

**From:** richard levesque  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 3:27 PM  
**To:** [consumerservices@energy.nh.gov](mailto:consumerservices@energy.nh.gov)  
**Subject:** Liberty Utilities letter, re. DG23-067

PUC Commissioners,

On Saturday, August 26, 2023 we received a letter from Liberty Utilities (our natural gas supplier) informing us of their request to the PUC commission for a rate increase. The temporary rate increase of 15.83% would begin on October 1, 2023 with an additional increase of 8.73% to follow for a total of 24.56%. It is my understanding that the commission granted Liberty an increase that began on November 1, 2022 and is in effect through October 31, 2023. It appears that Liberty seeks an increase on a yearly basis.

As a Medicare recipient, this provides a considerable hardship. And I am sure that for the ordinary working family, this is an even greater hardship. With the sky rocketing housing and food costs, I fear that this increase would be devastating to them.

Cost of living increase for Medicare recipients is projected to be 3% for 2024. With Liberty's request of 24.56% this creates a 21.5% deficit. How is this do-able?

I am hoping that the three commissioners will review the PUC mission statement and keep it in their hearts as they make their decision.

Sincerely, Shirley Levesque, Hudson, NH