

DW08-088

-----Original Message-----

From: Smith, Kim **On Behalf Of** PUC

Sent: Tuesday, September 02, 2008 10:09 AM

To: Leighton, Adele; Howland, Debra; Naylor, Mark; Noonan, Amanda; Raymond, Margaret; Carmody, Jody

Subject: FW: Pre- hearing Conference Sept 3rd in Concord for Hampstead Area Water Co.

I have attached an internet e-mail from our PUC account. I believe it goes with Docket No. DW 08-065, Hampstead Area Water Co.

--Kim

-----Original Message-----

From: Matt Kostandin [mailto:mkostandin@comcast.net]

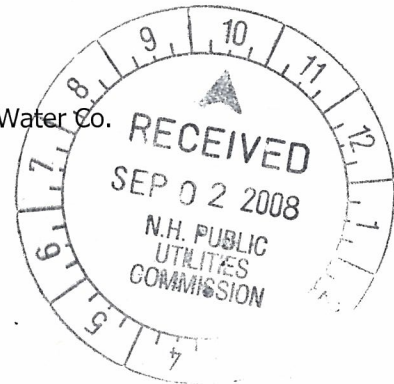
Sent: Saturday, August 30, 2008 5:29 PM

To: PUC

Subject: Pre- hearing Conference Sept 3rd in Concord for Hampstead Area Water Co.

To: Mark Naylor,
Director of Water & Gas Division
Public Utilities Commission

From: Susan Kostandin
136 Wheelwright Rd
Hampstead, NH



I can not attend the pre-conference hearing in Concord on Sept 3rd as I am a speech pathologist working in the public schools. I am opposed to the expansion proposed by the Hampstead Area Water Co.(HAWC). I do not understand how the construction of a pipeline along Rte 121, connecting Hampstead and Atkinson wells, is a benefit to residents in this area. As far as protection from drought, there is virtually no difference in the rainfall/precipitation of our two communities. We have never experienced a shortage in drinking water since I moved to the Hampstead in 1994. I do remember some dry summers when the lawns turned brown due to short term droughts. I did some research and according to the National Weather Service since 1961 to the present we have had an annual precipitation of 39.82 inches at Lake Massabesic or an average of approximately 4 inches per year. This rate has been constant since 1895.

As far as fire protection, there are no fire hydrants in town as the Hampstead fire trucks have water tanks. I believe the same is true for Atkinson.

The pipeline is simply a way for Hampstead Area Water System to expand it's business without drilling new wells (ie purchasing land) and getting the NH taxpayers and water customers to foot the bill. HAWC anticipates this would cost customers an increase of approximately 5.5%, I am sure when the final figures are done it will be much more. There is no shortage of drinking water in our area. It would be better for the citizens of NH to spend our limited State Revolving Loan Fund on projects that result in a true benefit to residents who are in need of drinking water, possibly those residents affected by the recent flooding. I also believe the more interconnected our water system becomes the greater our susceptibility to contamination.

In 1994 when we moved to Wheelwright Rd in Hampstead, we had our own water system (two wells located on Page Lane) for the residents of our sub-division (119 single family homes) called the Kent Farm Water Company(KFWC.) I later found out that are our wells also service an elderly community, Granite Village, located approximately 1 mile away. No new homes are possible in

our neighborhood but Granite Village has expanded at least a couple times yet the wells remain the same and there is no shortage of water. In Oct. '99 we were informed that KFWC would merge with HAWC over the next three years as an interconnection was to be built in Hampstead. However our very next invoice in Jan 2000 was to be paid to HAWC and I do not believe there was ever an actual pipeline built. In 1994, our quarterly water costs were a base charge \$8.45 and \$2.35/100 cu ft. Today water costs have risen to a base charge of \$25.00 and \$3.71/100 cu ft. It's all perfectly legal I'm sure but it reeks of greed and nothing more. HAWC has a total of 18 wells now and this is the sole reason our costs have gone up. Our wells on Page Lane remain the same. Our water costs simply go up as HAWC expands.

Please consider the actual needs of the consumers, (to maintain our wells in their present pristine condition and control costs), over the interests of the HAWC to expand their franchise for profit.