



Press Release  
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## **Housatonic Water Works Company Files Petition for Approval of Issuance of Indebtedness to Finance Manganese Filtration System Project**

Housatonic Water Works Company filed an application with the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (DPU) on September 30, 2025 requesting approval of two loans necessary to finance the completion of the manganese filtration system project required as part of a rate settlement agreement approved by the DPU on July 31, 2024.

The project will address discoloration in the water that is caused by the seasonal and episodic presence of manganese in the water supply from Long Pond. These episodes of discoloration have happened during the warmest weather months, although not every year.

“This filing is meaningful progress—and an important part of our plan. Our goal is clear water, reliably—by summer 2026, without the periodic manganese discoloration some customers have experienced in previous years,” stated James J. Mercer, treasurer of Housatonic Water Works Company.

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) issued approval to construct the project on December 13, 2024. The project is currently underway and is planned to be in service in 2026.

The project has been estimated to cost approximately \$1.67 million. A grant provided by MassDEP will reduce the project’s costs to customers by \$350,000. This filing will not directly affect rates. The DPU will review a filing in a future proceeding to determine rate impacts after the project is complete.

The first loan was obtained in 2020 under the Small Business Administration’s COVID-19 Economic Injury Disaster Loan program at 3.75 percent interest for \$155,089, including unpaid interest.

The second loan will be a commercial loan for \$1 million at an interest rate not to exceed 8 percent from CoBank, ACB, a cooperative bank and member of the Farm Credit System, which was established by Congress to provide financial services to rural communities, agriculture, and small utilities typically underserved by traditional banks.