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**Public Utilities Commission**

**D5-199 Abenaki Water Co**

I am writing in regard to the notice from Abanaki Water Co. request for a raise in the water rates. We just went through this 3 years ago.

We are 41 homes in a Cooperative of 95% senior citizens on a fixed monthly budget. I have written letters to the attorney generals office, the governor of Nh, selectmen in Belmont and Laconia and various other depts. seeking help. I am at my witts end.

We, as a group intend to hire an attorney to investigate the sales of Lakeland Management, Wade Crenshaw, and Abanaki Water Co. According to the town of Belmont. the water Co. has only sold once. From Mark Mooney to Abanaki. There was no sale recorded in the registry of deeds from Mark Mooney to the Crenshaws as we were led to believe. I do not think the water should be increased each time it claims to have sold. It needs to be investigated.

The Crenshaws were approved for a 50% increase 3 years ago making our water bills go to \$100 a month (not quarterly). Because the base rates are so high, people that go to florida for 6 months to save on heat, continue to pay the full amount even though they are not using the water. Our water is our highest commodity including our heat!!

Raises from Social Security are non existent or menial.

Some people qualify for food stamps or fuel assistance but there is nowhere to go for help with the water bill. There are 200 homes in this park that are in Laconia and their water bills are under \$100 quarterly (not monthly).

The PUC disappointed us the last time we went through this and I have no doubt will do it again. Please research these companies and find out exactly what is going on?

I do plan on attending the hearing, as I did the last time. Hopefully the Engineer at your table will not be sleeping as he was the last time. We were and still are very disappointed in the fact that the position we are in is not even considered.

As I stated already, if this is approved again, we will have to seek legal assistance against the PUC and have an investigation into the water situation.

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