

STATE OF NEW YORK

Public Service Commission

Garry A. Brown, Chairman

Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12223

Further Details: James Denn

James.Denn@dps.ny.gov | 518.474.7080

<http://www.dps.ny.gov>

<http://twitter.com/NYSDPS>

12004/11-W-0640

TEMPORARY OPERATOR SOUGHT FOR SMALL WATER COMPANY — Provision of Safe and Adequate Service Sought for Painted Apron Customers —

Albany, NY—01/19/12—The New York State Public Service Commission (Commission) today voted to initiate the process for appointing a temporary operator and instituting a penalty action against Painted Apron Water Company, Inc. (Painted Apron) for failing to ensure the provision of safe and adequate service for customers and abandoning the system without prior Commission approval. The company provides metered water service to 34 residential customers in the Town of Deerpark, Orange County.

“The conditions at Painted Apron, relating to the abandonment of ownership, inadequate service, Orange County Health Department violations, ineffective management and financial concerns, support the Commission’s determination that the company fails to provide safe, adequate and reliable service and lacks effective technical, financial and managerial capability,” said Commission Chairman Garry Brown.

The Commission directed Painted Apron, within 30 days of issuance of its Order, to show cause why the Commission should not (1) appoint a temporary operator to control and manage the company, (2) determine that the water company violated the Public Service Law (PSL) by failing to provide safe, adequate and reliable service and make necessary repairs, and (3) instituted a penalty action against Painted Apron and its owners, officers, directors, and managers and its agents for these violations. Failure to comply with the Commission’s Show Cause Order would subject the company to a penalty.

The Commission's decision today, when issued, may be obtained by going to the Commission's Search section of the Commission's www.dps.ny.gov Web site and entering Case Number 11-W-0640 in the input box labeled "Search for Case/Matter Number." Many libraries offer free Internet access. Commission orders may also be obtained from the Commission's Files Office, 14th floor, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12223 (518-474-2500).