



Testimony Before the US Environmental Protection Agency

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
BOSTON REGION

In the Matter of:

PUBLIC HEARING:

RE: **NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PUBLIC SERVICE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, MERRIMACK STATION, BOW, NHNPDES PERMIT NO. NH0001465**

New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services 29 Hazen Drive Concord, New Hampshire

Thursday, November 3, 2011

“For the record, my name is Bill Ohm. I'm a State Representative of Hillsborough which is the district representing South Nashua.

“Let me make sure I understand this proposal. As I understand it, the EPA in Washington is asking the taxpayers of New Hampshire to spend \$112,000,000 on pollution mitigation.

“What is this pollution mitigation? Is this mercury that goes into the tissue of fish that we eat? Oh, no, it's not that.

“Is this sulfur dioxide, something that produces acid rain and harms the forest of the northeast? No, no. It's not that.

“Is this \$112,000,000 for CO2? No, it's not that.

“So, what is this for?

“This is for clean water, warm water. This is to mitigate warm, clean water at a cost of \$112,000,000 to taxpayers of New Hampshire for the PSNH [Public Service New Hampshire] customers of my district in Nashua. That's **\$85 for every man, woman and child of New Hampshire** to prevent warm clean water from going into the Merrimack River.

“I'm very skeptical that this is an appropriate expense for the taxpayers of New Hampshire. And I urge the EPA to rescind this requirement of a thermal variance for the Bow power plant and indeed, grant Public Service New Hampshire the requested thermal variance so they can get down to the business of supplying low cost power to the taxpayers of New Hampshire.”