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My name is William Harriman II and I grew up and live in Fryeburg, Me. where I currently own a home..

I've been VERY involved in Fryeburg's water issues since 2006 by attending public hearings and making FOAA requests by phone or in writing by mail. I did not get on-line until 2015 when I realized that it was the only way for me to get information to the citizens of Fryeburg about their water and local government... The information stream is being controlled in Fryeburg and that continues...

And through the years I've found many terrible things that happened in Fryeburg since 1995....

I have Petitioned to Intervene in 3 MPUC cases involving Fryeburg Water Co. including docket 2012-00487 where I was one of only 2 who live within Fryeburg's water district to get directly involved.

Though Trustee Nickie Sekera could have done as I did, she instead opened her Community Water Justice page and proceeded to control the narrative by getting help from the media and disrupting many proceedings which I attended... I consider this fact important due to the fact that I have been attending the water district meetings and she has been saying she's doing things at the state level without saying what she's doing.... And judging by the 20 minutes+ she spent "selling" this proposed bill it was obvious to me that she is also lobbying for it and when I stated this she said she's not a lobbyist... I have to disagree..

So when she mentioned a proposed law last month without mentioning anything else about it I decided I needed to find it....

And I did...

And contacted Sen. Bennett and Rep. O'Neil.. Since they are sponsoring the bill I asked them who lobbied them for this bill... They sent me a bill... but that's another story....

I do NOT like this law as proposed. Very unnecessary and doesn't address the problem... All it does is put an unfunded state "feel good" mandate onto towns and by adding other towns in it will become a mess since there's no science involved from what I can see. Just emotion...

BUT as someone who has been researching the issue for years I started thinking about the ride I took with Bruce Taylor (Sweden) many years ago to visit the Maine Drinking Water Program's office to look at the records it had for the many commercial wells in Fryeburg....

The MDWP permitted the wells and oversaw the installation of them... then walked away...

This left private owners able to do what they wanted... And in Fryeburg they did...

The town of Fryeburg did NOT give out permits for gravel packed bulk extraction wells... It had no ordinance to address it. Most rural homes need a well so...

In the 1990's when all of these wells were being installed it's obvious that the highly trained people at the MDWP were "turning a blind eye" to the fact that baseline studies needed to be done and monitoring wells installed BEFORE any bulk extraction began from ANY of the many wells they permitted back then whether for a municipal use or bulk export....

Please let me know if I'm wrong about this...

In 2 of the MPUC dockets I was directly involved in (dockets 2012-00487 and 2022-00161) I placed evidence of what I see as deliberate negligence on the part of not only Fryeburg Water Co. but also the state...

I see many things that should be done FAR differently than it is currently if we want to protect our state's water resources... I'm NOT against bulk extraction for export. If done right the income could help the people of Fryeburg upgrade our community

system and make sure ALL customers of the company get high quality water sustainably and at a fair price...

But it starts with changes at the state level. Not by holding local public hearings every 3 years... If the state wants to do this it should do the aquifer studies so we can have some science to go with the emotion..

I'm against this bill in any form...

It should be noted that I've been dealing with those who commented from Fryeburg along with Bruce Taylor for many years. They've been a local "group" for many years and all earned my distrust. 3 of them are current water district trustees and one is a former trustee...

I wish I could attend the zoom assuming Ms. Sekera is going to speak as she did last night. Will there be a transcript of the hearing? I would like a copy...

It's good to have background on who's "lobbying" for this and why.....

There's FAR more to this than most know..... Maine "sold" itself to helping Nestle... Time to fix that.....