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Aquarion Water Company Proposes Water Supply Solution for Brookfield's Greenridge District

Recent expansion of Aquarion's operations in Brookfield enhances company's ability to provide safe, quality water to town's residents, including Greenridge district

BRIDGEPORT, CONN. – May 26, 2011 – Following the recent acquisition of two water systems in Brookfield, Connecticut from Brookfield Water Company (BWC), Aquarion Water Company today announced that it is prepared to offer an alternative solution to a proposal that calls for bringing water from Newtown to residents in the Greenridge district of Brookfield.

In January 2008, the Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control (DPUC) and the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) ordered United Water Company to provide safe drinking water to Greenridge, which has a water supply contaminated with uranium and other radioactive substances. The existing proposal would divert water from the Pootatuck aquifer, Newtown's sole water source, and calls for the construction of a water main in excess of 15,000 feet long. Residents of Newtown have expressed concern over the depletion of the aquifer and the project's overall cost.

In contrast to the existing proposal, Aquarion's plan would utilize a Brookfield water source and extend an 8,900 foot water main from the new Silvermine water main down Whisconier Road (Route 25) to homes in Greenridge. Aquarion's plan would cost less, have a reduced impact on the community and could be completed more quickly than the existing proposal.

A comprehensive solution to Brookfield's long-standing water issues has long been unavailable due in large part to the small, independent operations of the town's many water systems. With Aquarion's recent acquisition of Brookfield water systems from BWC, Rural Water Company and Black Systems, the company now serves approximately 2,000 Brookfield residents and is able to provide a comprehensive, long-term solution to the town's water needs. In addition,

Aquarion’s plan would provide a solution to the water quality issues along Whisconier Road in Brookfield, due to the significant contamination present.

Aquarion President and CEO Charles V. Firlotte said that the company is well-poised to deliver water to other parts of Brookfield, and can do so more economically than the existing plan.

“Not only is our plan more cost effective, it also solves a Brookfield issue by taking advantage of Brookfield resources, not Newtown resources,” said Firlotte. “Additionally, Aquarion’s plan would require the construction of a water main that would be a fraction of the length of the existing plan. This would result in a long term solution requiring far less resources and with less of an impact on customer rates.”

For more information on Aquarion Water Company, please visit www.aquarion.com.

About Aquarion Water Company:

Aquarion Water Company is the public water supply company for more than 580,000 people in 39 cities and towns throughout Connecticut, as well as serving customers in Massachusetts and New Hampshire. It is the largest investor-owned water utility in New England and among the seven largest in the U.S. Based in Bridgeport, Conn., it has been in the public water supply business since 1857. Across its operations, Aquarion strives to act as a responsible steward of the environment and to assist the communities it serves in promoting sustainable practices as well.

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