

**From:** Elena Kothman  
**Sent:** Monday, June 5, 2023 8:47 AM  
**To:** PUC: <[puc@puc.nh.gov](mailto:puc@puc.nh.gov)>  
**Subject:** Docket #: DE 23-039

**EXTERNAL: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.**

---

I emailed the other day but hadn't yet read the actual letter from Liberty Utilities concerning there "rate case" until today.

Attached is a picture of the letter, where it informs me that the request for a new permanent distribution rate increase will **increase Liberty's annual revenue by a whopping \$15,487,002 effective 7/1/2023.** Liberty is also asking PUC to approve a "multi-year rate plan" so that rates will automatically increase in 2024 and 2025 WITHOUT requiring Liberty to file a new rate case. It's notice further states the increase will be retroactive to 7/1/2023.

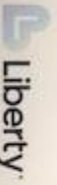
This entire proposal is unacceptable! Our rates have already increased significantly and we have looked at as many ways as possible to reduce our usage in order to lessen the impact of the previous rate increase.

I am urging the PUC to Please REJECT Liberty Utilities request for a temporary and then permanent rate increase and to also REJECT their request for the PUC to approve a multi-year rate plan.

Consumers are already suffering with inflation at unheard of magnitudes and this would only increase the burden on US, the consumers.

Please DENY Liberty's request.

Sincerely,  
Elena M Kothman



May 26, 2023

**Important Message for Customers Regarding Frequency Rates**

Please be advised that Liberty Utilities is seeking permission from the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to increase its distribution rates. These rates comprise some but not all of the charges on each customer's monthly electric bill. Distribution rates cover the cost of Liberty's facilities that deliver electricity to the homes and businesses of our customers. Other charges pay for the actual electricity we deliver and the cost of the heavily regulated but power transmission system.

The request, which we filed with the PUC on May 5, 2023, is currently referred to as a "rate case." Under applicable law, the rate case will consist of two phases. A request for a temporary rate increase and, next, a request for new permanent rates. The PUC must complete the entire rate case within one year.

As a result of its process, the request for new permanent distribution rates would increase Liberty's annual revenue by \$16,487,002 effective on July 1, 2023. The PUC will not render its final decision in the rate case until after that date. But the new rates will be implemented back to July 1, so other words, a future surcharge would make up the difference in revenue between current rates and the new permanent rates. The temporary rates requested by Liberty are intended to lessen the magnitude of such a future surcharge.

For residential customers using \$50 equivalent hours per month, the monthly bill impact of the requested permanent rates would be an increase of approximately \$13.78 or 4.2 percent on average.