

-----Original Message-----

From: Mike Harmon

Sent: Sunday, September 3, 2023 9:24 AM

To: PUC: <[puc@puc.nh.gov](mailto:puc@puc.nh.gov)>

Subject: DG 23-067

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The “Temporary” rate increases, in the words of Liberties mailing, are to “lessen the magnitude of the future permanent increases in distribution rates.” I.e.: this Temporary increase is not temporary, it is a permanent increase, a down payment if you will.

I am retired and working in my retirement to make ends meet. My spouse is currently working but planning to retire the end of this year, and will also be planning to work in retirement. The cost of living in NewHampshire is exorbitant in general, and even if you assume increasing winter temperatures, heating in the winter is a necessity.

We have stretched to insulate our house, but do not have the income to replace our heating system, to further reduce heating costs.

This is a one sided argument. The energy supply industries argue they need increased income, and they get an increase. The consumer, and specifically fixed income consumers, have to have heat in New Hampshire, and the get increased costs, without regard to income.

Michael Harmon