

DW08-070

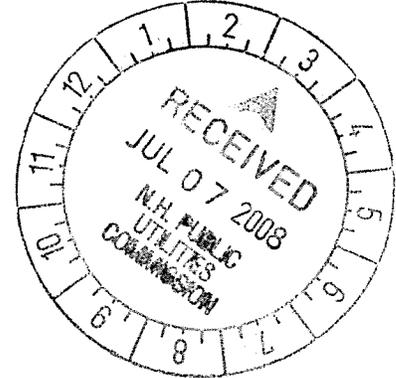
Leighton, Adele

From: Smith, Kim on behalf of PUC
Sent: Monday, July 07, 2008 2:57 PM
To: Leighton, Adele
Subject: FW: Increase of Lake Ossipee Village Water Rates

Hi Adele,

I have attached an internet e-mail from our PUC account.

--Kim



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

From: Richard Thornton [mailto:dicknanne@roadrunner.com]
Sent: Sunday, June 29, 2008 12:51 PM
To: PUC; Hatfield, Meredith
Subject: Fw: Increase of Lake Ossipee Village Water Rates

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

From: Richard Thornton
To: mark.naylor@puc.nh.gov ; howland-pus@puc.nh.gov ; MeridethA.Hatfield@oca.nh.gov ; puc@puc.nh.gov
Cc: dicknanne@roadrunner.com
Sent: Friday, June 27, 2008 7:35 PM
Subject: Increase of Lake Ossipee Village Water Rates

Regarding DW 08-070 - Request to increase water rates for areas supplied by Lakes Region Water Company:

We have read the request submitted to the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission by Lakes Region Water Company to increase water rates, and we are appalled. They quote several capital improvements, none of which pertain to Lake Ossipee Village, as their reason to again gouge the very people who rely on them as their sole source of drinking water. Should the Paradise Shores area need a new storage tank, or Indian Mound need a new well, or Gunstock Glen and Brake Hill Acres need a new pump station, why would the costs be passed on to others -in completely different locations- who just happen to be served by the same Lakes Region Water Company? Why shouldn't the people who actually use these facilities shoulder the burden of paying for their own needed improvements? There are other Capital Improvements listed, which are also quite "location specific" at Hidden Valley and 175 Estates, none of which include Lake Ossipee Village. Are we really going to lean toward a socialistic approach to funding locally based needs here in New Hampshire? If this is where we are going, why not make water delivery a state-wide effort? But this is not the way New Hampshire should go - nor should the rest of the country, but there are elections coming up that will determine that.

I confess, other than Indian Mound, I don't even know where any of these other places are located. I wish them luck in getting the quality of water they deserve. However, I am most concerned about my family and the other families served by Lakes Region Water Company here in Lake Ossipee Village. We went from paying about \$35 a Quarter to paying over \$113 a Quarter even with continuing violations in the areas of Copper, Lead and Dichloromethane as reported in the Lakes Region Water Company 2008 Annual Water Quality Report (for the year 2007). This is in addition to the always fluctuating water pressure, which at times is quite low. How much can we allow water rates to be increased when we get no better service than we received at \$35 a Quarter.

Let's be fair, the residents need drinking water and the water company needs to be compensated fairly for delivering that water. They got a 400% or more increase not too long ago. Isn't that enough?

Respectfully submitted,

Richard and Anne Thornton
 23 Little Knoll Circle
 Freedom, NH 03836

7/7/2008