

DW 08-098

Leighton, Adele

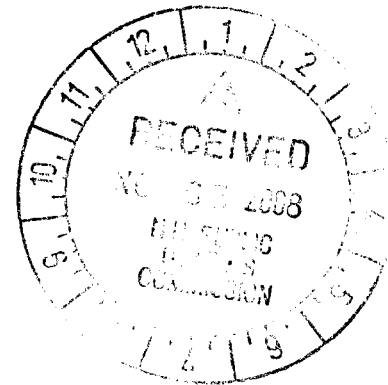
From: Smith, Kim on behalf of PUC
Sent: Monday, November 03, 2008 12:47 PM
To: Leighton, Adele; Howland, Debra; Noonan, Amanda; Naylor, Mark; Raymond, Margaret
Subject: FW: Proposed rate increase - Aquarion Water Co.

I have attached an internet e-mail from our PUC account regarding Docket No. DW 08-098, Aquarion Water Company.

--Kim

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

From: Ananta Gopalan [mailto:gopalan_ak@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, November 03, 2008 9:19 AM
To: PUC
Subject: Proposed rate increase - Aquarion Water Co.



New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Members of the Utility Commission:

I am compelled to protest the proposed astronomical rate increases by the legally-sanctioned monopoly, Aquarion Water Co. of New Hampshire. Isn't the company in New Hampshire part of a larger conglomerate located in Connecticut?

Let me just say that we need to break up the water monopoly on the model of the telephone company-AT&T. Until that happens and some competition is established, careless management practices and neglected cost control within the company will prosper at the expense of the rate payers. When I moved to New Hampshire over two decades ago, we used to have a local water company which was gobbled up by larger out-of-state conglomerate in the name of efficiency. I guess we are feeling the pain of that efficiency now.

I did not agree to any of the so-called improvements nor did I to the unlimited growth compared to water resources available. The rate increases proposed (temporary basis:12.8%; permanent:21%) defies any common sense even if the inflation adjustments are made. My income has hardly gone up let alone at those proposed rates!

Please reject the proposals and have the company open its books for independent audit and recommendation for internal cost control and efficiency improvements. Also, any future projects must be approved by the rate payers before implementation with a rate payer consequence explained in simple, plain English.

Please start a plan to break up the monopoly and allow other companies provide water to the Town of Hampton and other towns in New Hampshire, now served by Aquarion Water Company.

Thanks,

Ananta K Gopalan
20 Windmill Lane
Hampton, NH 03842

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11/3/2008