

Daniel Michaud
North Vassalboro
LD 832

My name is Daniel Michaud and we are customers of the Vassalboro Sanitary District. We live in North Vassalboro, Maine.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide information about our situation.

Since the expansion, our bill has gone up considerably. It's now appx \$450 per quarter and we've heard that it may increase yet again. Our sewer bill is now a bit more than our property taxes. We are not made of money and this has created a hardship on our household. We are in our mid 60's and close to what we thought would be a good retirement. As it stands now, we will probably have to sell our home of 32 years and move because we can no longer afford this rate increase.

This is also a problem as it will be very hard to sell our property when buyers have to absorb this cost.

This also puts a damper on any potential business growth in our town. Who would want to open a business here knowing that cost.

We feel it's absurd to make the 200 ratepayers be responsible to pay this cost, when it was state mandated rules that forced Vassalboro to upgrade the system. The benefits of the system to the environment of our state benefit everyone, not just the 200 customers.

We are always on time with paying our bill, but have had to skimp on other things to allow us to pay it. Others are not so lucky as several liens have been placed on various properties for non-payment.

Please vote for this bill to help us in this seemingly impossible situation.

Thank you