

DW 10-306

PUC Executive Director Debra Howland
21 South Fruit St., Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301-2429

June 6, 2012

Re: PUC Order #25357, May 1, 2012

I am greatly disappointed that your office has recently rendered this order giving the Lakeland Water Company an unheard of 51% increase in their water rates which is almost certain to negatively impact all their Belmont customers and cause unfair economic problems for all.

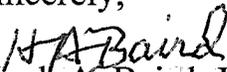
As you may recall, I wrote your office several months ago displaying the signatures of some 50 Briarcrest residents who oppose such a ridiculous increase in their water and sewer rates. Most of these elderly folks here are on fixed incomes and barely able to pay excessive taxes, medical expenses and daily food costs. We are not a wealthy development and as a comparison, neighboring Laconia Co's water rates (which also serves Briarcrest) are almost 50% cheaper than Lakeland's rates!

In addition, Lakeland intends to recover water and sewer revenues and associated costs going back to last October? Not only will this bring additional costs for users, it raises the question whether Lakeland is financially sound and able to provide dependable service and reasonable rates to its customers over the long haul?

As a former Community Relations Manager for SNET in Connecticut and despite my earlier letter listing negative Briarcrest reactions to Lakeland's original proposed rate increases, I received no response from your office nor were we aware of any developments in this rate case until we were notified by Lakeland in our May 9 billing information?

Unfortunately, I have been recovering from open heart surgery at Concord Hospital and should have communicated with your office earlier. Late I may be, it is hoped your staff will review its findings and the potential negative impact this Titanic rate increase will have on your Public..we customers.

Sincerely,


Hugh A. Baird, JP
501 Darby Drive
Laconia, NH 03420 (Mailing Address)

