

**From:** HELEN CASTALDO <[helenandlarry93@comcast.net](mailto:helenandlarry93@comcast.net)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 10, 2023 8:06 AM  
**To:** ENGY: Info <[energy-info@energy.nh.gov](mailto:energy-info@energy.nh.gov)>  
**Subject:** Hampstead Area Water Company Rate Increase "HAWC"

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To Whom This May Concern:

We received notification today that HAWC filed for a rate increase with New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission and the rate increase was approved.

We are paying too much for water and electricity and now we will be paying more. When is it going to stop? I am retired and on a fixed income while my husband continues to work because he cannot afford to retire.

The reasons cited for the increase are "to recover costs and to earn a reasonable return on investment???" Are you kidding? We have watched sky rocketing prices on everything while our 401k's plummet by the thousands and the water company would like to recover costs and earn a reasonable return on investment by increasing our rates for water? SICKENING!

If these increases continue, we will be forced to leave NH and look for a "more affordable cost of living state" as we transition into retirement."

Please put a cap on these increases and make NH a leader instead of a follower.

Sincerely,

Helen Castaldo