager-Finance

cc: service list(via email)

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### **PROVIDENCE WATER Docket 4994**

# MULTI-YEAR RATE FILING-RATE YEAR 2 Commission Data Requests - Set 2 (Issued June 2, 2021)

2-1. Referring to the response to PUC 1-1, please explain why the company's expected contributions to restricted accounts are roughly \$6.7 million less than required through 6/30/21.

RESPONSE: There are two main reasons Providence Water is projecting a \$6.7 million shortfall in our restricted accounts. First, over the last few months, Providence Water has experienced a significant decline in water consumption resulting in less consumption revenue and a corresponding reduction in cash flow. Second, over the last few months, Providence Water has experienced an increase in our accounts receivable balances, which has also reduced our cash flow. Providence Water believes our growing accounts receivable balances are directly attributed to our inability to charge interest on unpaid balances. Providence Water intends to fully fund our restricted accounts when cash becomes available to transfer into these accounts. Providence Water needs the previously approved Step 2 rate increase funding, effective July 1, to capture summer consumption in order to address these concerns adequately.