

To whom it may concern,

I have lived in Litchfield since 2007, married, and had a child here. My home has been in my family since it was built in the 60s.

With the water contamination from Saint-Gobain, we were advised—by NH DES--that it was best to close our well and switch to public water. Many presentations were made and information was distributed that this switch would NOT cost residents more than maintaining our well, and it would be safer, better water.

These claims have proven false. Our water is frequently discolored (and has been reported to Pennichuck), smells of chlorine, and costs continue to increase. We still have to filter the kitchen water just to have it clear enough for drinking—and these filters clog quickly! In unfiltered faucets, we often see black residue that was never present with well water.

On top of that, Pennichuck's repeated rate increases to cover infrastructure costs seem exorbitant. At the time that Litchfield residents were switched to public water en masse, we were advised that the cost of the change-over would be covered by Saint-Gobain. Any additional repairs or infrastructure updates Pennichuck requires to provide water to the town should NOT be the burden of the residents who were innocent victims of a corporation's pollution.

With past increases, it would have cost us less to install a whole-house filtration system and stay on our well. Because we took the advice of NH DES and Pennichuck—that public water would be cleaner and have no cost difference from a well—we are now stuck with bills that continue to increase excessively.

Thank you for your time. I hope you will take this information into account when considering Pennichuck's recent request to raise rates. Please let me know if we can provide any additional information or should reach out to anyone else with our concerns.

Sincerely,
Bill and Kyla Luquette
Litchfield, NH