

**Leighton, Adele**

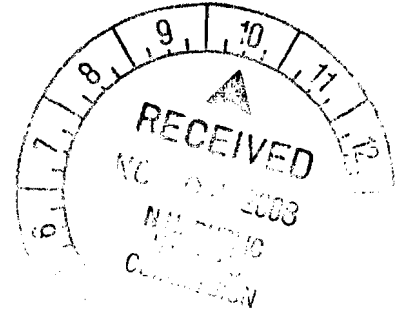
**From:** Smith, Kim on behalf of PUC  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 04, 2008 9:47 AM  
**To:** Leighton, Adele; Howland, Debra; Noonan, Amanda; Raymond, Margaret; Naylor, Mark  
**Subject:** FW: Aquarion Rate Increase

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

--Kim

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

**From:** Ralph Tapia [mailto:ralphatapia@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 03, 2008 11:41 PM  
**To:** PUC  
**Subject:** Aquarion Rate Increase



Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of a Notice of Pre-hearing for a rate increase requested by Aquarion. I was *shocked* by the percentage increase they are requesting! Where can I track the history of this companies requests for rate increases and the increases actually allowed by the PUC? To even see a 21% increase requested is completely out of line with what your average consumer can afford. I would hope you "scrub" their submittal closely, and consider alternatives to wrestle control of what appears to be an out of control situation. I wish we could rely on the integrity of our business leaders, but recent events have only further confirmed that we can't. 21%, 10.5% or even 5% is un-sustainable for the average wage earner when wages are only going up 3% per year on average, and as other costs skyrocket. Take a line from Nancy Reagan on this one, "just say no"! Send them back to their offices to figure out less expensive alternatives.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ralph Tapia  
29 Fieldstone Circle  
Hampton, NH 03842  
603-929-4361