

From: Emily Sheff [<mailto:thesheffs@mac.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2016 7:22 PM
To: PUC:
Subject: Pennichuck Water Works Petition

Dear Sir or Madam,

I recently received a letter from Pennichuck Water Works regarding their petition of the PUC for an increase in rates. In lieu of being able to attend the Pre-Hearing, I choose to provide my statement via email.

As a resident of Bedford, NH, we receive our water sourced by Pennichuck. As you are aware, there are dangerous amounts of the toxic chemical listed under PFOA in our water supply. Adult exposure to PFOA has been linked to a number of health effects, including thyroid disease, high cholesterol, early signs of liver damage, testicular and kidney cancer, and pregnancy-induced hypertension and preeclampsia. There are no safe levels of PFOA acceptable in drinking water. The levels found in our supply have been consistently listed above even the arbitrary "safe" guidelines published by the EPA at 70ppt and many studies have shown adverse affects at rates much lower.

Pennichuck now wants to petition to increase rates to residents as a result of spending over 40 million in infrastructure repairs and improvements since the last rate hike, yet we STILL cannot safely drink our water. Residents over 100ppt are being provided bottled water while others choose to either have bottled water delivered by a third party or spend thousands on water filtration for their entire residence. Access to safe drinking water should be a right. As residents, we don't feel this issue has been given the prioritization it deserves and are adamantly opposed to any rate hikes that do not include measures to reduce or even eliminate PFOA in our water supply. We resent each water bill that comes in the mail, and ask that the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission take action on our behalf. It is not right that we endanger ourselves and our children or have to needlessly incur costs outside of our service.

Sincerely,

Emily Sheff
29 Summit Road
Bedford, NH 03110