

1/8/21

https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2020/20-117.html?fbclid=IwAR0TW7IhZNPYkAPyGWZYMJipdbQwh_wwC5MYJFQeJ8riA83gu7WZLwTQozw

Good afternoon. I am a resident of Atkinson NH and we have to buy our water from Hampstead Area Water Company. I've been casually following some of the goings-on here in town with the owner of this company buying wells, signing large deals for pipelines, proposing huge developments in this town, denying water lines to certain properties etc.

When I was made aware of the fact that they took on (with your permission I believe) a huge amount of debt for a project that had no real benefit to this town, I was concerned. Then asking for a rate increase of over 60% to push the burden of the debt on THEIR project onto the backs of the residents who have NO choice but to buy their life-sustaining water from them is completely unacceptable.

Not only would my household rate increase, but I can only assume that my town taxes will also increase due to the increased rates being charged to our fire department (hydrants), library, and other community services. We have seen water-use bans over the last few years and to have that limited supply (apparently) shipped to other areas while being withheld from the area it's coming from is more than upsetting. In this difficult time, citizens cannot shoulder another financial burden for the benefit of commercial interests.

I urge this commission to deny this rate increase request and to help the people of Atkinson and NH keep the supply of this crucial natural resource available and affordable.

Respectfully,

Beth Cacciotti
44 Old Coach Road
Atkinson NH 03811