

To Whom This May Concern –

I am writing today to share my concerns with Pennichuck Water's rate increase of 20+%. The town of Litchfield NH pays a substantial amount for water with the average household billed \$75-\$100/monthly. This significant increases in the spring-fall months when demand is higher. It is not uncommon for my household to have a \$600+ water bill, for a family of 5. What surrounding towns pay quarterly, the town of Litchfield pays monthly. In order to even out the cost, I have personally created my own budget plan where I pay \$200/month to even out the higher demand months. \$200/month for water is outrageous! Several residents have voiced concerns not only on the rates, but also the poor water quality. Brown/dirty water is somewhat normal and Pennichuck claims consistently it is due to hydrant flushing. This might be true some of the time, but not nearly all of the time Pennichuck claims. It is my opinion the Pennichuck continues with rate increases because 1) they are a monopoly in this area and 2) because they are passing infrastructure costs down to the residents that should be billed to Saint-Gobain as a result of the PFOA contamination and the need to have expanded services in town. I completely am against this rate increase and respectfully request the commission to not approve this rate increase and to also investigate a large rate reduction for the residents of Litchfield.

Respectfully submitted.
Andrew

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