

Abenaki Rate Increase - DW-15-199

Shellie Secula

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To: Executivedirector@puc.nh.gov <Executivedirector@puc.nh.gov>;

Cc: Jimmy Zarta <jimmy.zarta@gmail.com>; alenfest@metrocast.net <alenfest@metrocast.net>;

Dear Executive Director,

I am writing because I am an owner of a unit at the Orchards at Plummer Hill Condominiums and will be affected by the water and sewer rate increases that Abenaki Water Company, Inc. is proposing. Seeing as how the hearing for this issue is coming up soon, I want to express my concern (and the concern of other residents at the Orchards) that the rate increases requested are exorbitant.

The company's current estimations of a Belmont water rate increase of \$11.25/month (based on 3,000 gallons used/month) and a sewer rate increase of \$16.22/month (based on 3,000 gallons used/month) works out to a \$27.47/month increase or a yearly increase of \$329.64/year. This would be on top of the current estimated yearly expense of \$1059.60/year for a unit using 3,000 gallons/month which represents a 31% increase! On top of these charges, they are also asking for a separate sewer surcharge over a 12-month period.

I am also concerned that part of the reason for the rate increases is to cover Abenaki's organization costs. This doesn't seem like a cost that should be paid for by its customers. I hope that you will also take into consideration that Abenaki Water Company, Inc. just raised its rates on customers a couple of years ago and doing so again represents more hardship to its customers.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

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