

To The NH Public Utilities Commission,

This letter is in response to the petition filed by the Pittsfield Aqueduct Company (PAC) requesting to increase its residential rates in Barnstead NH by **over 300%**.

Please do not approve this outrageous request. A fair rate increase may be in order but a 300% increase is not even close to being in the fair ballpark. It is more like extortion. The Locke Lake community in Barnstead NH is made up almost entirely of middle to low income families and the elderly. An increase of this magnitude would severely impact the lives of many of these families who are already struggling to stay afloat. According to PAC, the average annual increase per family with their proposed rate increase would go from 281.64 to 1,159.92 a year-**that is astronomical!!!** When times like these are tough we can give up our cable TV, stop eating out and tell our kids that we can't afford that new pair of sneakers they want but we can't live without a **basic necessity - water**. What is going to happen to the families that can not come up with all this extra money to pay their monthly water bills? PAC will be at their door shutting of their water- that is what will happen.

PAC knew the poor condition of the Locke Lake water system **before** they purchased it. They obviously also knew that many repairs (at a great cost) would need to be made to it. PAC was expecting to pay for a large portion of these repairs with grants and low cost capital which they failed to secure. Now they want to dump the whole bill in the laps of its Locke Lake customers **-UNFAIR!!!!!!!!!!**

At the hearing on July 16, 2008 **please** consider the drastic affect this proposed rate increase would have on the families living in this community.

Thank You,

Deborah Mousseau
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