

Good Evening Members of the PUC,

I would like to take a moment to voice my displeasure with the upcoming cost increases set forth by Pennichuck Water.

I have lived in the north end of Litchfield for just over a decade now and up until 3 years ago, had no water bill to speak of, since I was on a private well. Unfortunately, due to the PFOA contamination from St. Gobain, we had decided to decommission our well and get hooked up to the Pennichuck expansion while to offer stood. Had I known that the costs would soon soar to these astronomical heights then we may have reconsidered and just taken our chances.

Here are some statistics that you may find enlightening:

- Litchfield's rates will be \$9.42 per unit of water. Hudson pays \$3.30, Merrimack is \$2.32, and Manchester is \$1.64. We pay between 2.9 times and 5.7 times more than our neighbors
- The average Litchfield homeowner will pay almost \$90 per month for water. If you water your lawn, that cost may exceed \$250 per month. With lawn watering, you may pay \$1,500+ per year for water.
- With the St. Gobain PFOA situation, customers have no other water option as wells could be contaminated. We are forced to use Pennichuck.

As my last bullet point states, Pennichuck has a monopoly on public water here in Litchfield. Because of this, we are ultimately at their mercy to charge a fair and reasonable rate. They are clearly price gouging here and this cannot stand!

Thank you for your time and considerations on this matter. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

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