From: Paul <<u>paulie01@aol.com</u>>
Sent: Sunday, June 4, 2023 4:33 PM

To: PUC: <puc@puc.nh.gov>
Subject: Docket No. DE23-039

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To Whom It May Concern:

This email is being sent to you regarding a letter we received on June 3rd, 2023, by US Mail, from Liberty Utilities.

In this letter, it states, Liberty is seeking permission, from the PUC, for yet another rate increase in its distribution rate.

As a current customer of Liberty Utilities, we are hoping you will consider denying this request.

My reasoning for this request is simple:

- 1) I believe Liberty just got permission to increase this distribution rate within the last year or so from .011 to .022 cents per kilowatt hour.
- 2) I am retired and live on a pretty much fixed income.
- 3) I townhouse is total electric
- 4) Since we rent, there are no other sources available to us for energy, I should mention, we live in a 48-unit townhouse community, where all units are 100% electric.
- 4) My income exceeds the limits set for assistance.

Liberty used an example, in their letter, of if someone used 650 kilowatt hours per month, the monthly bill impact of the requested permanent rates would be an increase of approximately \$13.76 or 6.2% as compared to the distribution rates in effect today. Since our home is totally electric, we would exceed that example by about 90% of the year. We might have been below 700 kilowatt hours, maybe once in the past year.

I should mention that we are currently on Liberties Levelized Budget Billing, which means they take an average of the last 11 months including the current month's cost and average them out to create a cost for us to pay. Based on that we are averaging just under \$400.00 per month.

This cost will fluctuate high or low depending on the season with a positive or negative balance due. Currently my balance is just over \$900.00, so if I were to cancel my Levelized Budget Billing we would owe them an additional \$900.00.

We did look at 3rd party distribution, but if we did that, we would lose our Levelized Budget Billing, which will increase our bill. So, for those reasons, we are asking you to not give Liberty Utilities permission to increase their distribution rates.

We thank you for your time.

Paul Strawbridge

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