

From: Peter Winship [mailto:PWinship@firstcolebrookbank.com]

Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2009 8:57 AM

To: Comments

Subject: Comments on proposed Special Assessment

I am a 40 yr. community banking veteran, now serving as CFO of First Colebrook Bank, Colebrook NH. The proposed assessment of 20bp is disparately burdensome for community banks like ours. I offer the follow comments for your consideration.

- 1) Community banks did not create this market crisis. We did not participate in sub-prime lending. We are being asked to pay for the indiscretions of investment banks and mortgage companies.
- 2) The assessment will further erode our margins and make it more difficult to compete with wholesale lenders...contradictive to our goal of supporting our communities through lending. We can only price our loans so low...then lending becomes unprofitable. Without profits, we cannot grow and lend.
- 3) We rely on deposits, rather than non-deposit funding sources like the largest banks. Therefore the assessment disparately impacts community banks.

I am not offering solutions to your problem, but do hope you will consider the plight of community banks in making your decision.

Sincerely,

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