

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my concerns over the proposed rate increase for Pennichuck Corporation customers in the town of Litchfield.

The rate increase proposed is astronomical and inequitable compared to the surrounding towns. There is no reason that the residents of Litchfield, myself included, should pay between 2.9 and 5.7 times the surrounding communities.

This is especially unconscionable for the residents in town who have had to abandon their wells due to the Saint Gobain PFOA contaminations. These residents did not want to switch to town water, and now they are being forced to pay an exorbitant rate for a utility that they used to enjoy for free.

Since moving here with my family in 2017, our water quality has been spotty at best. Several times each month we have days with brown water coming out of the taps. We have been told by Pennichuck, as have many others in town, to simply let the water run for 15 minutes and it should clear up. This not only wastes water, but it allows Pennichuck to make more money off of their customers who are dealing with poor water quality.

We have had to use a filter for our drinking and cooking water as we can never be sure what will come out of the faucet. Bathing has become problematic as well. We have bought a filter for our showerhead so that we know the water coming out will be clean enough to bathe in. However, our 5 year old knows that he can't have a bath most nights because the water will be too dirty to clean himself, and he has had to learn to take a shower since he was 2.5. Luckily we have been able to use the showerhead to fill our baby tub in order to bathe our 1 year old.

This is unacceptable, and the fact that they want to increase the fee for this type of subpar service is to add insult to injury.

Pennichuck writes that their mission is to "be a premier supplier of water in New Hampshire by providing reliable, high quality, and affordable water in sufficient quantities." They have failed in this mission to their customers in Litchfield, and it is only right that they don't go forward with extorting outrageous rates for this sub quality water.

Best regards,

Meaghan