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THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

PUBLIC HEARING

JANUARY 10, 2007

LIMA, OHIO

IN RE: AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER RELIABILITY PROJECT

CASE NO. 06-222-EL-SLF

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APPEARANCES:

ON BEHALF OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF OHIO:

GRETA SEE  
ATTORNEY EXAMINER  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO  
180 EAST BROAD STREET, 12TH FLOOR  
COLUMBUS, OH 43215

ON BEHALF OF AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER:

MARVIN I. RESNIK  
ASSISTANT GENERAL COUNSEL  
AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER  
ONE RIVERSIDE PLAZA  
COLUMBUS, OH 43215-2373

ON BEHALF OF OHIO CONSUMERS' COUNSEL:

RICK REESE  
ASSISTANT CONSUMERS' COUNSEL  
OFFICE OF THE OHIO CONSUMERS' COUNSEL  
10 WEST BROAD STREET, 18TH FLOOR  
COLUMBUS, OH 43215-3485

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## P R O C E E D I N G S

- - -

ATTORNEY EXAMINER: LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, IF YOU COULD TAKE YOUR SEATS.

FIRST I'D LIKE TO INTRODUCE MYSELF. MY NAME IS GRETA SEE. I AM AN ATTORNEY WITH THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION. I AM ASSIGNED TO THIS PARTICULAR CASE. IT IS CASE NUMBER 06-222-EL-SLF.

THE CASE CAPTION IS IN THE MATTER OF THE SELF COMPLAINT OF COLUMBUS SOUTHERN POWER COMPANY AND OHIO POWER COMPANY REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMS TO ENHANCE DISTRIBUTION SERVICE RELIABILITY.

BEFORE WE ACTUALLY GET INTO THE PUBLIC HEARING PORTION OF TONIGHT'S PUBLIC HEARING, I WANT TO MAKE YOU AWARE OF WHO THE GENTLEMAN SITTING TO MY RIGHT ARE. SITTING TO MY FAR RIGHT IS MARV RESNIK, COUNSEL FOR THE COMPANY, AND AT SOME POINT LATER I WILL ASK HIM MAKE AN APPEARANCE ON RECORD AND I WILL DO THE SAME FOR THE GENTLEMAN SITTING TO MY IMMEDIATE RIGHT WHO IS RICK REESE, HE IS ASSISTANT COUNSEL TO OHIO CONSUMERS' COUNSEL AND REPRESENTATIVE AND ADVOCATE FOR RESIDENTIAL CONSUMERS.

THE COMPANY AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER, O.C.C.,

1 AND THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION EACH HAVE STAFF  
2 PERSONNEL HERE THAT CAN ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS OR IS  
3 WILLING TO GET BACK IN TOUCH WITH YOU IF THERE ARE  
4 UTILITY SERVICE ISSUES THAT ARE UNRELATED TO TONIGHT'S  
5 PUBLIC HEARING.

6 IF YOU HAVE SOME QUESTIONS, YOU WANT TO KNOW  
7 HOW ANY OF THE PROCESSES WORK OR IF YOU HAVE SOME  
8 SERVICE ISSUES THAT YOU WISH TO DISCUSS WITH PERSONNEL  
9 FROM OHIO POWER OR COLUMBUS SOUTHERN POWER, THE COMPANY  
10 REPRESENTATIVES ARE HERE. YOU CAN GET INFORMATION FROM  
11 ONE OF THE REPRESENTATIVES AND DISCUSS YOUR ISSUES WITH  
12 THEM.

13 WHEN YOU COME FORWARD I WILL ASK YOU TO RAISE  
14 YOUR RIGHT HAND TO GIVE SWORN TESTIMONY OR IF YOU WISH  
15 YOU MAY AFFIRM. I WILL ASK YOU TO STATE AND SPELL YOUR  
16 NAME FOR THE RECORD. I WILL ALSO ASK YOU TO GIVE YOUR  
17 ADDRESS ON THE RECORD. THEN I WILL ASK YOU TO PROCEED.  
18 GO AHEAD AND FEEL FREE TO GIVE YOUR STATEMENT THEN AND  
19 I'M GOING TO ASK YOU TO SPEAK UP SO THAT EVERYONE HERE  
20 CAN HEAR YOU.

21 YOU WILL NOTICE THAT THERE IS SOMEONE HERE  
22 RECORDING EVERYTHING THAT IS BEING SAID. THAT IS FOR  
23 PURPOSES OF THE COMMISSION'S TRANSCRIPT. IT'S A RECORD  
24 OF TONIGHT'S PUBLIC HEARING. IF YOU GO ONTO THE  
25 COMMISSION'S WEB SITE YOU CAN SEE UNDER THIS CASE THE

1       TRANSCRIPT OF TONIGHT'S PUBLIC HEARING.

2               THERE WAS A TABLE JUST AS YOU CAME INTO THE  
3       DOOR AND THERE WERE TWO GENTLEMEN FROM THE PUBLIC  
4       UTILITIES COMMISSION THERE. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS  
5       ABOUT THE COMMISSION'S PROCESS OR YOU NEED SOME  
6       ASSISTANCE WITH UTILITY COMPLAINTS YOU CAN ASK THOSE  
7       GENTLEMEN AND THEY CAN DIRECT YOU AS TO WHO TO CONTACT  
8       OR HOW TO LOOK AT THE COMMISSION'S DOCKET OR HOW TO  
9       REACH SOMEONE AT THE COMMISSION TO DISCUSS YOUR SERVICE  
10      COMPLAINTS.

11              ARE THERE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT TONIGHT'S  
12      PROCESS?

13                      UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I AM  
14      ONE OF THE REGISTERED ONES THAT ARE GOING TO SPEAK AND  
15      I BASICALLY NOT NECESSARILY HAVE GOT COMPLAINTS BUT  
16      I'VE GOT STATEMENTS OF MY VILLAGE AND PROBLEMS WE'VE  
17      HAD AND THINGS THAT I AM NOT HAPPY WITH AND DON'T SEE  
18      FOR INSTANCE WHY A RATE INCREASE IS NECESSARY WHEN WE  
19      ARE GETTING LESS SERVICE NOW. IS THAT WHAT I WANT TO  
20      MENTION HERE?

21                      ATTORNEY EXAMINER: IF YOU WISH  
22      TO GIVE A STATEMENT ON THE RECORD AND YOU HAVE SIGNED  
23      IN, I WILL GO DOWN THE LIST AND CALL EACH ONE FORWARD.  
24      I WILL NEED YOU TO STEP UP ON STAGE TO MAKE IT EASY FOR  
25      THE COURT REPORTER TO HEAR YOU AND SO YOU WILL HAVE AN

1 OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A STATEMENT. IF YOU HAVE YOUR  
2 STATEMENT TYPED UP, PLEASE PROVIDE IT TO THE COURT  
3 REPORTER AFTER YOU'VE FINISHED. IF I CALL YOUR NAME,  
4 FIRST FORGIVE ME IF I MISPRONOUNCE YOUR NAME. SECOND  
5 OF ALL, IF YOU DECIDE THAT WHAT YOU WANT TO SAY HAS  
6 ALREADY BEEN SAID OR YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND ABOUT  
7 OFFERING TESTIMONY, JUST LET ME KNOW THAT YOU PASS AND  
8 I'LL GO ON TO THE NEXT INDIVIDUAL WHO WANTS TO OFFER  
9 TESTIMONY.

10 AT THIS TIME I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE APPEARANCES  
11 OF THE PARTIES. MR. RESNIK?

12 MR. RESNIK: YOUR HONOR, I  
13 WOULD LIKE THE RECORD TO REFLECT THE APPEARANCE OF  
14 MARVIN I. RESNIK ON BEHALF OF OHIO POWER COMPANY AND  
15 COLUMBUS SOUTHERN POWER COMPANY. MY ADDRESS IS ONE  
16 RIVERSIDE PLAZA, COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215.

17 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: MR. REESE?

18 MR. REESE: YOUR HONOR, I WOULD  
19 LIKE THE RECORD TO REFLECT I AM RICK REESE, ASSISTANT  
20 CONSUMERS' COUNSEL ON BEHALF OF THE RESIDENTIAL RATE  
21 PAYERS OF THE STATE OF OHIO AND THE OHIO CONSUMERS  
22 COUNSEL, JANEEN MEGAN OSTRANDER. MY BUSINESS ADDRESS  
23 IS 10 WEST BROAD STREET, 18TH FLOOR, COLUMBUS, OHIO,  
24 43215.

25 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: I WOULD

1        LIKE TO CALL MR. BRUCE OPPERMAN.

2                                - - -

3                                ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )

4                                - - -

5                                ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND  
6        SPELL YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.

7                                MR. OPPERMAN: BRUCE OPPERMAN,  
8        O-P-P-E-R-M-A-N. MY HOME ADDRESS IS 2761 HUMMINGBIRD,  
9        IN ELIDA, OHIO, 45807.

10                               ATTORNEY EXAMINER: PLEASE GO  
11        AHEAD.

12                               MR. OPPERMAN: I WANT TO THANK  
13        THE P.U.C.O. FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO TESTIFY AND COME  
14        BEFORE YOU. I AM THE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER OF  
15        W.L.I.O. T.V., THE N.B.C. AFFILIATE HERE IN LIMA, AND  
16        HAVE HAD A VESTED INTEREST IN THIS COMMUNITY BOTH FROM  
17        A BUSINESS STANDPOINT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR OVER  
18        40 YEARS.

19                               I HAVE HEARD FOR SEVERAL YEARS NOW THAT  
20        A.E.P. WANTS TO IMPROVE THEIR INFRASTRUCTURE AND  
21        IMPROVE THEIR SERVICE TO BETTER ACCOMMODATE ECONOMIC  
22        DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH IN AND AROUND LIMA. ON AUGUST  
23        9, 2002 I ATTENDED A MEETING WITH CITY AND COUNTY  
24        OFFICIALS AND OTHER COMMUNITY LEADERS AT WHICH TIME WE  
25        WERE TOLD BY A.E.P. THAT THEY UNDERSTOOD OUR PLIGHT AND



1 WOULD BE WORKING TO IMPROVE THEIR SERVICE AND ABOVE ALL  
2 ATTEMPT TO MAKE IT MORE RELIABLE.

3 THAT HAS BEEN OVER FOUR YEARS AGO, AND I DARE  
4 SAY THAT WE ARE STILL WAITING FOR THOSE TANGIBLE  
5 IMPROVEMENTS. MY TELEVISION STATION HAS HAD MEDIOCRE  
6 IF NOT POOR SERVICE FROM FIRST OHIO POWER AND THEN  
7 A.E.P. OVER THE YEARS. OFTENTIMES THERE IS LACK OF  
8 RESPONSE OR NO LOCAL CONTACTS WHEN TRYING TO FIND OUT  
9 WHAT IS GOING ON.

10 W.L.I.O. HAS A VERY IMPORTANT ROLE IN OUR  
11 COMMUNITY TO NOTIFY PEOPLE AND OUR VIEWERS DURING  
12 EMERGENCIES. I FEEL WE JUSTIFIABLY NEED TO HAVE A  
13 PRIORITY DURING OUTAGES CAUSED BY WEATHER OR DURING ANY  
14 UNEXPECTED OUTAGES. AS A DISSEMINATOR OF NEWS AND  
15 IMPORTANT INFORMATION WE MUST BE ABLE TO COUNT ON  
16 RELIABLE SERVICE FROM OUR POWER PROVIDER. A.E.P. HAS  
17 NOT BEEN RELIABLE WITH THEIR SERVICE OVER THE YEARS.

18 ADDITIONALLY, I FEEL STRONGLY THAT THEY HAVE  
19 NOT KEPT UP WITH THE ECONOMIC AND RESIDENTIAL GROWTH OF  
20 OUR COMMUNITY. IN THE TELEVISION BUSINESS MY STATION  
21 IS CURRENTLY MAKING THE TRANSITION TO DIGITAL HIGH  
22 DEFINITION TELEVISION, A PROJECT COSTING IN EXCESS OF  
23 THREE MILLION DOLLARS.

24 IS IT RIGHT FOR ME TO ASK MY ADVERTISERS TO  
25 PAY FOR THIS UPGRADE BEFORE THEY SEE THE BENEFITS? I

1 DON'T THINK SO. AS A SERVICE-ORIENTED BUSINESS IT IS  
2 MY RESPONSIBILITY TO BEAR THE COST TO MAKE MY PRODUCT  
3 BETTER AND TO KEEP UP WITH THE TIMES AND TECHNOLOGY.

4 THEN AS I PROVIDE A BETTER PRODUCT OR SERVICE  
5 THEN I CAN PERHAPS JUSTIFY CHARGING MORE FOR MY PRODUCT  
6 AND NOT BEFORE. IT'S CERTAINLY NOT ACCEPTABLE FOR  
7 A.E.P. TO REQUEST A RATE INCREASE TO PAY FOR AN UPGRADE  
8 OF SERVICE THAT WE'VE BEEN PROMISED FOR YEARS AND  
9 SERVICE THAT HAS BEEN BELOW AVERAGE AT BEST TO BEGIN  
10 WITH.

11 AS CONSUMERS WE NEED TO SEE THE IMPROVEMENTS  
12 IN THEIR PRODUCT AND SERVICE BEFORE BEING ASKED TO HELP  
13 FINANCE MORE MEDIOCRITY. THANK YOU.

14 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: MISS TINA  
15 BOWEN.

16 - - -  
17 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )  
18 - - -

19 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND  
20 SPELL YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.

21 MS. BOWEN: TINA BOWEN.  
22 T-I-N-A B-O-W-E-N. 854 NORTH MAIN STREET, LIMA, OHIO  
23 45801.

24 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: GO AHEAD.

25 MS. BOWEN: WHAT I WANTED TO

1 SPEAK ON WAS IN JANUARY OF 2005 WHEN THEY HAD THE ICE  
2 STORM OUR ELECTRIC WAS OUT. WE DIDN'T HAVE NOTHING.  
3 WE COULDN'T EVEN GET OUTSIDE. WE COULDN'T EVEN GET  
4 NOWHERE. THE ONLY THING WORKING WAS OUR TELEPHONE.  
5 AND MY FATHER, HE IS ELDERLY AND HE HAS TO BE ON A  
6 BREATHING MACHINE AND STUFF, AND IT TOOK UNTIL FEBRUARY  
7 FOR THEM TO GET OURS PUT BACK ON.

8 AND THEN IN JUNE OF THIS YEAR WHEN THEY HAD  
9 THE --

10 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: SORRY, YOU  
11 SAY IT TOOK THEM UNTIL FEBRUARY TO GET --

12 MS. BOWEN: THEY FINALLY GOT IT  
13 ON.

14 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: THE  
15 BREATHING MACHINE OR YOUR SERVICE?

16 MS. BOWEN: I CALLED AND TOLD  
17 THEM HOW BAD HE WAS AND EVERYTHING AND THEY SAID WE HAD  
18 TO WAIT. WE HAD ELECTRIC WIRES COMING OVER OUR HOUSE  
19 AND THEY DIDN'T TURN THEM OFF FOR AWHILE.

20 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: SO IT TOOK  
21 YOU AWHILE TO GET YOUR SERVICE RESTORED?

22 MS. BOWEN: FINALLY.

23 AND THEN IN JUNE WHEN THEY HAD THE HIGH WINDS  
24 THE WIND TOOK TREES DOWN AND WE DIDN'T HAVE NO SERVICE  
25 FOR LIKE FOUR OR FIVE DAYS, AND BACK IN JANUARY WHEN IT

1 WENT OUT WE DIDN'T HAVE TO WORRY, BUT NOW WHEN IT WENT  
2 OUT THIS TIME MY FATHER HAS INSULIN AND STUFF AND WE  
3 DIDN'T HAVE NO WAY TO KEEP IT COOL AND STUFF AND WE  
4 LOST EVERYTHING IN OUR FREEZER AND EVERYTHING LIKE  
5 THAT.

6 THAT'S ALL I HAVE TO SAY.

7 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: OKAY. FOR  
8 CLARITY, APPROXIMATELY HOW MANY DAYS WAS YOUR SERVICE  
9 OUT IN JANUARY OF 2005?

10 MS. BOWEN: APPROXIMATELY 20  
11 DAYS.

12 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: OKAY.  
13 THANK YOU.

14 MS. ROSA QUICK?

15 - - -

16 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )

17 - - -

18 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND  
19 SPELL YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD AND PROVIDE  
20 US WITH YOUR ADDRESS.

21 MS. QUICK: FIRST NAME?

22 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: YES.

23 MS. QUICK: ROSA, R-O-S-A,  
24 QUICK, Q-U-I-C-K. AND I LIVE IN SHAWNEE, ONE OF THE  
25 BEST NEIGHBORHOODS THERE IS AROUND LIMA, BUT IT'S NOT

1 ONLY YOUR UTILITY SERVICES BUT IT'S ABOUT ALL OF THEM.  
2 WE GET LOUSY UTILITY SERVICES OUT THERE.

3 THE COATING IS OFF OF THE WIRES AND WHEN WE  
4 CALL THEM OUT THERE THEY TELL US THAT YOU SEE A LOT OF  
5 THEM LIKE THAT, THAT THERE'S NOTHING WRONG, NO PROBLEM.

6 AND IF THAT WOULD BE THE CASE THEN YOU WONDER  
7 WHEN YOU SEE A NEIGHBOR'S HOUSE BURNING AND A BALL OF  
8 FIRE COME ROLLING DOWN THE LINE THAT STARTS FROM THE  
9 OUTSIDE, YOU WONDER WHY YOU SEE THIS IF THE LINES ARE  
10 OKAY.

11 SO IT'S NOT ONLY THAT, BUT YOU HAVE A BACKUP  
12 OF WATER IN YOUR SEWER LINE WHERE THEY BUSTED IT COMING  
13 INTO YOUR BASEMENT AND IF THE ELECTRIC GOES OFF, AND IT  
14 DOES TWO OR THREE TIMES A MONTH ANYWAY, YOU HAVE NO  
15 ELECTRIC FOR MAYBE A WEEK. YOU CAN'T RUN YOUR SUMP  
16 PUMPS TO KEEP THE WATER OUT. I BUY THREE OF THEM A  
17 YEAR, MY NEIGHBOR BUYS FOUR, TO KEEP THE WATER OUT,  
18 FROM COMING INTO THE BASEMENT.

19 WE LOSE ON OUR FURNACES, THE BOARDS AND  
20 PANELS ON OUR FURNACES. I JUST SHOWED ONE OF THE MEN  
21 THAT WAS TALKING TO ME OUT THERE BEFORE THE MEETING A  
22 BILL THAT -- THIS IS THE THIRD TIME I HAVE PAID THIS  
23 MONTH ON THE FURNACE BECAUSE OF WATER.

24 THEY WON'T GUARANTEE IT ANYMORE BECAUSE THEY  
25 SAY IT'S OHIO POWER THAT IS CAUSING IT. WHEN THE

1 ELECTRIC GOES OFF AND THE WATER COMES IN YOU LOSE YOUR  
2 FURNACE.

3 PEOPLE OUT THERE ON A FIXED INCOME CAN'T  
4 AFFORD THOSE THINGS. WE ARE PAYING HIGH BILLS JUST  
5 LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE BUT WE ARE NOT GETTING THE SERVICE.  
6 IF YOU WANT TO REALLY FLUSH YOUR TOILET, LET'S GET DOWN  
7 TO IT, YOU POUR WATER IN IT BECAUSE YOU HAVE NO  
8 SUCTION, AND WHEN THE SEWER LINE FILLS UP WITH WATER IT  
9 WILL BACK UP AND IT'S GOING TO GO SOMEPLACE, IT'S GOING  
10 TO GO IN ONES THAT HAS BASEMENTS.

11 AND IT'S A BAD SITUATION. NOW THEY ARE  
12 TALKING ABOUT WELL, MAYBE IT'S JUST A LOSING SITUATION  
13 AND WHAT WE OUGHT TO DO IS PUT OUR PROPERTIES UP FOR  
14 SALE AND FIND SOMEPLACE ELSE WHERE WE GET BETTER  
15 SERVICE AND THINGS LIKE THAT.

16 NOW, OHIO POWER WAS OUT THERE LAST WEEK.  
17 THEY WAS TRIMMING SOME TREES ALONG THE FENCE ROW BACK  
18 ALONG THE FENCE ROW WHERE THEY GET INTO THE ELECTRIC  
19 LINES. WELL, THE LIMBS WILL WEAVE IN BETWEEN THE  
20 ELECTRIC LINES AND THAT CAUSES SPARKS WHICH WE ARE  
21 AFRAID OF. NOW LAST WEEK THEY FOUND SOME SQUIRRELS GOT  
22 ELECTROCUTED WHILE PLAYING ON OUR TELEPHONE LINES WITH  
23 THEIR TAILS WEAVING BACK AND FORTH THROUGH THE ELECTRIC  
24 LINES. THEY CAUGHT THEIR TAILS ON FIRE AND WHEN THEY  
25 FELL TO THE GROUND THEY WERE RUNNING AROUND THE YARD

1 WITH THEIR TAIL ON FIRE. AND IT'S DANGEROUS, THEY  
2 MIGHT SET SOMETHING ELSE ON FIRE.

3 I DON'T SEE WHY -- AND I AM NOT BEING WRONG  
4 TO SUGGEST THIS -- BUT I DON'T SEE WHY THEY COULDN'T  
5 COUNT THOSE WHERE THEY COME FROM THE POLE. I MEAN,  
6 MAYBE TELEPHONE LINES OR ELECTRIC LINES ALSO ARE OVER  
7 TOP OF IT, WHY COULDN'T THEY PUT A CAP OVER THEM WHERE  
8 THEY COULDN'T GET TO THEM WHERE THEY COME OFF THE POLE  
9 TO WAG THEIR TAIL ON IT. IT DOESN'T SEEM TO BOTHER  
10 WHEN THEY GET FARTHER ON THE LINE, IT'S WHERE THEY ARE  
11 COMING OFF THE POLE AND PLAYING.

12 AND JUST THIS LAST WEEK THE TELEPHONE COMPANY  
13 AFTER FIVE YEARS TOLD ME THAT THEY HAD FOUND MY PROBLEM  
14 AND I SAID TAKE THE PHONE, JUST TAKE IT.

15 I AM SICK OF IT, BECAUSE YOU COULDN'T USE IT  
16 WHENEVER YOU NEEDED IT AND THEY SAID WE DON'T WANT TO  
17 DO THAT, SO LAST WEEK HE CAME OUT THERE AND SAID WE  
18 FOUND THE PROBLEM, OKAY, THE SQUIRREL WAS EATING ON MY  
19 TELEPHONE LINE.

20 AND HE SAID YOUR PETS, YOU'RE NOT FEEDING  
21 THEM WELL ENOUGH AND THEY ARE EATING YOUR TELEPHONE  
22 LINE. I SAID OH MY. SO THAT'S THE FIRST I HAD HEARD  
23 OF IT BUT I SAID I HAVE SEEN THEM FALL WITH FIERY TAILS  
24 FROM THAT POLE OUT THERE. AND THEY ARE COMING OUT  
25 THERE AND PUT A HOOK OUT THERE AND SET IT BACK ON BUT

1 THEN A COUPLE DAYS LATER YOU HAVE THE SAME THING.

2 THERE'S NO COATING ON THE LINES, IT'S WORE  
3 OFF. WHERE THE LIMBS FROM THE TREES WEAVE BACK AND  
4 FORTH LIKE THAT, IT'S JUST TAKEN ALL THE COATING OFF,  
5 AND WHEN YOU ASK ABOUT IT THEY SAY IT'S NO PROBLEM, YOU  
6 SEE A LOT THAT WAY, BUT THOSE LINES HAVE BEEN IN THERE  
7 PROBABLY SINCE THE HOUSES WERE BUILT OUT THERE AND THEY  
8 ARE BAD, REALLY BAD.

9 THANK YOU.

10 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: THANK YOU.

11 MS. BARBARA GARLAND?

12 - - -

13 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )

14 - - -

15 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND  
16 SPELL YOUR NAME FOR THE RECORD AND GIVE US YOUR  
17 ADDRESS.

18 MS. GARLAND: BARBARA,  
19 B-A-R-B-A-R-A, GARLAND, G-A-R-L-A-N-D. MY ADDRESS IS  
20 2504 LAGRANGE STREET, TOLEDO, OHIO.

21 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: PLEASE  
22 CONTINUE.

23 MS. GARLAND: WHAT I HAVE TO  
24 SAY IS SINCE THIS IS COVERING THE WHOLE PART OF OHIO, I  
25 SEE IT NOT ONLY IN TOLEDO BUT IN LIMA TOO, AND PEOPLE



1 ARE REALLY HURTING WHEN IT COMES TO ALL THESE HIKE  
2 THAT THESE UTILITY COMPANIES ARE GETTING.

3 AND THEREFORE I DON'T THINK THAT THERE SHOULD  
4 BE ANOTHER HIKE IN THE UTILITIES BECAUSE WE HAVE HERE  
5 RIGHT NOW BOTH IN LIMA AND TOLEDO OUR JOBS ARE MOVING  
6 OUT OF OUR TOWNS AND GOING SOMEPLACE ELSE. SO THE  
7 ECONOMY OF OUR CITIES IS HURTING BECAUSE OF THAT  
8 ALREADY.

9 THE SENIOR CITIZENS ARE ON FIXED INCOMES, THE  
10 PEOPLE THAT ARE ON DISABILITIES ARE ON FIXED INCOMES,  
11 AND THIS IS REALLY HURTING THEM. THEY ARE HAVING TO  
12 GIVE UP THEIR HOMES BECAUSE THEY CAN'T AFFORD TO PAY  
13 THE LIGHT COMPANY, GAS COMPANY, AND EVERY OTHER UTILITY  
14 THAT DECIDES THEY ARE GOING TO TAKE A HIKE. AND I  
15 BELIEVE MAYBE THAT SOME OF THIS HIKING IS BEING DONE  
16 BECAUSE THEY ARE LOSING MONEY AS FAR AS THE JOBS  
17 LEAVING OHIO AND PEOPLE BEING OUT OF WORK SO BAD AND  
18 EVERYTHING ELSE.

19 BUT A LOT OF THESE PEOPLE ARE TURNED OVER TO  
20 THE WELFARE SYSTEM, WHICH MEANS THEY DON'T HAVE THE  
21 MONEY TO PAY THESE BILLS, THEY DON'T HAVE THE MONEY.  
22 THEY ARE LUCKY IF THEY HAVE THE MONEY TO PAY THEIR RENT  
23 THE WAY RENT IS HIKING IN OHIO LET ALONE PAY HIGHER  
24 UTILITY BILLS, AND I REALLY CAN'T SEE WHERE THE MONEY  
25 IS GOING TO COME FROM OUT OF THESE PEOPLE'S POCKETS

1 AND, EXCUSE ME, BUT I WAS UP HOME A COUPLE WEEKS AGO  
2 AND I HEARD PEOPLE IN PERRYSBURG, AND THAT'S ONE OF OUR  
3 TOWNS LIKE SHAWNEE IS TO LIMA, AND THEY ARE SAYING  
4 WELL, WE DON'T KNOW WHAT WE ARE GOING TO DO, THEY ARE  
5 GOING TO HIKE THE UTILITIES AND STUFF AGAIN, WE HAVE TO  
6 SELL OUR HOMES AND GET OUT.

7 AND EXCUSE ME, BUT IF PERRYSBURG HAS TO GET  
8 OUT OR THE PEOPLE IN SHAWNEE HAS TO GET OUT, WHAT ARE  
9 YOU PUTTING ON YOUR PEOPLE IN THE INNER CITY?

10 EVERYBODY'S POCKETBOOK IS STRAINED AND THE  
11 ONES IN THE INNER CITY, A LOT OF THEM IN THE INNER CITY  
12 ARE ON FIXED INCOME, SO IF THESE PEOPLE IN SHAWNEE AND  
13 PERRYSBURG, THEY HAVE TO GIVE UP THEIR HOMES BECAUSE OF  
14 THESE HIKES, THEY'VE GOT TO SELL OUT AND LEAVE THE  
15 STATE OF OHIO, WHERE IS THAT LEAVING YOU WITH THE  
16 PEOPLE IN THE INNER CITY EVEN? THEY ARE GOING TO DO  
17 THE SAME. THEY ARE GOING TO HAVE TO SELL OUT AND LEAVE  
18 AND THEY ARE ALREADY COMPLAINING, TOLEDO IS, THAT  
19 TOLEDO IS BECOMING A GHOST TOWN BECAUSE THEIR  
20 POPULATION IS GOING DOWN BECAUSE THEIR PEOPLE ARE  
21 LEAVING, THEY ARE LEAVING OHIO.

22 HERE IN LIMA THEY SAY THEY ARE LOSING PEOPLE,  
23 THAT THEY ARE LEAVING OHIO. YOU'RE LOSING YOUR  
24 TAXPAYERS BECAUSE THE HIKES ON THE UTILITIES ARE  
25 GETTING TOO HIGH.

1           AND THAT'S ABOUT ALL I HAVE TO SAY. I DON'T  
2 BELIEVE THAT THE HIGHER RATES, I DON'T SEE WHERE THEY  
3 ARE GOING TO DO ANYTHING EXCEPT HURT OHIO BECAUSE MORE  
4 PEOPLE ARE GOING TO LEAVE THE STATE OF OHIO AND MOVE  
5 AND YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE A LOT OF HOUSES SITTING AROUND  
6 HERE UP FOR SALE THAT NOBODY IS GOING TO BUY BECAUSE  
7 THERE'S GOING TO BE NO PEOPLE HERE TO BUY THEM.

8           THAT'S ALL I HAVE TO SAY.

9                   ATTORNEY EXAMINER: MS. JOYCE  
10 HALE?

11                   - - -

12                   ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )

13                   - - -

14                   ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND  
15 SPELL YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.

16                   MS. HALE: FIRST NAME JOYCE,  
17 J-O-Y-C-E, LAST NAME HALE, H-A-L-E, AND I AM HERE  
18 REPRESENTING THE DELPHOS SENIOR CITIZENS INCORPORATED  
19 WHICH IS A NONPROFIT AND WE DO SERVICES FOR THOSE 60  
20 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER.

21                   AND TODAY I AM HERE TO EXPRESS MY CONCERN AND  
22 THE CONCERN OF OUR PARTICIPANTS ABOUT THE HIKE THAT  
23 ARE BEING MENTIONED TO DEFRAY THE 71 MILLION DOLLAR  
24 COST OF THE PLANS. IT'S ABSOLUTELY IMPOSSIBLE FOR  
25 PEOPLE LIVING ON LESS THAN \$700 A MONTH, AND GRANTED

1 THEY ARE FIXED INCOMES FROM SOCIAL SECURITY AND GRANTED  
2 THEY MAY GET A RAISE OF 3.3 PERCENT BUT THEY ALSO GOT A  
3 HIKE OF \$19 A MONTH IN THEIR MEDICARE PART "D". GET  
4 \$700 OR LESS, YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE \$24 MORE A MONTH,  
5 YOU'RE GOING TO PAY \$19 OUT TO GET YOUR MEDICARE PART  
6 (B), AND SENIOR CITIZENS CAN'T AFFORD TO DO MUCH MORE.

7 WE HAVE ONE HOUSING COMPLEX IN DELPHOS THAT  
8 IS ALL ELECTRIC AND IT'S FOR LOW INCOME HANDICAPPED AND  
9 SENIOR CITIZENS, AND I GO OUT THERE ALL THE TIME  
10 BECAUSE WE DO SPECIAL THINGS FOR OUR SENIORS WHERE I  
11 HAVE TO GO INTO THE HOME, AND WHEN WE GET THEM AN AIR  
12 CONDITIONER THROUGH ONE OF OUR PROGRAMS THEY CAN'T  
13 AFFORD TO RUN IT BECAUSE THEY CAN'T AFFORD THE PRICE OF  
14 THE ELECTRIC.

15 WHEN WE GET THEM INSULATION FOR THEIR HOMES  
16 THEY STILL HAVE TO KEEP THEIR THERMOSTATS AT 60 DEGREES  
17 BECAUSE THEY CAN'T AFFORD TO PAY. WE MAKE OUT HEAP  
18 PAPERS FOR THEM, DO WEATHERIZATION FOR THEM, SEND OUT  
19 OUR CHORE WORKERS TO DO THINGS AROUND THE HOUSE THAT  
20 WILL HELP THEM SAVE MONEY, AND THEY ARE STILL WEARING  
21 TWO FLANNEL SHIRTS OR LONG SWEATERS OR COATS IN THEIR  
22 HOMES BECAUSE THEY CAN'T AFFORD TO KEEP THESE THINGS UP  
23 AT A DECENT TEMPERATURE AND 60 DEGREES LIVING IN A HOME  
24 WHEN YOU ARE 85-YEARS-OLD IS NOT A DECENT TEMPERATURE.

25 SO WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE COST CONNECTED

1 WITH THIS NEW PLAN. THERE IS JUST SO MUCH THAT THE  
2 PEOPLE CAN DO, THERE'S JUST SO MUCH WE CAN DO, AND THEN  
3 IT BECOMES A MATTER OF DOLLARS AND CENTS AND IF YOU  
4 DON'T HAVE THE DOLLARS AND CENTS YOU'RE NOT GOING TO  
5 PAY YOUR BILL.

6 AND THIS YEAR IN THE SUMMER CRISIS PROGRAM  
7 THERE WERE 3,700 HOUSEHOLDS THAT NEEDED HELP. THAT'S  
8 16,000 MORE THAN NEEDED IT LAST YEAR. THAT TELLS YOU  
9 THAT PEOPLE, NOT JUST SENIOR CITIZENS, BUT PEOPLE CAN'T  
10 AFFORD THESE HIKE IN SERVICES.

11 IT WOULD BE NICE IF WE COULD, AND WE WOULD  
12 CERTAINLY DO IT IF WE COULD BUT YOU CANNOT DO IT IF YOU  
13 DON'T HAVE THE MONEY, AND THE SENIOR CITIZENS DO NOT  
14 HAVE THE MONEY.

15 AND THEY CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO KEEP -- WE  
16 HAVE ONE LADY THAT CALLED ME THE OTHER DAY BECAUSE SHE  
17 WAS CONCERNED THAT NO ONE WOULD BE HERE TO SPEAK FOR  
18 SENIOR CITIZENS AND SHE IS OVER THE RETIREMENT AGE BUT  
19 SHE WORKED FOR A NONPROFIT, SHE WORKED IN A NURSING  
20 HOME, SHE HAS NOTHING BESIDES SOCIAL SECURITY, AND  
21 SHE'S TRYING TO WORK TWO OR THREE DAYS A WEEK AS MUCH  
22 AS SHE CAN TO BRING IN SOME MORE INCOME. SHE HAS NO  
23 PENSION. WHEN YOU WORK FOR NON-PROFITS YOU DON'T  
24 ALWAYS HAVE PENSIONS, AND SHE SAID I CAN'T DO ANY MORE  
25 THAN I AM DOING.

1                   SOMEBODY HAS TO SPEAK UP FOR THE SENIOR  
2                   CITIZENS. SO THAT'S WHY I AM HERE TONIGHT AND WE HOPE  
3                   YOU WILL LISTEN TO WHAT THEY HAVE TO SAY. THEY HAVE  
4                   BEEN GOOD CITIZENS FOR YEARS IN THE STATE OF OHIO AND  
5                   THE STATE OF OHIO IS AGING RAPIDLY AND THEY NEED SOME  
6                   HELP. AND WE THANK YOU.

7                   ATTORNEY EXAMINER: MISS  
8                   CHRISTINE MCNAMARA?

9                   - - -

10                  ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )

11                  - - -

12                  ATTORNEY EXAMINER: SPELL YOUR  
13                  NAME FOR THE RECORD AND PROVIDE US WITH YOUR ADDRESS.

14                  MS. MCNAMARA: CHRISTINE,  
15                  C-H-R-I-S-T-I-N-E, MCNAMARA, M-C-N-A-M-A-R-A. 2135  
16                  BUTTERCUP DRIVE, ELIDA, OHIO.

17                  ATTORNEY EXAMINER: THANK YOU.  
18                  MS. MCNAMARA: AND I JUST HAVE  
19                  A BRIEF STATEMENT.

20                  WE HAVE LIVED IN LAUREL OAKS FOR TWELVE YEARS  
21                  AND FOR TWELVE YEARS WE HAVE HAD PROBLEMS WITH THE  
22                  POWER GOING OUT ON A REGULAR BASIS. IT'S NOT ALWAYS  
23                  FOR A LENGTHY PERIOD OF TIME, SOMETIMES JUST TWO OR  
24                  THREE MINUTES, JUST ENOUGH TO BE A NUISANCE WHERE YOU  
25                  HAVE TO GO AND RESET ALL YOUR CLOCKS AND THEN IT WILL

1 COME BACK ON.

2 BUT IT'S FREQUENT, AND THE SURPRISING THING  
3 ABOUT IT IS THE WIRING OUT THERE IS UNDERGROUND AND  
4 IT'S STILL A PROBLEM. WHEN YOU TRY TO CALL SOMEBODY TO  
5 TELL THEM YOUR POWER IS OUT YOU CAN'T GET ANYBODY  
6 LOCALLY AND THEY PATCH YOU IN TO SOMEBODY OUT OF KENTON  
7 OR CANTON OR DAYTON OR SOMEBODY AND THEN YOU HAVE TO  
8 EXPLAIN TO THEM WHERE YOU LIVE BECAUSE THEY HAVE NO  
9 IDEA, AND SO IT BECOMES A BIT OF A NUISANCE.

10 WE PAY ALREADY OVER \$200 A MONTH ON AN  
11 AVERAGE FOR OUR ELECTRICITY AND THERE'S PROFITS BEING  
12 MADE BY A.E.P. AND POWER COMPANIES EVERYWHERE, AND I  
13 CAN'T UNDERSTAND IF AFTER TWELVE YEARS OF MAKING  
14 PROFITS THAT THEY HAVEN'T TAKEN SOME OF THOSE PROFITS  
15 INSTEAD OF GIVING C.E.O.S AND MANAGEMENT RAISES AND  
16 BONUSES WHY THEY HAVEN'T TAKEN SOME OF THAT PROFIT TO  
17 MAKE IMPROVEMENTS IN WHAT THEY SAID NEEDED TO BE DONE  
18 FOR TWELVE YEARS THAT WE HAVE LIVED THERE.

19 SO, YOU KNOW, I DON'T UNDERSTAND. I DON'T  
20 KNOW WHY WE NEED TO BE TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF LIKE THAT,  
21 BUT THAT'S REALLY ALL I HAVE TO SAY. I THINK IT'S NOT  
22 OUR PROBLEM THAT THE UTILITIES HAVE TO MAKE  
23 IMPROVEMENTS, IT'S THEIR PROBLEM, AND THE PROFITS  
24 SHOULD BE TAKEN TO DO THAT.

25 THANK YOU VERY MUCH AND I HOPE YOU HAVE A

1 GREAT EVENING.

2 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: THANK YOU.

3 MR. HOWARD ELSTRO?

4 - - -

5 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )

6 - - -

7 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: PLEASE  
8 STATE AND SPELL YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.

9 MR. ELSTRO: FIRST INITIAL "J",  
10 HOWARD, H-O-W-A-R-D, ELSTRO, E-L-S-T-R-O. 50 TOWN  
11 SQUARE, LIMA, OHIO, 45805.

12 ON BEHALF OF DAVID J. BERGER, MAYOR OF LIMA,  
13 PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL, JOHN NIXON, AND MYSELF, HOWARD  
14 ELSTRO, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS FOR THE CITY OF LIMA,  
15 AND THE CONSTITUENTS WE SERVE, WE THANK YOU FOR THE  
16 OPPORTUNITY TO TESTIFY THIS EVENING AT THIS OHIO  
17 CONSUMERS' COUNSEL HEARING ON A.E.P.'S PROPOSED  
18 RELIABILITY IMPROVEMENT STRATEGY AND RATE INCREASE  
19 PLAN.

20 THE CITY OF LIMA HAS BEEN CONCERNED ABOUT THE  
21 RELIABILITY OF ELECTRIC SERVICE FOR OUR COMMUNITY FOR  
22 SOME TIME. WE APPRECIATE THE COMMUNICATION  
23 OPPORTUNITIES WITH A.E.P. THAT TOOK PLACE IN MAY 2005  
24 AND IN OCTOBER 2006.

25 FURTHER, THROUGH A LETTER TO BOB IVINSKAS,



1 THE COLUMBUS DISTRIBUTION REGIONAL SUPPORT SUPERVISOR,  
2 ON MAY 11, 2006, THE CITY REITERATED OUR CONCERNS ABOUT  
3 THE ONGOING DISTRIBUTION OUTAGES IN THE LIMA AREA AND  
4 ASSERTED THAT THE EQUIPMENT AND STATION FAILURES ARE  
5 BECOMING MORE FREQUENT AND LARGER IN IMPACT.

6 WE COMMENTED THAT A.E.P.'S OWN REPORT FOR THE  
7 PERIOD OF JULY 2002 THROUGH MARCH 2006 DEMONSTRATES TEN  
8 CIRCUITS IN THE LIMA AREA HAVE WORSENERED IN RELIABILITY.

9 THIS REPRESENTS 20 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL OF  
10 ALL CIRCUITS IN LIMA, WHICH STIMULATES A LARGE CONCERN  
11 FOR THE RELIABILITY AND DELIVERABILITY OF ELECTRICITY  
12 TO OUR CITIZENRY AND OUR BUSINESS COMMUNITY.

13 THE ENHANCED DISTRIBUTION SERVICE AND  
14 RELIABILITY PLAN THAT IS THE SUBJECT OF THIS HEARING  
15 CAUSES SEVERAL ADDITIONAL CONCERNS. IT APPEARS THAT  
16 THE HIGH COST OF UNDERGROUND LINES IN CANTON AND THE  
17 COLUMBUS AREA, TREES IN THE RURAL AND INACCESSIBLE  
18 AREAS OF SOUTHWEST OHIO, AND BAD EQUIPMENT SUPPLIED BY  
19 MANUFACTURERS ARE ALL MAJOR CAUSES FOR THE COSTS  
20 ANTICIPATED UNDER THIS PLAN.

21 AND THE QUESTION THAT PERTAINS TO ALL THREE  
22 MATTERS IS WHY SHOULD CUSTOMERS IN THE LIMA ALLEN  
23 COUNTY REGION BE ASKED TO UNDERWRITE THOSE COSTS?  
24 LET'S LOOK AT THESE ISSUES SEPARATELY.

25 THIS PLAN PROPOSES 40.2 MILLION BE SPENT ON

1 UNDERGROUND NETWORK SYSTEMS IN COLUMBUS AND CANTON.  
2 OUR COMMUNITY DOES NOT ENJOY THE ESTHETIC BENEFITS  
3 OFFERED BY UNDERGROUND LINES. OUR COMMUNITY HAS LONG  
4 HAD TO TOLERATE THE UNSIGHTLY EXISTENCE OF POLES,  
5 WIRES, ET CETERA, WHICH VERY MUCH DETRACT FROM THE  
6 BEAUTY OF OUR COMMUNITY.

7 WE'VE BEEN TOLD OVER THE YEARS BY A.E.P.  
8 SHOULD LIMA DECIDE TO HAVE THESE UNSIGHTLY LINES BURIED  
9 OR MOVED, THE COMMUNITY WOULD HAVE TO BEAR THOSE COSTS.  
10 THUS WE FIND IT INCONSISTENT AND INEQUITABLE FOR THE  
11 CITIZENRY AND THE BUSINESSES OF LIMA, OHIO TO BE ASKED  
12 TO SUBSIDIZE A HIGHER LEVEL OF SERVICE FOR UNDERGROUND  
13 LINES IN CANTON AND COLUMBUS.

14 THE ENHANCED DISTRIBUTION SERVICE AND  
15 RELIABILITY PLAN STATES THAT OF 36,500 MILES OF  
16 OVERHEAD DISTRIBUTION LINES THE MAJORITY OF THESE LINES  
17 ARE LOCATED IN RURAL AREAS.

18 THIS PLAN PROPOSES THAT 132.77 MILLION OVER  
19 FIVE YEARS BE SPENT ON VEGETATION MANAGEMENT IN  
20 SOUTHWEST OHIO.

21 WE DO NOT DISPUTE THAT THE MAINTENANCE OF  
22 TREES IN SOUTHWEST OHIO, ESPECIALLY ON THE RURAL LINES  
23 AND HILLY AND ACCESSIBLE TERRAINS, ARE MORE COSTLY THAN  
24 IN URBAN AREAS, BUT WE FIND IT OBJECTIONABLE TO SPREAD  
25 THOSE COSTS TO CUSTOMERS IN THE CITY OF LIMA AS WE DO

1 NOT RECOGNIZE OURSELVES AS A DIRECT BENEFICIARY OF THE  
2 MAINTENANCE OF RURAL LINES IN SOUTHWEST OHIO.

3 THIS ENHANCED DISTRIBUTION SERVICE AND  
4 RELIABILITY PLAN PROPOSES TO REPLACE 65,000 FAULTY FUSE  
5 CUTOUTS PURCHASED AND INSTALLED IN THE 80'S AND 90'S AT  
6 A COST OF 50.23 MILLION. WE SUGGEST THAT THE  
7 MANUFACTURE AND THE COMPANY SHAREHOLDERS SHOULD  
8 SHOULDER THE MAJORITY, IF NOT ALL, OF THIS COST.

9 WE ALSO TAKE ISSUE IN GENERAL WITH THE  
10 PROPOSED RATE INCREASE. ALL CORPORATIONS ANTICIPATE  
11 AGING INFRASTRUCTURE AND THE REQUISITE CAPITAL COSTS TO  
12 MAINTAIN THAT INFRASTRUCTURE. WE BELIEVE THAT THE  
13 COSTS TO MAINTAIN THE A.E.P. INFRASTRUCTURE HAS ALREADY  
14 BEEN PREVIOUSLY RECOGNIZED BY PRIOR P.U.C.O. RATE  
15 ACTIONS AND THUS WAS THE BASIS FOR EXISTING RATES  
16 CHARGED TO THE CONSUMER THESE MANY DECADES. THUS,  
17 EXISTING REVENUES SHOULD BE USED TO RE-INVEST IN THE  
18 INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS OF THE SYSTEM.

19 WE ALSO FIND THAT THIS RATE INCREASE REQUEST  
20 IS INCONSISTENT WITH THE PROMISES MADE AT THE TIME OF  
21 OHIO'S MOVE TO A PARTIALLY DE-REGULATED ELECTRICITY  
22 SYSTEM.

23 IT APPEARS THAT THE REVENUES TO MAINTAIN THE  
24 SYSTEM HAVE BEEN USED TO IMPROVE SHAREHOLDERS' VALUE  
25 RATHER THAN TO INVEST APPROPRIATELY IN THE COMPANY'S

1 PHYSICAL ASSETS FOR LONG-TERM OPERATING PURPOSES.

2 ABOVE ALL, THE CITY OF LIMA IS OF THE OPINION  
3 THAT THE PROPOSED A.E.P. RIDER IS UNLAWFUL AND CONTRARY  
4 TO OHIO'S SOUND RATE MAKING POLICY. IT IS UNLAWFUL FOR  
5 IT SEEKS TO ESTABLISH A.E.P.'S REVENUE ENTITLEMENT  
6 BASED UPON FORWARD LOOKING INCREMENTAL CAPITAL AND  
7 OPERATING COSTS THAT CAPTURE ESTIMATED INFLATION OVER  
8 THE PLAN'S FIVE-YEAR LIFE.

9 OHIO'S GENERAL ASSEMBLY REPEALED THE  
10 REPRODUCTION COST OF NEW, LESS DEPRECIATION RATE BASE,  
11 RCLND, IN THE 70'S REPLACING IT WITH THE CURRENT  
12 ORIGINAL OR EMBEDDED COST RATE BASE FOR DETERMINING A  
13 UTILITY'S REVENUE REQUIREMENTS. IT IS CONTRARY TO  
14 SOUND RATE MAKING POLICY FOR IT IS A LONG-TERM  
15 PROPOSAL, FIVE YEARS, FOR WHICH IT SEEKS COMMISSION  
16 AUTHORIZATION AND APPROVAL FOR RECOVERY OF OVER 250  
17 MILLION DOLLARS IN ADDITIONAL REVENUES IN THE ABSENCE  
18 OF ANY DETERMINATION OF THE COMPANY'S CURRENTLY EARNED  
19 RATE OF RETURN.

20 A.E.P. SEEKS THIS AUTHORIZATION AND APPROVAL  
21 ALONG WITH DEFERRED ACCOUNTING AUTHORIZATION FOR OVER  
22 AND UNDER RECOVERY IN THE FACE OF ITS OWN  
23 ACKNOWLEDGMENT THAT IT WILL SEEK NEW BASE RATES  
24 EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 31, 2008.

25 THIS REPRESENTS AN ATTEMPT TO PRE-DETERMINE

1 THE REVENUE REQUIREMENTS TO WHICH IT MAYBE ENTITLED IN  
2 THE YET TO BE FILED BASE RATE INCREASE PROCEEDING.

3 LASTLY, LOCAL GOVERNMENTS HAVE BEEN LONG  
4 FACED WITH THE DEMAND FROM OUR CONSTITUENTS TO DO MORE  
5 WITH LESS. RESPONDING TO THIS DEMAND IS NOT EASY,  
6 HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE A.E.P.'S CUSTOMERS ALSO LOOK TO THE  
7 COMPANY TO DO MORE WITH THE RESOURCES THEY HAVE GIVEN  
8 TO THE COMPANY.

9 WE DO NOT ARGUE THAT THE INFRASTRUCTURE  
10 ESPECIALLY IN THE LIMA AREA NEEDS TO BE UPGRADED AND  
11 RENEWED, IN FACT, A.E.P.'S OWN REPORTS AND LOCAL  
12 CUSTOMERS WILL ATTEST TO THE NEED.

13 HOWEVER, JUST AS WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT WE  
14 BELIEVE A.E.P. SHOULD FIND WAYS TO DO MORE WITH THE  
15 EXISTING REVENUES THAT OUR COMMUNITY HAS BEEN PAYING  
16 FOR ALL THESE YEARS. WE RESPECTFULLY SUGGEST TO THE  
17 PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO THAT THE RATE  
18 INCREASE BE DENIED AND THAT A.E.P. BE URGED TO CONTINUE  
19 TO FIND WAYS TO MAINTAIN AND UPGRADE ITS INFRASTRUCTURE  
20 SYSTEM.

21 THANK YOU.

22 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: MR. ALAN

23 CHASE?

24 - - -

25 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )

1 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND  
2 SPELL YOUR NAME FOR THE RECORD AND PROVIDE US WITH YOUR  
3 ADDRESS.

4 MR. CHASE: ALAN, A-L-A-N,  
5 CHASE, C-H-A-S-E. ADDRESS 222 WESTWOOD DRIVE SOUTH,  
6 LIMA, OHIO, 45805. I WILL BE BRIEF.

7 MY WIFE AND I MOVED TO LIMA IN MAY OF LAST  
8 YEAR. BEFORE THAT WE LIVED IN THE CITY OF KENTON, OHIO  
9 FOR ELEVEN YEARS. KENTON IS IN HARDIN COUNTY ABOUT 27  
10 MILES EAST OF HERE. KENTON IS ALSO SERVED BY A.E.P.  
11 DURING THAT ENTIRE PERIOD IN WARM WEATHER, EVERY TIME  
12 THERE WAS LIGHTNING AND THUNDER, WE WOULD LOSE ELECTRIC  
13 SERVICE, SOMETIMES FOR SHORT PERIODS AND SOMETIMES FOR  
14 LONGER PERIODS.

15 DURING THAT PERIOD THE CITY COUNCIL AND THE  
16 MAYOR AND THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CONTINUALLY  
17 HAD MEETINGS AND ASKED A.E.P. TO IMPROVE THEIR SERVICE  
18 BECAUSE IT WAS HAVING AN ADVERSE EFFECT UPON THE  
19 BUSINESSES AND INDUSTRIES OF THE AREA, AND EVERY TIME  
20 A.E.P. SAID YES, THEY PROMISED THEY WOULD DO IT, BUT  
21 THEY NEVER DID. AND DURING THAT PERIOD I BELIEVE THEY  
22 ALSO RECEIVED AT LEAST ONE RATE INCREASE.

23 IN MY OPINION THEY ARE NOT TO BE TRUSTED.  
24 THANK YOU.

25 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: THANK YOU.

1 JOHN NIXON?

2 MR. NIXON: PASS.

3 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: MR. RAY  
4 MAGNESS, LIMA CITY COUNCIL, FIRST WARD.

5 MR. MAGNESS: I'LL PASS ALSO.

6 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: MISS PENNY  
7 DANIEL?

8 - - -

9 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )

10 - - -

11 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND  
12 SPELL YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.

13 MS. DANIEL: PENNY DANIEL,  
14 P-E-N-N-Y D-A-N-I-E-L. NO "S". OUR ADDRESS IS 341  
15 SOUTH MCFARREN AVENUE, LIMA, OHIO, 45804.

16 I AM HERE THIS EVENING TO SPEAK OUT FOR THE  
17 MODERATE TO LOW INCOME FAMILIES IN THE AREA. I CAN'T  
18 QUOTE THE FIGURES THAT MR. ELSTROM AND MR. OPPERMAN  
19 QUOTED BUT I TOTALLY AGREE WITH THEM. THEY DID A  
20 FANTASTIC JOB OF EXPLAINING EXACTLY OUR ECONOMY AT THIS  
21 TIME.

22 I LOOK AT IT THIS WAY -- AND WE HAVE HAD  
23 SEVERAL CONVERSATIONS WITH PEOPLE IN THE AREA, IN THE  
24 LIMA AREA -- A.E.P. HAS AN EXTREMELY HIGH PROFIT SHOWN  
25 BY THEMSELVES ON THE INTERNET. WE HAVE A LOT OF PEOPLE

1 IN LIMA ON THE OTHER HAND WHO HAVE VERY LOW INCOMES.  
2 THEY ARE HAVING A DIFFICULT TIME PAYING THEIR BILLS AS  
3 THEY HAVE THEM NOW. IF I START A BUSINESS I AM  
4 EXPECTED TO COVER ANY MAINTENANCE, HAVE MONIES  
5 AVAILABLE TO IMPROVE OR BORROW MONEY TO IMPROVE MY  
6 EQUIPMENT TO KEEP UP WITH PROGRESS.

7 LIMA HASN'T SEEN THAT FROM A.E.P. I HEARD  
8 EARLIER TESTIMONY ABOUT WIRING, UP AND DOWN THE  
9 STREETS, TO AND FROM THE HOUSES TO THE STREETS. I CAN  
10 TESTIFY TO ACTUALLY SEEING THAT ON A DAILY BASIS. WE  
11 ACTUALLY HAVE WIRING RUNNING UP AND DOWN THE CITY  
12 STREETS OF LIMA AND TO AND FROM THE STREETS TO THE  
13 HOUSES WITH BARE WIRING OR AT LEAST A LOT OF THE  
14 COATING GONE. I HAVE SEEN THE SQUIRRELS AND THE BIRDS  
15 BOTH GET ELECTROCUTED IF THEY HIT A BARE SPOT.

16 ANOTHER THING WE NEED TO LOOK AT IS WE ARE  
17 HAVING AN EXTREMELY HARD TIME KEEPING BUSINESSES IN  
18 LIMA, LET ALONE BRINGING IN NEW BUSINESS. IF YOU KEEP  
19 RAISING THE UTILITY COSTS, HOW ARE YOU GOING TO GET NEW  
20 BUSINESSES, ESPECIALLY SMALL BUSINESSES, INTERESTED IN  
21 COMING TO LIMA?

22 WE ARE WORKING VERY HARD -- OUR CITY COUNCIL,  
23 OUR MAYOR, ADMINISTRATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PEOPLE,  
24 ARE ALL WORKING VERY HARD TO DRAW PEOPLE INTO LIMA, NEW  
25 BUSINESSES, SO WE CAN HAVE MORE JOBS. THIS ISN'T GOING



1 TO HELP US BY RAISING THE UTILITIES.

2 THE OTHER ITEM THAT I WANTED TO POINT OUT IS  
3 IF YOU'RE GOING TO KEEP THIS UP, KEEP RAISING AND  
4 RAISING THESE RATES UNTIL WE HAVE ALL OUR SMALL  
5 BUSINESSES CLOSING THEIR DOORS, WE WILL NOT GET ANY NEW  
6 BUSINESSES IN BECAUSE THEY CAN'T AFFORD THE RATES. SO  
7 YOU'RE GOING TO TURN LIMA BASICALLY INTO A GHOST TOWN.  
8 RIGHT NOW WE DON'T NEED ANY MORE LOSS OF BUSINESS, WE  
9 NEED MORE BUSINESS. AND THE MID TO LOW INCOME FAMILIES  
10 ABSOLUTELY CANNOT AFFORD ANY MORE INCREASES IN THE  
11 UTILITIES.

12 I REALLY DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ELSE TO SAY.  
13 THAT'S BASICALLY JUST THE CUT AND DRIED, I MEAN, THE  
14 GRASS ROOTS OF IT. MOST OF OUR PEOPLE JUST PLAIN CAN'T  
15 AFFORD IT AND THE CITY OF LIMA CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE ANY  
16 MORE BUSINESS OVER IT.

17 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: SUE STEIN?

18 MS. STEIN: PASS.

19 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: TERESA

20 ADAMS?

21 MS. ADAMS: PASS.

22 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: PAM

23 VICKERS?

24 - - -

25 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )

1 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND  
2 SPELL YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.

3 MS. VICKERS: PAM VICKERS,  
4 P-A-M V-I-C-K-E-R-S, 1360 LOCH LOMAN, LIMA, OHIO,  
5 45805.

6 I WILL TRY TO KEEP IT LIGHT. SIX YEARS AGO  
7 MY HUSBAND WENT OUT AND PURCHASED A GENERATOR AND I  
8 HAVE TO TELL YOU I LAUGHED. I THOUGHT WHEN ARE WE EVER  
9 GOING TO USE THIS GENERATOR. A LITTLE OVER A YEAR  
10 LATER WE USED IT ALMOST TWO YEARS NON-STOP.

11 ANYONE THAT PROBABLY LIVES OUT IN OTTAWA  
12 HILLS FURTHER WEST AND I CAN TELL YOU THERE WERE TIMES  
13 WE WENT HOURS WITHOUT ELECTRICITY, SOMETIMES OVERNIGHT,  
14 AND SOMETIMES DAYS.

15 I DON'T THINK A.E.P. REALIZES THE BURDEN  
16 YOU'RE PLACING ON THE COMMUNITY HERE IN LIMA. GRANTED,  
17 WE HAVE A GENERATOR TO HOOK UP WHEN THAT WOULD HAPPEN  
18 AND IT WAS TO THE POINT WHERE I KNEW I COULD GO DOWN ON  
19 SERIFF ROAD AND FIND THE TECHNICIAN EVERY TIME IT WENT  
20 OUT. IT WAS CONSTANTLY THE SAME LOCATION, AND YOU  
21 COULD PROBABLY CHECK YOUR RECORDS. A.E.P. NEVER MADE  
22 PERMANENT FIXES, THEY WERE ALL TEMPORARY.

23 AND WHEN YOU DO THAT, FOR THOSE WHO DON'T  
24 HAVE GENERATORS, FOR THOSE WHO DON'T HAVE BATTERY  
25 BACKUPS, AND THAT HAVE BASEMENTS, THEIR BASEMENTS

1 FLOOD, AND FOR THOSE PEOPLE THAT THOSE SITUATIONS EXIST  
2 -- I HAPPEN TO SELL REAL ESTATE. I DON'T KNOW IF  
3 YOU'RE FAMILIAR WITH WHAT A CLUE REPORT IS, BUT  
4 INSURANCE COMPANIES KEEP TRACK OF CLUE REPORTS SO WHEN  
5 SOMEBODY IS READY TO SELL THEIR HOUSE IF THAT HOUSE HAS  
6 TAKEN ON WATER TWO TO THREE TIMES, GUESS WHAT, YOUR NEW  
7 BUYER WON'T BE ABLE TO PURCHASE INSURANCE ON THAT HOME.

8 BUT THAT'S JUST A SLIGHT IMPACT THAT A.E.P.  
9 HAS HAD ON OUR COMMUNITY AND I THINK WE DESERVE BETTER  
10 THAN WHAT WE HAVE HAD IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

11 THE LAST YEAR AND A HALF I WOULD HAVE TO SAY  
12 WE HAVEN'T PERSONALLY HAD THAT PROBLEM, IT STOPPED, BUT  
13 I NOTICED THAT IT CONTINUED OR PICKED UP IN OTHER AREAS  
14 IN ALLEN COUNTY. BUT ONE OF MY BIGGEST QUESTIONS THAT  
15 I REALLY HAVE TONIGHT HERE IS THE TIMING.

16 WE HAVE GONE SO LONG WITHOUT HAVING  
17 ACCEPTABLE SERVICE IN THIS AREA THAT I LOOK AT A.E.P.  
18 IN THE LAST COUPLE YEARS AND THEY HAVE HAD GOOD  
19 REVENUES, GOOD DIVIDENDS, BUT THEY HAVE ALSO MADE SOME  
20 VERY LARGE PURCHASES WITHIN THE LAST YEAR OR SO. YOUR  
21 LAWRENCEBURG PURCHASE 325 MILLION, YOUR DARBY  
22 ACQUISITION 102, WATERFORD 220, YOUR SERADO 100  
23 MILLION, AND YOUR NEW HEMPSTEAD PLANT AT 1.4 MILLION.

24 AND YOU'RE LOOKING AT YOUR LAWRENCEBURG TO  
25 CLOSE THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2007, DARBY THE FIRST

1 QUARTER OF 2007, AND I JUST SIT HERE AND QUESTION ARE  
2 WE SUBSIDIZING SOME OF THESE LARGE ACQUISITIONS? YOUR  
3 LAWRENCEBURG ACQUISITION, P.S.G.E. SPENT 640 MILLION  
4 DOLLARS TO BUILD THAT. IT WAS ONLY 2-1/2 YEARS OLD.  
5 IT WAS NOT FINANCIALLY SOUND FOR THEM. I THINK THEY  
6 OPERATED IT FOR -- USED 20 PERCENT OF IT. IT WAS A  
7 LOSING BUSINESS FOR THEM, BUT YOU STEPPED IN AND  
8 PURCHASED IT AT A GOOD BUY AT 325 MILLION.

9 YOU JUST RECENTLY SIGNED A MULTI-CONTRACT  
10 WITH THE CITY OF COLUMBUS AND THAT WAS BASED ON A  
11 COMPETITIVE BID PROCESS. AND IT MAKES ME WONDER MAYBE  
12 PERHAPS WHY WE ARE TAKING IN SOME OF THE COSTS OF SOME  
13 OF THOSE LINES BEING DONE IN SOUTHERN OHIO OR AROUND  
14 COLUMBUS?

15 BUT BOTTOM LINE IS YOU JUST FIND INCREASES  
16 WITH TEXAS FOR 82.7 MILLION, OKLAHOMA IN NOVEMBER FOR  
17 49.6, AND YOU COME TO US WITH OVER A HUNDRED, AND I  
18 THINK LIMA DESERVES MUCH BETTER THAN WHAT THEY HAVE  
19 RECEIVED FROM A.E.P.

20 AND I DON'T THINK THAT OUR SCHOOLS SHOULD  
21 CARRY THIS BURDEN, I DON'T THINK THAT OUR COMMUNITY  
22 SHOULD CARRY THE BURDEN, AND I THINK A.E.P. SHOULD DO  
23 WHAT IS RIGHT HERE AND I THINK WE HAVE DESERVED A GOOD  
24 BUSINESS FROM YOU FOR THE LAST FIVE OR SIX YEARS AT  
25 LEAST, SO I WOULD BE VERY DISAPPOINTED IF THIS INCREASE

1 WAS PASSED.

2 AND IF IT IS PASSED, THEN I WOULD THINK  
3 PERHAPS OF GOING OUT AND BUYING STOCK IN A.E.P. BECAUSE  
4 YOU WILL CONTINUE TO GROW. THANK YOU.

5 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: RICK  
6 JOHNSON?

7 - - -  
8 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )  
9 - - -

10 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND  
11 SPELL YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.

12 MR. JOHNSON: MY NAME IS RICK  
13 JOHNSON. R-I-C-K J-O-H-N-S-O-N.

14 I AM HERE TONIGHT TO OPPOSE THIS RAISING OF  
15 THESE RATES. IT'S NOT GOING TO AFFECT ME PROBABLY AS  
16 MUCH AS A BUNCH OF YOU PEOPLE BECAUSE I DO MAKE A  
17 HALFWAY DECENT LIVING, BUT THE SENIOR CITIZENS AND MY  
18 PARENTS AND PEOPLE THAT'S ON FIXED INCOME, IT'S REALLY  
19 PUTTING A HURT ON THEM BECAUSE A LOT OF THEM IS HAVING  
20 TROUBLE WITH THE HEALTH CARE THE WAY IT'S HIGH NOW.  
21 THEY HAVE TO PICK BETWEEN EATING AND TAKING THEIR DRUGS  
22 AND NOW THEY HAVE TO PICK BETWEEN HAVING HEAT OR AIR  
23 CONDITIONING IN THE SUMMER, YOU KNOW, IT JUST SEEMS TO  
24 ME THIS WORLD HAS BECOME TOO GREEDY.

25 THERE'S BEEN PROFITS MADE BY A.E.P., IT'S

1 JUST LIKE ANY BUSINESS, AND THEY SHOULD BE REINVESTING  
2 IN THEIR EQUIPMENT AND ALL THAT TO KEEP IT MAINTAINED  
3 AND NOT HAVE TO COME TO THE PUBLIC TO GET MORE MONEY,  
4 YOU KNOW, FOR -- NOT LIKE PAYING SHAREHOLDERS, I MEAN,  
5 WHY SHOULD THE SHAREHOLDERS AND C.E.O.'S GET ALL THE  
6 MONEY AND THEN THEY COME AND ASK US FOR MORE.

7 I JUST THINK IT'S RIDICULOUS AND I THINK THAT  
8 P.U.C.O. OUGHT TO DENY IT. I THINK THAT IN A WAY THAT  
9 THIS SHOULD BE SOMETHING THAT SHOULD HAVE TO BE PUT ON  
10 A BALLOT FOR PEOPLE VOTE ON IT INSTEAD OF JUST LETTING  
11 ONE ORGANIZATION, YOU KNOW, MAKE A DECISION FOR ALL OF  
12 US. THIS ROOM OUGHT TO BE FULL. AS A MATTER OF FACT,  
13 IT OUGHT TO BE PACKED OUT IN THE HALLS HERE, YOU KNOW,  
14 BECAUSE, LIKE A LOT OF THEM STATED, AROUND HERE OUR  
15 ECONOMY IN THIS TOWN HAS WENT DOWN, WE DON'T NEED RATES  
16 RAISING, BECAUSE JUST LIKE THE WOMEN PREVIOUSLY SAID WE  
17 ARE GOING TO LOSE BUSINESS. WE CAN'T GET BUSINESS TO  
18 COME IN HERE NOW HARDLY.

19 SO I THINK IT'S A BAD THING FOR LIMA AND IT'S  
20 A BAD THING FOR THE PUBLIC. AND THAT'S ALL I HAVE.

21 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: SUE STRIFF?

22 - - -

23 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )

24 - - -

25 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND

1 SPELL YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.

2 MS. STRIFF: SUSAN STRIFF.

3 S-U-S-A-N S-T-R-I-F-F. I LIVE AT 305 SOUTH WAVERLY,  
4 APARTMENT-C, IN CRIDERSVILLE, OHIO, 45806.

5 I AM HERE ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY COMPLEX  
6 THAT I LIVE IN. IT'S A GOVERNMENT HOUSING AND WE ARE  
7 BASICALLY BASED ON AN INCOME WE HAVE. MOST OF THE  
8 PEOPLE ARE ON LOW INCOME THAT LIVE IN THERE. SOME OF  
9 THEM HAVE ZERO INCOME. AND I AM AGAINST THE UTILITY  
10 RATE INCREASE BECAUSE WE JUST CAN'T HARDLY AFFORD THE  
11 UTILITY INCREASE RIGHT NOW AS IT IS.

12 LIKE I SAY, I LIVE IN A SUBURB, I DON'T LIVE  
13 IN LIMA, AND I AM AGAINST IT BECAUSE WE ARE PAYING FOR  
14 THINGS THAT LIMA, OHIO IS BENEFITING MORE THAN WHAT THE  
15 SUBURBS ARE.

16 I LIVE IN A DIFFERENT COUNTY AND THAT'S ALLEN  
17 COUNTY AND I LIVE IN AUGLAIZE COUNTY AND THE RATE  
18 INCREASE WOULD AFFECT US VERY BADLY. I ALSO WANT TO  
19 COMMENT ON THE FACT THAT THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE ZERO  
20 INCOME OUT THERE, THEIR UTILITY IS PAID FOR BUT ONLY A  
21 CERTAIN PERCENTAGE OF IT IS PAID FOR AND THEY ARE  
22 RESPONSIBLE FOR THE REST OF IT. IF THEY CANNOT AFFORD  
23 THE REST OF THEIR UTILITY IT WILL BE TURNED OFF.

24 SO THE RATE INCREASE WILL AFFECT EVERYBODY  
25 WHO LIVES OUT THERE, NOT ONLY ME BUT OTHER PEOPLE WHO

1 LIVE THERE. WE HAVE HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE PEOPLE WHO  
2 LIVE THERE AND ELDERLY PEOPLE WHO LIVE THERE. SO I AM  
3 STRONGLY AGAINST THE INCREASE DUE TO THE FACT THAT WE  
4 CANNOT AFFORD TO PAY IT EITHER.

5 THANK YOU.

6 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: LESLIE

7 WIREMAN?

8 MR. WIREMAN: I'LL PASS.

9 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: KATHY

10 STUCKEY?

11 MS. STUCKEY: I'LL PASS.

12 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: THOMAS

13 SINN?

14 - - -

15 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )

16 - - -

17 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND  
18 SPELL YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.

19 MR. SINN: THOMAS T. SINN.

20 S-I-N-N. MY ADDRESS IS 355 SECOND STREET, LATTY, OHIO.  
21 I HAVE A LITTLE DIFFERENT TAKE. I AM FROM A VERY SMALL  
22 COMMUNITY. IT TOOK ME ABOUT AN HOUR AND TEN MINUTES TO  
23 GET HERE. IT'S ACTUALLY FAIRLY CLOSE TO FORT WAYNE,  
24 INDIANA.

25 A LOT OF THE COMMENTS I HAD WERE ALREADY



1 SPOKEN SO I JUST WANT TO REITERATE SOME THAT MY  
2 COMMUNITY HAS GIVEN. ONE WAS THAT THREE TO FOUR YEARS  
3 AGO WE HAD THE SAME TYPE PROBLEMS, CONSTANT PROBLEMS,  
4 AND TO MAKE LONG STORY SHORT, WITH ALMOST COMING TO  
5 THREATS OF CONTACTING P.U.C.O. FOR HELP WE GOT SOME OF  
6 OUR PROBLEMS TAKEN CARE OF.

7 IT'S STILL NOT 100 PERCENT BUT I KNOW IT'S A  
8 UTILITY AND I UNDERSTAND THERE'S GOING TO BE STORMS  
9 THAT TAKE THINGS OUT, I UNDERSTAND THAT.

10 MY PROBLEM IS WITH THE RATE INCREASE AND IN  
11 MY COMMUNITY OUR OHIO POWER WAS TAKEN OUT OF OUR  
12 COMMUNITY AND TAKEN TO VAN WERT AND THEN TAKEN TO LIMA  
13 FROM THERE. SO NOW WHEN WE NEED HELP WE ARE ONE HOUR  
14 PLUS BEFORE WE EVEN WILL GET SOMEONE THERE. IT'S  
15 USUALLY OVER LONGER THAN THAT BECAUSE BY THE TIME  
16 SOMEONE IN LIMA IS CALLED OUT AND THEY GO TO THEIR  
17 TRUCK AND GET TO OUR VILLAGE, IT'S THAT FAR AWAY, IT'S  
18 GOING TO BE AN HOUR AND A HALF JUST TO GET TO US. THEN  
19 THEY STILL HAVE TO FIND AND CORRECT THE PROBLEM.

20 THAT WAS A WAY OF THE BIG FIRM A COUPLE YEARS  
21 AGO DOWNSIZING, WE UNDERSTAND THAT. I LOST A JOB WITH  
22 ANOTHER UTILITY FROM DOWNSIZING FROM A TELEPHONE  
23 COMPANY IN THAT AREA.

24 WE DON'T FEEL THAT FOR WORSE SERVICE WE  
25 SHOULD PAY MORE, BECAUSE OF THE LONGER SERVICE. WE

1 HAVE THE SAME PROBLEMS SOME OF THE PEOPLE MENTIONED  
2 WITH THE LINES FRAYING. I DO UNDERSTAND THAT THE  
3 COATING ON THE WIRES DOESN'T NECESSARILY MEAN A WHOLE  
4 LOT, BUT I ALSO KNOW THAT THESE WIRES, I HAVE LIVED IN  
5 THIS COMMUNITY FOR OVER 50 YEARS AND THEY HAVE NEVER  
6 BEEN CHANGED IN THAT 50-YEAR PERIOD. WHEN THE POWER  
7 CAME TO LATTY A LOT MAY STILL BE ORIGINAL.

8 I THINK PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE IS A BIG  
9 THING. I THINK IF MORE WOULD HAVE BEEN DONE OR KEPT  
10 DONE THAT SOME OF THESE PROBLEMS WE HAVE HAD WOULD HAVE  
11 BEEN MAINTAINED BETTER.

12 I HAVE THE SAME COMPLAINT FROM SOME OF MY  
13 TOWN WHICH IS PROBABLY 40 PERCENT FIXED INCOME TO LOW  
14 INCOME. THEY ARE VERY CONCERNED WITH PAYING MORE THAN  
15 THEY CAN'T EVEN PAY NOW.

16 I HAVE ANOTHER COMMENT. IT'S A DIFFERENT  
17 OUTLOOK ON THE TREES CAUSING PROBLEMS AND THAT SORT.  
18 IN OUR COMMUNITY A.E.P. CAME TO TOWN AND OUR COMMUNITY  
19 IS BUTCHERED NOW. THE WAY THEY TRIMMED THE TREES IS  
20 DISGUSTING. YEARS AGO THEY WOULD TOP THEM OFF AND  
21 ROUND THEM. NOW THEY CUT HUGE "V'S", MADE THE TREES  
22 "L'S". TREES THAT MIGHT BE WORTH SOMETHING IN VALUE TO  
23 YOUR HOME TO SELL NOW IS A DETRIMENT RATHER THAN A  
24 PLUS.

25 I HAD COMPLAINTS FROM MY VILLAGE AND I WENT

1 TO THE TREE TRIMMERS AND ASKED COULD WE DO IT THIS WAY.  
2 I WAS SHORT WITH. I CONTACTED HELP AT THE A.E.P. THEY  
3 DID COME DOWN. WE GOT AS FAR AS ONE RESIDENT CAME OUT  
4 WITH A GUN AND THREATENED THEM NOT TO CUT THE TREE  
5 BECAUSE YOU'RE RUINING HIS TREE.

6 IT GOT RATHER UGLY AND THE RESPONSE WAS  
7 PRETTY MUCH WELL, I DON'T CARE, WE ARE KEEPING THESE  
8 TREES OUT OF THE WIRES, AND I JUST FELT THAT WAS VERY  
9 UNBUSINESSLIKE AND INAPPROPRIATE. AND THE WAY THEY DID  
10 THE TREES, YOU DRIVE DOWN 127 FROM MY VILLAGE INTO  
11 PAULDING OHIO YOU WILL KNOW WHAT I MEAN, IT'S SAD.

12 THE OTHER COMMENT I HAD WAS WE HAVE A.E.P.  
13 STREET LIGHTING IN OUR SMALL COMMUNITY WHICH WE PAY A  
14 CONTRACT FOR. YEARS AGO I HAVE BEEN ON COUNCIL AND  
15 MAYOR. I AM JUST 50-YEARS-OLD AND I HAVE BEEN ON  
16 COUNCIL OR MAYOR FOR OVER TWENTY YEARS NOW. NOBODY  
17 ELSE WANTS THE JOB. I GET PAID TWO DOLLARS A DAY AND  
18 WHEN PEOPLE CALL AND CHEW ME OUT, I STOP THEM AND SAY  
19 THAT'S TWO DOLLARS' WORTH, CALL ME TOMORROW, BECAUSE IT  
20 ISN'T WORTH THE HASSLE.

21 ONE OF THE JOBS THAT A.E.P. HAS NOW GIVEN ME  
22 IS WHEN OUR STREET LIGHTS GO OUT, RATHER THAN THEM  
23 DOING ROUTINE MAINTENANCE AND CHECKING THE LIGHTING OR  
24 HAVING SOMEBODY DRIVE THROUGH THE COMMUNITY AT NIGHT  
25 WHEN WE HAD LOCAL PEOPLE, THEY HAVE EVEN GONE AS FAR AS

1 TO SEND ME A FORM THAT I FILL OUT AND GIVE THEM THE  
2 INFORMATION.

3 I HAVE TO TELL THEM THREE DIFFERENT THINGS --  
4 IS IT OUT ALL THE TIME, IS IT INTERMITTENT, IS LIGHT  
5 HITTING IT GOING IN AND OUT -- SO THEY CAN DETERMINE  
6 HOW TO FIX IT. I JUST FEEL THAT THIS IS THEIR  
7 RESPONSIBILITY. I DIDN'T NEED ANY MORE WORK.

8 THE LAST COMMENT I HAVE IS THE REHAB WORK I  
9 THINK NEEDS TO CONTINUE. I HOPE THEY DON'T DOWNSIZE  
10 ANY MORE BECAUSE IF THEY GO FARTHER AWAY FROM LIMA WE  
11 MIGHT AS WELL WAIT FOREVER FOR SERVICE.

12 AND THIS ISN'T JUST THE OHIO POWER. WE HAVE  
13 TROUBLE WITH OUR PHONE COMPANY'S DONE THE SAME THING  
14 AND, IN FACT, IF I WOULD RUN MY BROTHER'S BUSINESS  
15 WHERE I COME IN AND TELL YOU YOU'RE GOING TO MAIL YOUR  
16 BILLS TO ME RATHER THAN ME BRING THEM INTO THE OFFICE  
17 WHERE WE ALWAYS DID BEFORE OR TELL SOMEBODY THAT THEIR  
18 SERVICE IS GOING TO BE FURTHER AWAY AND THAT MY  
19 APPLIANCE REPAIRMAN IS NOT GOING TO BE THERE FOR AN  
20 HOUR AND A HALF LONGER BECAUSE HE LIVES 60 MILES AWAY,  
21 I WOULD BE OUT OF BUSINESS OR MY BROTHER WOULD, AND I  
22 JUST THINK IT'S POOR BUSINESS.

23 AND SOME OF THE DOWNSIZING THEY HAVE DONE AND  
24 HOW IT'S HURT THE SMALLER COMMUNITIES, LIMA, AND THE  
25 CITIES GET A LOT MORE ATTENTION BECAUSE THEY ARE BIG.

1 US LITTLE GUYS ARE WORSE. AND BESIDES EVERYTHING ELSE,  
2 THEY ARE TAKING OUR FUNDING ALSO, THE GOVERNMENT IS, SO  
3 IT'S A STRUGGLE ALL THE WAY AROUND AND WE CERTAINLY  
4 DON'T NEED A UTILITY INCREASE ON TOP OF THAT.

5 THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

6 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: SHEILA  
7 DEVILLE?

8 - - -

9 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )

10 - - -

11 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND  
12 SPELL YOUR NAME AND GIVE YOUR ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.

13 MS. DEWILLE: SHEILA DEWILLE,  
14 S-H-E-I-L-A D-E-W-I-L-L-E. 727 MICHAEL AVENUE, LIMA,  
15 OHIO, 45804.

16 THE PROBLEM WITH THE RATE INCREASE TO ME IS  
17 DETRIMENTAL TO EVERYBODY INVOLVED, WITHIN THE STATE OF  
18 OHIO NOT JUST LIMA, OHIO. A LOT OF US CAN'T AFFORD IT.  
19 YES, I WORK, I AM A MANAGER AT A FAST FOOD RESTAURANT,  
20 AND AT THE RESTAURANT MY COMPANY TELLS ME IF I WANT A  
21 PAY INCREASE OR RATE INCREASE IN MY WAGES THAT I HAVE  
22 TO GIVE THE COMPANY SOMETHING THEY WANT, WHICH IS  
23 PERFORMANCE.

24 IF A.E.P. WANTS THEIR RATE INCREASE WHY  
25 AREN'T THEY GIVING LIMA AND THE CITIZENS OF THIS STATE

1 A PERFORMANCE? THEY ARE NOT.

2 I CONTACTED A.E.P. PERSONALLY THREE YEARS AGO  
3 WITH A PROBLEM IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD. I STILL HAVE NOT  
4 BEEN RESPONDED TO BY A.E.P. AND THIS IS THREE YEARS  
5 OLD. I CONTACTED THE P.U.C.O. AND TRIED TO GET THEM  
6 INVOLVED IN THE SITUATION. THE P.U.C.O. HAS TRIED BUT  
7 A.E.P. WON'T EVEN RESPOND TO THEM.

8 I DROVE TO COLUMBUS, OHIO TO ONE RIVERSIDE  
9 PLAZA AND TALKED TO A GREG GRIFFIN FROM A.E.P. WHO NO  
10 LONGER IS EMPLOYED THERE AND I WAS TOLD BY HIM THAT HE  
11 HAD NO IDEA WHAT WE WERE GOING TO DO ABOUT THE PROBLEM  
12 I HAD, WHICH WAS TRANSFORMERS SPARKING AND ARCING ALL  
13 OVER THE STREET, NOT JUST AT MY CORNER BUT AT A FEW  
14 CORNERS.

15 SO I SAID OKAY, WHAT'S GOING TO BE DONE?  
16 WELL, GO HOME AND WE'LL SEE WHAT WE CAN DO. WELL,  
17 NOTHING HAS EVER BEEN DONE, BECAUSE MY POWER GOES IN  
18 AND OUT ON AND OFF, IT'S INTERMITTENT. IT CAN BE DAYS,  
19 IT CAN BE A COUPLE MINUTES.

20 ANOTHER PROBLEM I HAVE IS THE STATE OF OHIO  
21 ITSELF THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS HAS  
22 REALIZED THAT THE UTILITY RATES ARE SO BAD, AND I AM  
23 TALKING ALL THE UTILITIES, THAT THEY CLOSED DOWN L.C.I.  
24 WHICH IS THE LIMA CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTE, AND THEY ARE  
25 SAYING THE PROBLEM WITH IT IS THE UTILITIES AND THEY

1 CAN'T AFFORD TO KEEP IT GOING.

2 NOW, IF THE STATE CAN RECOGNIZE THAT THE  
3 UTILITIES ARE GETTING TOO MUCH, WHY CAN'T THE P.U.C.O.  
4 RECOGNIZE THIS? IF A.E.P. WANTS ME TO PAY THEM MORE  
5 MONEY THEY SHOULD GIVE ME A SERVICE. I AM IN CUSTOMER  
6 SATISFACTION AT MY JOB, I AM SUPPOSED TO SATISFY MY  
7 CUSTOMERS. A.E.P. NEVER HAS DONE THAT TO THIS DAY IN  
8 MY OPINION.

9 AND I THINK THAT THE PEOPLE OF THIS  
10 COMMUNITY, NOT JUST ME, NOT JUST THE MIDDLE CLASS, NOT  
11 JUST THE LOW CLASS, NOT JUST THE PEOPLE MAKE BUNCHES OF  
12 MONEY, CANNOT AFFORD TO GIVE A.E.P. MORE MONEY WHEN  
13 THEY DON'T DO ANYTHING TO HELP THE COMMUNITIES AND HELP  
14 IMPROVE THEIR SERVICE TO THE CUSTOMER. I'M NOT A  
15 SATISFIED CUSTOMER. I DON'T THINK ANYBODY IN THIS  
16 AUDIENCE IS A SATISFIED CUSTOMER OF A.E.P.

17 THANK YOU.

18 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: I AM UNSURE  
19 OF THIS NAME. DICK COUNTESS?

20 MR. COUNTESS: I'LL PASS.

21 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: JOHN  
22 SCHNEIDER?

23 - - -

24 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )

25 - - -

1 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND  
2 SPELL YOUR NAME AND GIVE YOUR ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.

3 MR. SCHNEIDER: JOHN SCHNEIDER.  
4 J-O-H-N S-C-H-N-E-I-D-E-R. I LIVE AT 2325 WALES  
5 AVENUE, LIMA, OHIO, 45805. I AM IN AGREEMENT WITH MANY  
6 OF OUR PREVIOUS SPEAKERS SO I WILL BRIEF.

7 I AM PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN ENCOURAGING  
8 A.E.P. TO RESPOND TO THE SPECIFIC CONCERNS STATED BY  
9 MR. ELSTRO AND THE LIMA CITY GOVERNMENT. I HOPE THEY  
10 CAN PUBLICLY RESPOND TO THOSE CONCERNS.

11 I ALSO CALL ON A.E.P. TO STATE PUBLICLY MORE  
12 CLEARLY WHAT IS THE AVERAGE PERCENT INCREASE IN THE  
13 FEES FOR THE CONSUMER, ALSO HOW MUCH WOULD THIS BE FOR  
14 THE AVERAGE RESIDENTIAL CONSUMER, HOW MUCH WOULD THIS  
15 COST THEM?

16 I HAVE CONCERN WITH LOW AND MODERATE FAMILIES  
17 AND ALSO NEIGHBORHOODS. SOME COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS  
18 THAT I AM INVOLVED WITH ARE DOING WHAT WE CAN TO  
19 IMPROVE RESIDENTIAL AREAS BUT ALSO TO BRING COMMERCIAL  
20 DEVELOPMENT TO LOW AND MODERATE INCOMES, AND I HAVE  
21 CONCERNS ABOUT WHAT THE UTILITY INCREASE, HOW THAT  
22 WOULD IMPACT EFFORTS MADE TO IMPROVE THE ECONOMY AND  
23 DEVELOPMENT OF THOSE LOW AND MODERATE INCOME  
24 NEIGHBORHOODS.

25 THANK YOU.



1 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: RUSSELL  
2 COLLEY?

3 MR. COLLEY: WE WILL FILE A  
4 WRITTEN PETITION.

5 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: LISA MAULT?  
6 ( NO RESPONSE )

7 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: CYNDY  
8 COLLINS?

9 - - -  
10 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )  
11 - - -

12 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND  
13 SPELL YOUR NAME AND ALSO YOUR ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.

14 MS. COLLINS: CYNDY COLLINS.  
15 C-Y-N-D-Y C-O-L-L-I-N-S. 1320 LOCH LOMAN WAY, LIMA,  
16 45805. A LOT OF MY POINTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN TAKEN SO I  
17 WILL ALSO TRY TO BE BRIEF.

18 ONE OF THE PROBLEMS THAT I HAVE WITH A.E.P.  
19 IS NOT ONLY IN THEIR RELIABILITY AND THEIR SERVICE BUT  
20 IN THEIR COMMUNICATION, AND AN INDICATION OF THAT WAS  
21 DURING THE ICE STORM. THERE WAS VERY VERY POOR  
22 COMMUNICATION TO THE COMMUNITY, TO THE MEDIA, AND TO  
23 THE CONSUMERS. THAT NEEDS A MAJOR OVERHAUL.

24 AS ANOTHER LADY MENTIONED, WHEN YOU CALL AND  
25 YOU LIVE ON A STREET THAT IS LOCH LOMAN WAY AND YOU'RE

1 TRYING TO EXPLAIN THAT AND GET LORLOMAIN AND ALL KIND  
2 OF WORDS, YOU'RE NOT COMFORTABLE THAT YOU HAVE REACHED  
3 SOMEBODY THAT KNOWS WHAT PART OF THE UNITED STATES  
4 YOU'RE IN. SO TO HAVE OUR CALLS GOING SO FAR AWAY I  
5 THINK IS ALSO VERY POOR.

6 I HAVE A BROTHER WHO'S A WORKAHOLIC. I NEVER  
7 HARDLY TALK TO HIM BUT WHEN HE CALLS I KNOW THE NEXT  
8 WORDS OUT OF HIS MOUTH WILL BE "DO YOU HAVE POWER OVER  
9 THERE?" AND THAT IS, HE IS ON THE WEST SIDE OF TOWN,  
10 THERE'S A LOT OF DEVELOPMENT THERE, AND I DON'T BELIEVE  
11 THAT A.E.P. HAVE KEPT UP WITH THE CONSTRUCTION. AT THE  
12 END OF SERIFF ROAD WE HAVE THE PRIMROSE COMMUNITY FOR  
13 SENIORS, WE ARE GOING TO GET A SUPER WAL-MART, AND MY  
14 PARTICULAR SERVICE IS TAPPED OFF OF EAST OF TOWN AND  
15 IT'S GETTING WORSE AS THERE IS MORE DEVELOPMENT.

16 IT WOULD SEEM THAT, MY SENSE WOULD BE AS YOU  
17 HAVE MORE CUSTOMERS YOU WOULD HAVE MORE MONEY TO  
18 UPGRADE THE SERVICE.

19 AND LASTLY, I'D JUST LIKE TO MAKE A POINT,  
20 THIS IS FROM THE P.U.C.O. WEB SITE OUT OF A PUBLICATION  
21 THEY HAVE CALLED THE MONITOR, AND I WOULD URGE THE  
22 P.U.C.O. TO TAKE A LOOK AT THIS PARAGRAPH IN THEIR  
23 COMMUNICATION THAT I FOUND THAT GOES INTERNALLY TO  
24 THEIR EMPLOYEES AND EXTERNALLY TO THE COMMUNITY: IN  
25 JULY 2006 THE P.U.C.O. HAS DIRECTED AMERICAN ELECTRIC

1 POWER TO DEDICATE TEN MILLION DOLLARS TO SERVICE AND  
2 RELIABILITY CONCERNS. THE FUNDS WILL NOT BE RECOVERED  
3 FROM TAXPAYERS AND THE COMMISSION WILL WORK TO  
4 DETERMINE WHERE AND HOW THE FUNDS WILL BEST BE SPENT.

5 AS A CONSUMER I URGE THE P.U.C.O. AND  
6 WHATEVER INFLUENCE THE O.C.C. HAS TO MAKE SURE THAT  
7 A.E.P. FOLLOWS THIS DIRECTIVE. THANK YOU.

8 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: BOB MOONEY?

9 - - -

10 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )

11 - - -

12 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND  
13 SPELL YOUR NAME AND GIVE YOUR ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.

14 MR. MOONEY: BOB MOONEY.

15 M-O-O-N-E-Y. 441 SOUTH DEWEY, LIMA, 45804.

16 MINE WILL BE BRIEF. I LIVED AT MY PRESENT  
17 RESIDENCE FOR 17 YEARS, AND FOR 15 YEARS WE HAVE  
18 COMPLAINED TO A.E.P. ABOUT THE POWER OUTAGE ON THE EAST  
19 SIDE OF TOWN.

20 IT WASN'T UNTIL JUST A FEW YEARS BACK THAT  
21 THEY FINALLY FIXED IT, AND FOR THAT SIDE OF TOWN WE  
22 HAVE THE HOSPITAL AND SEVERAL RESTAURANTS AND  
23 BUSINESSES OVER THERE THAT WERE WITHOUT POWER AND LOST  
24 BUSINESS BECAUSE THEY DIDN'T FIX THE UPGRADE AND SO  
25 THEY COULD JOIN WITH THE RESTAURANTS THAT THEY BUILT

1 ONTO TO UPGRADE THE POWER SO EVERYBODY WOULD HAVE IT.

2 I JUST FEEL THAT IT TOOK THEM FIFTEEN YEARS  
3 TO FIX THAT AND I THINK THAT A GOOD PREDICTION OF  
4 FUTURE BEHAVIOR ON UPGRADES IS THE PAST. THANK YOU.

5 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: RON BIBLE?

6 - - -

7 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )

8 - - -

9 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND  
10 SPELL YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.

11 MR. BIBLE: RON BIBLE, R-O-N  
12 B-I-B-L-E. 5055 DAISY LANE, ELIDA, OHIO.

13 I AM SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE RESIDENTS OF  
14 AMERICAN TOWNSHIP. I FOR ONE HAD A CALL FROM A  
15 RESIDENT ABOUT WHY IN AMERICAN TOWNSHIP DO WE HAVE SO  
16 MANY OUTAGES AND I AM NOT GOING TO REITERATE THE -- WE  
17 HAVE HEARD FROM BUSINESS, WE HAVE HEARD FROM THE SENIOR  
18 CITIZENS, SO I WILL JUST SAY I AM ALSO AGAINST RATE  
19 INCREASES.

20 I THINK THE SERVICE SHOULD BE, THE  
21 INFRASTRUCTURE SHOULD BE FIXED WITH THE FUNDS  
22 AVAILABLE. BUT I WANTED TO GO ON THE RECORD FOR THE  
23 PEOPLE OF AMERICAN TOWNSHIP THAT THE INFRASTRUCTURE ON  
24 THE WEST SIDE NEEDS IMPROVEMENT. MY NEIGHBORS ALL  
25 AROUND US, POWER WAS OUT, THEIR BASEMENTS FLOOD. I CAN

1 QUOTE YOU SEVERAL PEOPLE WHO SPENT 3 OR \$4,000 ON  
2 BACKUP GENERATORS.

3 AND I WOULD LIKE TO THANK MR. ELSTRO AND THE  
4 CITY OF LIMA. I DON'T THINK YOU COULD PRESENT ANY  
5 BETTER THE REASONS THAT LIMA AND ALLEN COUNTY SHOULDN'T  
6 HAVE AN INCREASE IN ELECTRICAL FEES TO PAY FOR OTHER  
7 PARTS OF OHIO WITH THE ECONOMIC SITUATION AS IT IS IN  
8 ALLEN COUNTY.

9 AND I WOULD LIKE ONE JUST QUICK NOTE,  
10 INDIVIDUALLY WE ARE NOT HERE TO DO THIS BUT I AM GOING  
11 TO DO IT ANYWAY. I THINK THE INDIVIDUAL POWER WORKER  
12 DOES AN EXCELLENT JOB, I HAVE SEEN THEM. THE PROBLEM I  
13 THINK IS MANAGEMENT UP. I AM NOT GOING TO LECTURE ON  
14 THE AMERICAN ECONOMIC SYSTEM BUT WHAT WE HAVE DONE IS  
15 GONE LEANER AND MEANER FOR MORE PROFIT AND LESS  
16 SERVICE.

17 SO I JUST WANT IT ON THE RECORD THAT  
18 INFRASTRUCTURE IN THIS AREA DEFINITELY NEEDS IMPROVED.

19 THANK YOU.

20 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: TIM

21 LUCEWIREMAN?

22 - - -

23 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )

24 - - -

25 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND

1 SPELL YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.

2 MR. LUCEWIREMAN: L-U-C-E-W-  
3 I-R-E-M-A-N. I WOULD LIKE TO BRING A LITTLE BIT OF  
4 IRREVERENCE TO THE GATHERING TONIGHT BECAUSE, LADIES  
5 AND GENTLEMEN, YOU THOUGHT YOU WERE COMING HERE TO A  
6 PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION EVENT, WHAT YOU HAVE REALLY  
7 COME FOR IS WHAT I WOULD CALL THE A.E.P. DOUBLE DIP  
8 LOTTERY, A GAME WHERE ONLY ONE COMPANY CAN PLAY, ONE  
9 COMPANY CAN WIN, AND ALL THE RATE PAYERS ARE LOSERS.

10 70 MILLION DOLLARS, I WONDER WHAT THAT WOULD  
11 LOOK LIKE IN MY GARAGE IN A HUNDRED DOLLAR BILLS. I AM  
12 TRYING TO IMAGINE WHAT 70 MILLION DOLLARS WOULD LOOK  
13 LIKE. I KNOW TO A.E.P. IT'S NOT A LOT. THEY CONSIDER  
14 IT A FAIRLY SMALL INCREASE IN THE BIGGER SCHEME OF  
15 THINGS, BUT FOR WORKING CLASS FAMILIES IT'S HARD TO  
16 IMAGINE HOW MUCH GARAGES THAT WOULD FILL.

17 IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE BECAUSE A LOT OF WORKING  
18 CLASS FAMILIES ARE TRYING TO IMAGINE HOW THEY ARE GOING  
19 TO PAY THEIR CURRENT BILL.

20 SPEAKING OF BUCKS -- NO, NOT THOSE BUCKS --  
21 THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION NEEDS TO DEVELOP THEIR  
22 OWN PUBLIC RELIABILITY SERVICE PROGRAM IN MY OPINION.  
23 THE BUCK STOPS HERE WOULD BE A GREAT SLOGAN TO START  
24 WITH.

25 WAIT A MINUTE, I HAVE SOMETHING ELSE IN MIND,

1 HOW ABOUT WE START WITH A SLOGAN THAT SAYS JUST SAY NO.  
2 I THINK THAT'S A BETTER SLOGAN.

3 SO WHY ARE WE REALLY HERE? A.E.P. SPINS THE  
4 WHEEL AND IF THE PUBLIC DOES NOT ADEQUATELY PROTECT  
5 ITSELF THE COMPANY GETS WHAT IT WANTS.

6 IT'S NOT JUST IN OHIO, MY FRIENDS, IT'S  
7 EVERYWHERE, AND IT ISN'T NECESSARILY FOR THE BEST  
8 INTERESTS OF THE PUBLIC. IF THE P.U.C.O. LOOKS AT THE  
9 MILLIONS IN NET PROFITS THAT THE COMPANY CURRENTLY  
10 EARNS, THEN THE P.U.C.O. MUST JUST SAY NO.

11 IF A.E.P. REALLY WANTS TO INVEST IN THEIR  
12 BUSINESS THEN THEY SHOULD USE THEIR PROFITS AND THE  
13 P.U.C.O. SHOULD JUST SAY NO. I AM ACTUALLY HERE AS A  
14 REPRESENTATIVE OF OVER 400 CONSTRUCTION WORKERS IN A  
15 SEVEN COUNTY AREA SURROUNDING ALLEN COUNTY. I GET A  
16 LOT OF FEEDBACK FROM MY MEMBERS BECAUSE THEY ARE JUST  
17 ABOUT AS AGGRESSIVE AS I AM. THEY WON'T COME HERE TO  
18 SPEAK BECAUSE IF YOU ASK THEM TO STAND UP IN A MEETING  
19 THEY ALL GO RUNNING FOR THE DOOR. SO I WANT EVERYBODY  
20 TO UNDERSTAND THAT I AM THEIR VOICE, AND THEY WANT THE  
21 PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO JUST SAY NO.

22 I THINK WE HAVE HEARD IT ALL HERE TONIGHT  
23 FROM SENIOR CITIZENS, FROM WORKING CLASS FAMILIES, THAT  
24 THERE'S NO NEED FOR THE INCREASE BECAUSE THE COMPANY IS  
25 ALREADY SUPPOSED TO BE PROVIDING RELIABLE SERVICE, IT'S

1 PART OF THE DEAL. IT WAS SOMETHING THAT THE PUBLIC  
2 UTILITIES COMMISSION SAID THIS IS A GOOD IDEA, LET'S  
3 SET ASIDE MONEY SO THAT THERE CAN BE RELIABLE SERVICE,  
4 AND I DON'T SEE ANY NEED TO INCREASE THEIR RELIABILITY  
5 PROGRAM, IF YOU WANT TO CALL IT THAT, TO INCREASE THE  
6 PAY TO THEM WHEN THEY ARE NOT GENERATING WHAT THEY ARE  
7 SUPPOSED TO IN THE FIRST PLACE.

8 WE ARE ASKING WORKERS TO PAY FOR THESE  
9 INCREASES ALONG WITH INCREASES IN COSTS THAT THE  
10 COMPANY HAS TO IN THEORY PASS ALONG.

11 A.E.P. MAKES SURE THEY MAKE MONEY EVERY YEAR  
12 EVERY MONTH THAT THEY ARE IN OPERATION, SO THIS IS MORE  
13 OR LESS A BONUS PROGRAM THE WAY I SEE IT. WELL, I GOT  
14 TO TELL YOU SOMETHING, THE CONSTRUCTION WORKERS WOULD  
15 LIKE A BONUS PROGRAM HERE BUT I GUARANTEE THE PUBLIC  
16 UTILITY COMMISSION IS NOT GOING TO GIVE THEM ONE.

17 IN THIS CASE THEY SHOULDN'T GIVE A.E.P. ONE  
18 EITHER. SO WORKERS IN AND AROUND THE LIMA AREA ASK THE  
19 PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO DO WHAT I SAID AND THAT  
20 IS JUST SAY NO TO THIS RIDICULOUS INCREASE, 70 MILLION  
21 DOLLARS.

22 THANK YOU.

23 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: SAM

24 BASSETT?

25 MR. BASSETT: I'LL PASS.



1 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: KYLE LEWIS?

2 ( NO RESPONSE )

3 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: THAT WAS  
4 EVERYONE THAT I HAD ON THE LIST WHO HAVE REQUESTED AN  
5 OPPORTUNITY TO OFFER TESTIMONY.

6 IS THERE ANYONE ELSE THAT WOULD LIKE TO OFFER  
7 TESTIMONY AT THIS TIME THAT DIDN'T PUT THEIR NAME ON  
8 THE LIST?

9 MS. GARLAND: I WOULD LIKE TO  
10 READDRESS THE STAND AGAIN, MA'AM.

11 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: LET ME JUST  
12 REMIND YOU THAT YOU'RE STILL UNDER OATH.

13 MS. GARLAND: YES, MA'AM.

14 FROM WHAT I HAVE HEARD HERE AND FROM WHAT I  
15 SEE HERE WHEN I WAS UP ON THE STAND, I MOVED FROM LIMA  
16 IN 1985. THIS WAS MY HOME FROM THE TIME I WAS TWO. I  
17 MOVED BECAUSE I FELT LIMA DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO OFFER  
18 ME BECAUSE OHIO STATE GRANTS WAS JUST GETTING ON THE  
19 MOVE HERE IN LIMA. AND SO MY COLLEGE, THEY DIDN'T HAVE  
20 THE OFFER, AND SO THAT'S HOW I ENDED UP IN TOLEDO.

21 BUT I FORESEE LIKE THE TAXPAYERS, THEIR  
22 TAXPAYERS, THEY ARE MOVING OUT BECAUSE THE JOBS ARE  
23 MOVING. THEY ARE MOVING OUT BECAUSE THE UTILITY BILLS  
24 ARE GETTING SO HIGH ON THEM THEY CAN'T AFFORD THEM AND  
25 MEET THEIR FAMILY EXPENSES AT THE SAME TIME, TO FEED

1 THEIR CHILDREN, PUT CLOTHES ON THEIR BACKS, ET CETERA.  
2 AND THEY CAN MOVE BECAUSE THEY GO PLACES WHERE THE JOBS  
3 ARE.

4 YOUR SENIOR CITIZENS, THE ONES THAT HAVE NICE  
5 PENSIONS AND SOME MONEY IN THEIR POCKET, THEY ARE  
6 MOVING OUT. THEY ARE GOING TO GO TO FLORIDA, SOMEPLACE  
7 WHERE IT'S WARM, WHERE THEY DON'T HAVE TO PAY MORE THAN  
8 ONE UTILITY BILL BECAUSE THEY CAN'T AFFORD WHAT IS  
9 BEING PRESSED ON THEM.

10 YOU'RE FACED WITH SENIOR CITIZENS THAT CHOOSE  
11 TO STAY HERE BECAUSE THIS IS THEIR HOME AND HAS BEEN  
12 FOR YEARS AND THEY DON'T WANT TO LEAVE IT, SO YOU'RE  
13 GOING TO BUILD BIGGER GRAVEYARDS BECAUSE THEY ARE DOING  
14 WITHOUT THEIR UTILITIES AND IN THE WINTERTIME THEY ARE  
15 GOING FREEZE TO DEATH BECAUSE THEY CAN'T AFFORD TO PAY  
16 THEM, SO YOU BETTER GET READY TO MAKE MORE GRAVEYARDS  
17 IF THESE THINGS CONTINUE TO RISE AND GO UP.

18 AS FAR AS THE REST OF THE LEVELS, YOU'VE GOT  
19 YOUR LOW INCOME PEOPLE, YOUR FIXED INCOME PEOPLE, THEY  
20 CAN'T MOVE, THEY DON'T HAVE THE MONEY, THEY DON'T HAVE  
21 THE CHOICE, SO WHAT IS YOUR CONSUMER? YOUR CONSUMER IN  
22 LIMA, OHIO IS MOSTLY YOUR SENIOR CITIZENS, YOUR LOW  
23 INCOME PEOPLE, BECAUSE THEY CANNOT MOVE BUT AT THE SAME  
24 TIME THEY CAN'T AFFORD THESE RATE HIKES, SO WHAT DO  
25 THEY DO?

1           WHEN I LIVED HERE AND THEY HAD THE BLIZZARD  
2           IN 1978 I HAD AN OLDER LADY AND GENTLEMAN THAT LIVED  
3           NEXT-DOOR TO ME. IT WAS A TWINPLEX. ON MY SIDE OF THE  
4           HOUSE, AND IT WAS BIGGER THAN THEIR SIDE, I HAD A NEW  
5           BABY AND THIS HOUSE WASN'T INSULATED SO MY HEAT WAS UP  
6           ON 90 AND MY BILL WAS \$250 A MONTH.

7           THIS OLDER COUPLE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE  
8           TWINPLEX, EVERYBODY WAS SAYING TURN DOWN YOUR HEAT,  
9           PLEASE HELP WITH THE ECONOMY, AND EXCUSE ME BUT THE OLD  
10          LADY DIED BECAUSE SHE FROZE TO DEATH IN HER BED TRYING  
11          TO TURN DOWN THE HEAT BECAUSE THEY COULDN'T AFFORD THE  
12          BILL AND THEY WERE TRYING TO HELP THE ECONOMY.

13          SO LIMA BETTER LOOK AT WHAT IT'S LOOKING AT  
14          AND SEE WHERE IT'S GOING AND THE P.U.C.O. AND UTILITY  
15          COMPANIES, THEY BETTER OPEN THEIR EYES AND SEE WHERE  
16          THEY ARE GOING BECAUSE, LIKE THE GENTLEMAN SAID, THE  
17          UTILITY COMPANIES AND THE BIG COMPANIES, THEY ARE  
18          GETTING TOO GREEDY, TOO GREEDY. I UNDERSTAND THEY PAY  
19          A LOT OF PEOPLE, THEY PAY A LOT OF WAGES, AND I  
20          UNDERSTAND ALSO A LOT OF PEOPLE ASK FOR WAGE INCREASES,  
21          BUT IT'S GETTING TOO GREEDY TO THE POINT WHERE THE  
22          CONSUMERS CANNOT AFFORD IT AND THE PEOPLE ARE LEAVING.  
23          THE TAXPAYERS THAT COULD AFFORD IT BECAUSE THEY ARE ON  
24          A MINIMUM WAGE JOB THAT CAN AFFORD TO PAY A LITTLE BIT  
25          OF THIS, THEY ARE DYING. YOU'VE GOT ME AND I'M 33

1 YEARS OLD WITH FAMILIES THAT ARE DYING. WHY? BECAUSE  
2 OF HEART ATTACKS, BECAUSE OF STRESS, BECAUSE OF  
3 UTILITIES RAISING PRICES AND EVERYTHING. EXCUSE ME, IF  
4 THEY GET A RAISE MAYBE THEY MIGHT GET 50 CENTS ON THE  
5 DOLLAR RAISE AND THEY'VE GOT THE ELECTRIC COMPANY, GAS  
6 COMPANY, RENT, ET CETERA. EVERYBODY'S GETTING RAISES,  
7 THE GROCERY STORE, RAISES. WHERE IS THEIR RAISES TO  
8 COVER ALL THEM SIX DIFFERENT CATEGORIES? IT'S NOT  
9 THERE.

10 SO I THINK THAT ALL THE UTILITY COMPANIES  
11 NEED TO SIT DOWN AND LOOK, CAN YOU IMAGINE WHAT LIMA  
12 WOULD BE IF EVERYBODY WENT OUT AND BOUGHT GENERATORS?  
13 I HAVE ONE. THOSE THINGS HAVE TO BE OUT IN THE  
14 BACKYARD FOR YOU TO USE THEM BECAUSE OF THE FUMES THAT  
15 COME OFF THEM AND THOSE THINGS ARE VERY NOISY. CAN YOU  
16 IMAGINE WHAT LIMA WOULD SOUND LIKE AND SMELL LIKE IF  
17 EVERYBODY IN LIMA HAD GENERATORS BECAUSE THEY DECIDED  
18 TO SAY NO TO THE ELECTRIC COMPANY AND THE ELECTRIC  
19 COMPANY JUST SAY OKAY, THEN WE WILL JUST TURN YOU OFF,  
20 SO THEY GOT SOMETHING DIFFERENT AND THEY GOT A  
21 GENERATOR SO THEY COULD STILL EXIST.

22 BUT BOY, THE CITY IS NOT GOING TO SMELL TOO  
23 GOOD AND THERE'S GOING TO BE NOISE LIKE CRAZY AND THERE  
24 GOES YOUR AIR POLLUTION.

25 AND THOSE THAT CAN AFFORD GENERATORS, THEY

1 ARE GOING END UP LIKE THE OLD LADY, THEY ARE GOING TO  
2 FREEZE TO DEATH IN THEIR BEDS BECAUSE OHIO HAS COLD  
3 WINTERS, AND THE ONES THAT DOES NOT, THEY ARE GOING TO  
4 MOVE TO FLORIDA OR SOMEPLACE ELSE WHERE THEY ARE NOT  
5 GOING TO FREEZE TO DEATH BECAUSE THEY CAN'T PAY THEIR  
6 UTILITY BILLS.

7 THAT'S ALL I'VE GOT TO SAY.

8 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: THANK YOU.

9 SINCE THERE'S NO FURTHER TESTIMONY TO BE  
10 TAKEN, THE HEARING IS ADJOURNED.


11 THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND ATTENDANCE.  
12  
13  
14 - - -  
15  
16  
17  
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19  
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21  
22  
23  
24  
25

## C E R T I F I C A T E

- - -

I, SHELLEY DAY, A NOTARY PUBLIC AND  
PROFESSIONAL COURT REPORTER WITHIN AND FOR THE STATE OF  
OHIO, DULY COMMISSIONED AND QUALIFIED, DO HEREBY  
CERTIFY THAT THE WITHIN CAPTIONED HEARING WAS BY ME  
REDUCED TO COMPUTER TRANSCRIPTION, AND THAT THE  
FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND CORRECT TRANSCRIPTION OF SAME.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY  
HAND AND AFFIXED MY SEAL OF OFFICE IN HANCOCK COUNTY,  
OHIO, ON THIS 13TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2007.



SHELLEY DAY, PROFESSIONAL REPORTER  
NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF OHIO

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES AUGUST 10, 2010.

- - -

1

## THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

## PUBLIC HEARING

JANUARY 10, 2007  
LIMA, OHIO

IN RE: AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER RELIABILITY PROJECT  
CASE NO. 06-222-EL-SLF

SHELLEY DAY  
PROFESSIONAL COURT REPORTER  
2111 STONECLIFF DRIVE FINDLAY, OH 45840  
419-424-3755

2

## APPEARANCES:

ON BEHALF OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF OHIO:

GRETA SEE  
ATTORNEY EXAMINER  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO  
180 EAST BROAD STREET, 12TH FLOOR  
COLUMBUS, OH 43215

ON BEHALF OF AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER:

MARVIN J. RESNIK  
ASSISTANT GENERAL COUNSEL  
AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER  
ONE RIVERSIDE PLAZA  
COLUMBUS, OH 43215-2373

ON BEHALF OF OHIO CONSUMERS' COUNSEL:

RICK REESE  
ASSISTANT CONSUMERS' COUNSEL  
OFFICE OF THE OHIO CONSUMERS' COUNSEL  
10 WEST BROAD STREET, 18TH FLOOR  
COLUMBUS, OH 43215-3465

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## P R O C E E D I N G S

ATTORNEY EXAMINER: LADIES AND  
GENTLEMEN, IF YOU COULD TAKE YOUR SEATS.

FIRST I'D LIKE TO INTRODUCE MYSELF. MY NAME  
IS GRETA SEE. I AM AN ATTORNEY WITH THE PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION. I AM ASSIGNED TO THIS PARTICULAR  
CASE. IT IS CASE NUMBER 06-222-EL-SLF.

THE CASE CAPTION IS IN THE MATTER OF THE SELF  
COMPLAINT OF COLUMBUS SOUTHERN POWER COMPANY AND OHIO  
POWER COMPANY REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMS  
TO ENHANCE DISTRIBUTION SERVICE RELIABILITY.

BEFORE WE ACTUALLY GET INTO THE PUBLIC  
HEARING PORTION OF TONIGHT'S PUBLIC HEARING, I WANT TO  
MAKE YOU AWARE OF WHO THE GENTLEMAN SITTING TO MY RIGHT  
ARE. SITTING TO MY FAR RIGHT IS MARV RESNIK, COUNSEL  
FOR THE COMPANY, AND AT SOME POINT LATER I WILL ASK HIM  
MAKE AN APPEARANCE ON RECORD AND I WILL DO THE SAME FOR  
THE GENTLEMAN SITTING TO MY IMMEDIATE RIGHT WHO IS RICK  
REESE. HE IS ASSISTANT COUNSEL TO OHIO CONSUMERS'  
COUNSEL AND REPRESENTATIVE AND ADVOCATE FOR RESIDENTIAL  
CONSUMERS.

THE COMPANY AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER, O.C.C.,

5

1 AND THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION EACH HAVE STAFF  
2 PERSONNEL HERE THAT CAN ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS OR IS  
3 WILLING TO GET BACK IN TOUCH WITH YOU IF THERE ARE  
4 UTILITY SERVICE ISSUES THAT ARE UNRELATED TO TONIGHT'S  
5 PUBLIC HEARING.

6 IF YOU HAVE SOME QUESTIONS, YOU WANT TO KNOW  
7 HOW ANY OF THE PROCESSES WORK OR IF YOU HAVE SOME  
8 SERVICE ISSUES THAT YOU WISH TO DISCUSS WITH PERSONNEL  
9 FROM OHIO POWER OR COLUMBUS SOUTHERN POWER, THE COMPANY  
10 REPRESENTATIVES ARE HERE. YOU CAN GET INFORMATION FROM  
11 ONE OF THE REPRESENTATIVES AND DISCUSS YOUR ISSUES WITH  
12 THEM.

13 WHEN YOU COME FORWARD I WILL ASK YOU TO RAISE  
14 YOUR RIGHT HAND TO GIVE SWORN TESTIMONY OR IF YOU WISH  
15 YOU MAY AFFIRM. I WILL ASK YOU TO STATE AND SPELL YOUR  
16 NAME FOR THE RECORD. I WILL ALSO ASK YOU TO GIVE YOUR  
17 ADDRESS ON THE RECORD. THEN I WILL ASK YOU TO PROCEED.  
18 GO AHEAD AND FEEL FREE TO GIVE YOUR STATEMENT THEN AND  
19 I'M GOING TO ASK YOU TO SPEAK UP SO THAT EVERYONE HERE  
20 CAN HEAR YOU.

21 YOU WILL NOTICE THAT THERE IS SOMEONE HERE  
22 RECORDING EVERYTHING THAT IS BEING SAID. THAT IS FOR  
23 PURPOSES OF THE COMMISSION'S TRANSCRIPT. IT'S A RECORD  
24 OF TONIGHT'S PUBLIC HEARING. IF YOU GO ONTO THE  
25 COMMISSION'S WEB SITE YOU CAN SEE UNDER THIS CASE THE

6

1 TRANSCRIPT OF TONIGHT'S PUBLIC HEARING.

2 THERE WAS A TABLE JUST AS YOU CAME INTO THE  
3 DOOR AND THERE WERE TWO GENTLEMEN FROM THE PUBLIC  
4 UTILITIES COMMISSION THERE. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS  
5 ABOUT THE COMMISSION'S PROCESS OR YOU NEED SOME  
6 ASSISTANCE WITH UTILITY COMPLAINTS YOU CAN ASK THOSE  
7 GENTLEMEN AND THEY CAN DIRECT YOU AS TO WHO TO CONTACT  
8 OR HOW TO LOOK AT THE COMMISSION'S DOCKET OR HOW TO  
9 REACH SOMEONE AT THE COMMISSION TO DISCUSS YOUR SERVICE  
10 COMPLAINTS.

11 ARE THERE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT TONIGHT'S  
12 PROCESS?

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I AM  
14 ONE OF THE REGISTERED ONES THAT ARE GOING TO SPEAK AND  
15 I BASICALLY NOT NECESSARILY HAVE GOT COMPLAINTS BUT  
16 I'VE GOT STATEMENTS OF MY VILLAGE AND PROBLEMS WE'VE  
17 HAD AND THINGS THAT I AM NOT HAPPY WITH AND DON'T SEE  
18 FOR INSTANCE WHY A RATE INCREASE IS NECESSARY WHEN WE  
19 ARE GETTING LESS SERVICE NOW. IS THAT WHAT I WANT TO  
20 MENTION HERE?

21 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: IF YOU WISH  
22 TO GIVE A STATEMENT ON THE RECORD AND YOU HAVE SIGNED  
23 IN. I WILL GO DOWN THE LIST AND CALL EACH ONE FORWARD.  
24 I WILL NEED YOU TO STEP UP ON STAGE TO MAKE IT EASY FOR  
25 THE COURT REPORTER TO HEAR YOU AND SO YOU WILL HAVE AN

7

1 OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A STATEMENT. IF YOU HAVE YOUR  
2 STATEMENT TYPED UP, PLEASE PROVIDE IT TO THE COURT  
3 REPORTER AFTER YOU'VE FINISHED. IF I CALL YOUR NAME,  
4 FIRST FORGIVE ME IF I MISPRONOUNCE YOUR NAME. SECOND  
5 OF ALL, IF YOU DECIDE THAT WHAT YOU WANT TO SAY HAS  
6 ALREADY BEEN SAID OR YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND ABOUT  
7 OFFERING TESTIMONY, JUST LET ME KNOW THAT YOU PASS AND  
8 I'LL GO ON TO THE NEXT INDIVIDUAL WHO WANTS TO OFFER  
9 TESTIMONY.

10 AT THIS TIME I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE APPEARANCES  
11 OF THE PARTIES. MR. RESNIK?

12 MR. RESNIK: YOUR HONOR, I  
13 WOULD LIKE THE RECORD TO REFLECT THE APPEARANCE OF  
14 MARVIN I. RESNIK ON BEHALF OF OHIO POWER COMPANY AND  
15 COLUMBUS SOUTHERN POWER COMPANY. MY ADDRESS IS ONE  
16 RIVERSIDE PLAZA, COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215.

17 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: MR. REESE?

18 MR. REESE: YOUR HONOR, I WOULD  
19 LIKE THE RECORD TO REFLECT I AM RICK REESE, ASSISTANT  
20 CONSUMERS' COUNSEL ON BEHALF OF THE RESIDENTIAL RATE  
21 PAYERS OF THE STATE OF OHIO AND THE OHIO CONSUMERS  
22 COUNSEL, JANEEN MEGAN OSTRANDER. MY BUSINESS ADDRESS  
23 IS 10 WEST BROAD STREET, 18TH FLOOR, COLUMBUS, OHIO,  
24 43215.

25 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: I WOULD

8

1 LIKE TO CALL MR. BRUCE OPPERMAN.

2 - - -  
3 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )  
4 - - -

5 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND  
6 SPELL YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.

7 MR. OPPERMAN: BRUCE OPPERMAN,  
8 O-P-P-E-R-M-A-N. MY HOME ADDRESS IS 2761 HUMMINGBIRD,  
9 IN ELIDA, OHIO, 45807.

10 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: PLEASE GO  
11 AHEAD.

12 MR. OPPERMAN: I WANT TO THANK  
13 THE P.U.C.O. FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO TESTIFY AND COME  
14 BEFORE YOU. I AM THE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER OF  
15 U.L.I.D. T.V., THE N.B.C. AFFILIATE HERE IN LIMA, AND  
16 HAVE HAD A VESTED INTEREST IN THIS COMMUNITY BOTH FROM  
17 A BUSINESS STANDPOINT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR OVER  
18 40 YEARS.

19 I HAVE HEARD FOR SEVERAL YEARS NOW THAT  
20 A.E.P. WANTS TO IMPROVE THEIR INFRASTRUCTURE AND  
21 IMPROVE THEIR SERVICE TO BETTER ACCOMMODATE ECONOMIC  
22 DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH IN AND AROUND LIMA. ON AUGUST  
23 9, 2002 I ATTENDED A MEETING WITH CITY AND COUNTY  
24 OFFICIALS AND OTHER COMMUNITY LEADERS AT WHICH TIME WE  
25 WERE TOLD BY A.E.P. THAT THEY UNDERSTOOD OUR PLIGHT AND



1 WOULD BE WORKING TO IMPROVE THEIR SERVICE AND ABOVE ALL  
2 ATTEMPT TO MAKE IT MORE RELIABLE.

3 THAT HAS BEEN OVER FOUR YEARS AGO, AND I DARE  
4 SAY THAT WE ARE STILL WAITING FOR THOSE TANGIBLE  
5 IMPROVEMENTS. MY TELEVISION STATION HAS HAD MEDIOCRE  
6 IF NOT POOR SERVICE FROM FIRST OHIO POWER AND THEN  
7 A.E.P. OVER THE YEARS. OFTENTIMES THERE IS LACK OF  
8 RESPONSE OR NO LOCAL CONTACTS WHEN TRYING TO FIND OUT  
9 WHAT IS GOING ON.

10 W.L.T.O. HAS A VERY IMPORTANT ROLE IN OUR  
11 COMMUNITY TO NOTIFY PEOPLE AND OUR VIEWERS DURING  
12 EMERGENCIES. I FEEL WE JUSTIFIABLY NEED TO HAVE A  
13 PRIORITY DURING OUTAGES CAUSED BY WEATHER OR DURING ANY  
14 UNEXPECTED OUTAGES. AS A DISSEMINATOR OF NEWS AND  
15 IMPORTANT INFORMATION WE MUST BE ABLE TO COUNT ON  
16 RELIABLE SERVICE FROM OUR POWER PROVIDER. A.E.P. HAS  
17 NOT BEEN RELIABLE WITH THEIR SERVICE OVER THE YEARS.

18 ADDITIONALLY, I FEEL STRONGLY THAT THEY HAVE  
19 NOT KEPT UP WITH THE ECONOMIC AND RESIDENTIAL GROWTH OF  
20 OUR COMMUNITY. IN THE TELEVISION BUSINESS MY STATION  
21 IS CURRENTLY MAKING THE TRANSITION TO DIGITAL HIGH  
22 DEFINITION TELEVISION, A PROJECT COSTING IN EXCESS OF  
23 THREE MILLION DOLLARS.

24 IS IT RIGHT FOR ME TO ASK MY ADVERTISERS TO  
25 PAY FOR THIS UPGRADE BEFORE THEY SEE THE BENEFITS? I

1 SPEAK ON WAS IN JANUARY OF 2005 WHEN THEY HAD THE ICE  
2 STORM OUR ELECTRIC WAS OUT. WE DIDN'T HAVE NOTHING.  
3 WE COULDN'T EVEN GET OUTSIDE. WE COULDN'T EVEN GET  
4 NOWHERE. THE ONLY THING WORKING WAS OUR TELEPHONE.  
5 AND MY FATHER. HE IS ELDERLY AND HE HAS TO BE ON A  
6 BREATHING MACHINE AND STUFF. AND IT TOOK UNTIL FEBRUARY  
7 FOR THEM TO GET OURS PUT BACK ON.

8 AND THEN IN JUNE OF THIS YEAR WHEN THEY HAD  
9 THE --

10 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: SORRY, YOU  
11 SAY IT TOOK THEM UNTIL FEBRUARY TO GET --

12 MS. BOWEN: THEY FINALLY GOT IT  
13 ON.

14 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: THE  
15 BREATHING MACHINE OR YOUR SERVICE?

16 MS. BOWEN: I CALLED AND TOLD  
17 THEM HOW BAD HE WAS AND EVERYTHING AND THEY SAID WE HAD  
18 TO WAIT. WE HAD ELECTRIC WIRES COMING OVER OUR HOUSE  
19 AND THEY DIDN'T TURN THEM OFF FOR AWHILE.

20 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: SO IT TOOK  
21 YOU AWHILE TO GET YOUR SERVICE RESTORED?

22 MS. BOWEN: FINALLY.

23 AND THEN IN JUNE WHEN THEY HAD THE HIGH WINDS  
24 THE WIND TOOK TREES DOWN AND WE DIDN'T HAVE NO SERVICE  
25 FOR LIKE FOUR OR FIVE DAYS, AND BACK IN JANUARY WHEN IT

1 DON'T THINK SO. AS A SERVICE-ORIENTED BUSINESS IT IS  
2 MY RESPONSIBILITY TO BEAR THE COST TO MAKE MY PRODUCT  
3 BETTER AND TO KEEP UP WITH THE TIMES AND TECHNOLOGY.

4 THEN AS I PROVIDE A BETTER PRODUCT OR SERVICE  
5 THEN I CAN PERHAPS JUSTIFY CHARGING MORE FOR MY PRODUCT  
6 AND NOT BEFORE. IT'S CERTAINLY NOT ACCEPTABLE FOR  
7 A.E.P. TO REQUEST A RATE INCREASE TO PAY FOR AN UPGRADE  
8 OF SERVICE THAT WE'VE BEEN PROMISED FOR YEARS AND  
9 SERVICE THAT HAS BEEN BELOW AVERAGE AT BEST TO BEGIN  
10 WITH.

11 AS CONSUMERS WE NEED TO SEE THE IMPROVEMENTS  
12 IN THEIR PRODUCT AND SERVICE BEFORE BEING ASKED TO HELP  
13 FINANCE MORE MEDIOCRITY. THANK YOU.

14 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: MISS TINA  
15 BOWEN.

16 ---  
17 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )  
18 ---

19 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND  
20 SPELL YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.

21 MS. BOWEN: TINA BOWEN.  
22 T-I-N-A B-O-W-E-N. 854 NORTH MAIN STREET, LIMA, OHIO  
23 45001.

24 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: GO AHEAD.

25 MS. BOWEN: WHAT I WANTED TO

1 WENT OUT WE DIDN'T HAVE TO WORRY. BUT NOW WHEN IT WENT  
2 OUT THIS TIME MY FATHER HAS INSULIN AND STUFF AND WE  
3 DIDN'T HAVE NO WAY TO KEEP IT COOL AND STUFF AND WE  
4 LOST EVERYTHING IN OUR FREEZER AND EVERYTHING LIKE  
5 THAT.

6 THAT'S ALL I HAVE TO SAY.

7 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: OKAY. FOR  
8 CLARITY, APPROXIMATELY HOW MANY DAYS WAS YOUR SERVICE  
9 OUT IN JANUARY OF 2005?

10 MS. BOWEN: APPROXIMATELY 20  
11 DAYS.

12 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: OKAY.  
13 THANK YOU.

14 MS. ROSA QUICK?

15 ---  
16 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )  
17 ---

18 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND  
19 SPELL YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD AND PROVIDE  
20 US WITH YOUR ADDRESS.

21 MS. QUICK: FIRST NAME?

22 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: YES.

23 MS. QUICK: ROSA, R-O-S-A.

24 QUICK, Q-U-I-C-K. AND I LIVE IN SHAWNEE. ONE OF THE  
25 BEST NEIGHBORHOODS THERE IS AROUND LIMA, BUT IT'S NOT

13

1 ONLY YOUR UTILITY SERVICES BUT IT'S ABOUT ALL OF THEM.  
2 WE GET LOUSY UTILITY SERVICES OUT THERE.

3 THE COATING IS OFF OF THE WIRES AND WHEN WE  
4 CALL THEM OUT THERE THEY TELL US THAT YOU SEE A LOT OF  
5 THEM LIKE THAT. THAT THERE'S NOTHING WRONG. NO PROBLEM.

6 AND IF THAT WOULD BE THE CASE THEN YOU WONDER  
7 WHEN YOU SEE A NEIGHBOR'S HOUSE BURNING AND A BALL OF  
8 FIRE COME ROLLING DOWN THE LINE THAT STARTS FROM THE  
9 OUTSIDE. YOU WONDER WHY YOU SEE THIS IF THE LINES ARE  
10 OKAY.

11 SO IT'S NOT ONLY THAT, BUT YOU HAVE A BACKUP  
12 OF WATER IN YOUR SEWER LINE WHERE THEY BUSTED IT COMING  
13 INTO YOUR BASEMENT AND IF THE ELECTRIC GOES OFF, AND IT  
14 DOES TWO OR THREE TIMES A MONTH ANYWAY. YOU HAVE NO  
15 ELECTRIC FOR MAYBE A WEEK. YOU CAN'T RUN YOUR SUMP  
16 PUMPS TO KEEP THE WATER OUT. I BUY THREE OF THEM A  
17 YEAR. MY NEIGHBOR BUYS FOUR. TO KEEP THE WATER OUT,  
18 FROM COMING INTO THE BASEMENT.

19 WE LOSE ON OUR FURNACES. THE BOARDS AND  
20 PANELS ON OUR FURNACES. I JUST SHOWED ONE OF THE MEN  
21 THAT WAS TALKING TO ME OUT THERE BEFORE THE MEETING A  
22 BILL THAT -- THIS IS THE THIRD TIME I HAVE PAID THIS  
23 MONTH ON THE FURNACE BECAUSE OF WATER.

24 THEY WON'T GUARANTEE IT ANYMORE BECAUSE THEY  
25 SAY IT'S OHIO POWER THAT IS CAUSING IT. WHEN THE

14

1 ELECTRIC GOES OFF AND THE WATER COMES IN YOU LOSE YOUR  
2 FURNACE.

3 PEOPLE OUT THERE ON A FIXED INCOME CAN'T  
4 AFFORD THOSE THINGS. WE ARE PAYING HIGH BILLS JUST  
5 LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE BUT WE ARE NOT GETTING THE SERVICE.  
6 IF YOU WANT TO REALLY FLUSH YOUR TOILET. LET'S GET DOWN  
7 TO IT. YOU POUR WATER IN IT BECAUSE YOU HAVE NO  
8 SUCTION. AND WHEN THE SEWER LINE FILLS UP WITH WATER IT  
9 WILL BACK UP AND IT'S GOING TO GO SOMEPLACE. IT'S GOING  
10 TO GO IN ONES THAT HAS BASEMENTS.

11 AND IT'S A BAD SITUATION. NOW THEY ARE  
12 TALKING ABOUT WELL, MAYBE IT'S JUST A LOSING SITUATION  
13 AND WHAT WE OUGHT TO DO IS PUT OUR PROPERTIES UP FOR  
14 SALE AND FIND SOMEPLACE ELSE WHERE WE GET BETTER  
15 SERVICE AND THINGS LIKE THAT.

16 NOW, OHIO POWER WAS OUT THERE LAST WEEK.  
17 THEY WAS TRIMMING SOME TREES ALONG THE FENCE ROW BACK  
18 ALONG THE FENCE ROW WHERE THEY GET INTO THE ELECTRIC  
19 LINES. WELL, THE LINES WILL WEAVE IN BETWEEN THE  
20 ELECTRIC LINES AND THAT CAUSES SPARKS WHICH WE ARE  
21 AFRAID OF. NOW LAST WEEK THEY FOUND SOME SQUIRRELS GOT  
22 ELECTROCUTED WHILE PLAYING ON OUR TELEPHONE LINES WITH  
23 THEIR TAILS WEAVING BACK AND FORTH THROUGH THE ELECTRIC  
24 LINES. THEY CAUGHT THEIR TAILS ON FIRE AND WHEN THEY  
25 FELL TO THE GROUND THEY WERE RUNNING AROUND THE YARD

15

1 WITH THEIR TAIL ON FIRE. AND IT'S DANGEROUS. THEY  
2 MIGHT SET SOMETHING ELSE ON FIRE.

3 I DON'T SEE WHY -- AND I AM NOT BEING WRONG  
4 TO SUGGEST THIS -- BUT I DON'T SEE WHY THEY COULDN'T  
5 COUNT THOSE WHERE THEY COME FROM THE POLE. I MEAN.  
6 MAYBE TELEPHONE LINES OR ELECTRIC LINES ALSO ARE OVER  
7 TOP OF IT. WHY COULDN'T THEY PUT A CAP OVER THEM WHERE  
8 THEY COULDN'T GET TO THEM WHERE THEY COME OFF THE POLE  
9 TO WAG THEIR TAIL ON IT. IT DOESN'T SEEM TO BOTHER  
10 WHEN THEY GET FARTHER ON THE LINE. IT'S WHERE THEY ARE  
11 COMING OFF THE POLE AND PLAYING.

12 AND JUST THIS LAST WEEK THE TELEPHONE COMPANY  
13 AFTER FIVE YEARS TOLD ME THAT THEY HAD FOUND MY PROBLEM  
14 AND I SAID TAKE THE PHONE. JUST TAKE IT.

15 I AM SICK OF IT. BECAUSE YOU COULDN'T USE IT  
16 WHENEVER YOU NEEDED IT AND THEY SAID WE DON'T WANT TO  
17 DO THAT. SO LAST WEEK HE CAME OUT THERE AND SAID WE  
18 FOUND THE PROBLEM. OKAY. THE SQUIRREL WAS EATING ON MY  
19 TELEPHONE LINE.

20 AND HE SAID YOUR PETS, YOU'RE NOT FEEDING  
21 THEM WELL ENOUGH AND THEY ARE EATING YOUR TELEPHONE  
22 LINE. I SAID OH MY. SO THAT'S THE FIRST I HAD HEARD  
23 OF IT BUT I SAID I HAVE SEEN THEM FALL WITH FIERY TAILS  
24 FROM THAT POLE OUT THERE. AND THEY ARE COMING OUT  
25 THERE AND PUT A HOOK OUT THERE AND SET IT BACK ON BUT

16

1 THEN A COUPLE DAYS LATER YOU HAVE THE SAME THING.

2 THERE'S NO COATING ON THE LINES. IT'S MORE  
3 OFF. WHERE THE LIMBS FROM THE TREES WEAVE BACK AND  
4 FORTH LIKE THAT. IT'S JUST TAKEN ALL THE COATING OFF.  
5 AND WHEN YOU ASK ABOUT IT THEY SAY IT'S NO PROBLEM. YOU  
6 SEE A LOT THAT WAY. BUT THOSE LINES HAVE BEEN IN THERE  
7 PROBABLY SINCE THE HOUSES WERE BUILT OUT THERE AND THEY  
8 ARE BAD. REALLY BAD.

9 THANK YOU.

10 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: THANK YOU.  
11 MS. BARBARA GARLAND?

12 - - -  
13 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )  
14 - - -

15 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND  
16 SPELL YOUR NAME FOR THE RECORD AND GIVE US YOUR  
17 ADDRESS.

18 MS. GARLAND: BARBARA.  
19 B-A-R-B-A-R-A, GARLAND. G-A-R-L-A-N-D. MY ADDRESS IS  
20 2504 LAGRANGE STREET, TOLEDO, OHIO.

21 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: PLEASE  
22 CONTINUE.

23 MS. GARLAND: WHAT I HAVE TO  
24 SAY IS SINCE THIS IS COVERING THE WHOLE PART OF OHIO. I  
25 SEE IT NOT ONLY IN TOLEDO BUT IN LINA TOO, AND PEOPLE

17

1 ARE REALLY HURTING WHEN IT COMES TO ALL THESE HIKE  
2 THAT THESE UTILITY COMPANIES ARE GETTING.

3 AND THEREFORE I DON'T THINK THAT THERE SHOULD  
4 BE ANOTHER HIKE IN THE UTILITIES BECAUSE WE HAVE HERE  
5 RIGHT NOW BOTH IN LIMA AND TOLEDO OUR JOBS ARE MOVING  
6 OUT OF OUR TOWNS AND GOING SOMEPLACE ELSE. SO THE  
7 ECONOMY OF OUR CITIES IS HURTING BECAUSE OF THAT  
8 ALREADY.

9 THE SENIOR CITIZENS ARE ON FIXED INCOMES, THE  
10 PEOPLE THAT ARE ON DISABILITIES ARE ON FIXED INCOMES.  
11 AND THIS IS REALLY HURTING THEM. THEY ARE HAVING TO  
12 GIVE UP THEIR HOMES BECAUSE THEY CAN'T AFFORD TO PAY  
13 THE LIGHT COMPANY, GAS COMPANY, AND EVERY OTHER UTILITY  
14 THAT DECIDES THEY ARE GOING TO TAKE A HIKE. AND I  
15 BELIEVE MAYBE THAT SOME OF THIS HIKING IS BEING DONE  
16 BECAUSE THEY ARE LOSING MONEY AS FAR AS THE JOBS  
17 LEAVING OHIO AND PEOPLE BEING OUT OF WORK SO BAD AND  
18 EVERYTHING ELSE.

19 BUT A LOT OF THESE PEOPLE ARE TURNED OVER TO  
20 THE WELFARE SYSTEM, WHICH MEANS THEY DON'T HAVE THE  
21 MONEY TO PAY THESE BILLS. THEY DON'T HAVE THE MONEY.  
22 THEY ARE LUCKY IF THEY HAVE THE MONEY TO PAY THEIR RENT  
23 THE WAY RENT IS HIKING IN OHIO LET ALONE PAY HIGHER  
24 UTILITY BILLS. AND I REALLY CAN'T SEE WHERE THE MONEY  
25 IS GOING TO COME FROM OUT OF THESE PEOPLE'S POCKETS

18

1 AND, EXCUSE ME, BUT I WAS UP HOME A COUPLE WEEKS AGO  
2 AND I HEARD PEOPLE IN PERRYSBURG, AND THAT'S ONE OF OUR  
3 TOWNS LIKE SHAWNEE IS TO LIMA, AND THEY ARE SAYING  
4 WELL, WE DON'T KNOW WHAT WE ARE GOING TO DO, THEY ARE  
5 GOING TO HIKE THE UTILITIES AND STUFF AGAIN, WE HAVE TO  
6 SELL OUR HOMES AND GET OUT.

7 AND EXCUSE ME, BUT IF PERRYSBURG HAS TO GET  
8 OUT OR THE PEOPLE IN SHAWNEE HAS TO GET OUT, WHAT ARE  
9 YOU PUTTING ON YOUR PEOPLE IN THE INNER CITY?

10 EVERYBODY'S POCKETBOOK IS STRAINED AND THE  
11 ONES IN THE INNER CITY, A LOT OF THEM IN THE INNER CITY  
12 ARE ON FIXED INCOME, SO IF THESE PEOPLE IN SHAWNEE AND  
13 PERRYSBURG, THEY HAVE TO GIVE UP THEIR HOMES BECAUSE OF  
14 THESE HIKE. THEY'VE GOT TO SELL OUT AND LEAVE THE  
15 STATE OF OHIO, WHERE IS THAT LEAVING YOU WITH THE  
16 PEOPLE IN THE INNER CITY EVEN? THEY ARE GOING TO DO  
17 THE SAME. THEY ARE GOING TO HAVE TO SELL OUT AND LEAVE  
18 AND THEY ARE ALREADY COMPLAINING, TOLEDO IS, THAT  
19 TOLEDO IS BECOMING A GHOST TOWN BECAUSE THEIR  
20 POPULATION IS GOING DOWN BECAUSE THEIR PEOPLE ARE  
21 LEAVING. THEY ARE LEAVING OHIO.

22 HERE IN LIMA THEY SAY THEY ARE LOSING PEOPLE,  
23 THAT THEY ARE LEAVING OHIO, YOU'RE LOSING YOUR  
24 TAXPAYERS BECAUSE THE HIKE ON THE UTILITIES ARE  
25 GETTING TOO HIGH.

19

1 AND THAT'S ABOUT ALL I HAVE TO SAY. I DON'T  
2 BELIEVE THAT THE HIGHER RATES. I DON'T SEE WHERE THEY  
3 ARE GOING TO DO ANYTHING EXCEPT HURT OHIO BECAUSE MORE  
4 PEOPLE ARE GOING TO LEAVE THE STATE OF OHIO AND MOVE  
5 AND YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE A LOT OF HOUSES SITTING AROUND  
6 HERE UP FOR SALE THAT NOBODY IS GOING TO BUY BECAUSE  
7 THERE'S GOING TO BE NO PEOPLE HERE TO BUY THEM.

8 THAT'S ALL I HAVE TO SAY.

9 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: MS. JOYCE

10 HALE?

11 - - -  
12 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )  
13 - - -

14 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND  
15 SPELL YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.

16 MS. HALE: FIRST NAME JOYCE,  
17 J-O-Y-C-E, LAST NAME HALE, H-A-L-E, AND I AM HERE  
18 REPRESENTING THE DELPHOS SENIOR CITIZENS INCORPORATED  
19 WHICH IS A NONPROFIT AND WE DO SERVICES FOR THOSE 60  
20 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER.

21 AND TODAY I AM HERE TO EXPRESS MY CONCERN AND  
22 THE CONCERN OF OUR PARTICIPANTS ABOUT THE HIKE THAT  
23 ARE BEING MENTIONED TO DEFRAY THE 71 MILLION DOLLAR  
24 COST OF THE PLANS. IT'S ABSOLUTELY IMPOSSIBLE FOR  
25 PEOPLE LIVING ON LESS THAN \$700 A MONTH, AND GRANTED

20

1 THEY ARE FIXED INCOMES FROM SOCIAL SECURITY AND GRANTED  
2 THEY MAY GET A RAISE OF 3.3 PERCENT BUT THEY ALSO GOT A  
3 HIKE OF \$19 A MONTH IN THEIR MEDICARE PART "D". GET  
4 \$700 OR LESS, YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE \$24 MORE A MONTH,  
5 YOU'RE GOING TO PAY \$19 OUT TO GET YOUR MEDICARE PART  
6 (B), AND SENIOR CITIZENS CAN'T AFFORD TO DO MUCH MORE.

7 WE HAVE ONE HOUSING COMPLEX IN DELPHOS THAT  
8 IS ALL ELECTRIC AND IT'S FOR LOW INCOME HANDICAPPED AND  
9 SENIOR CITIZENS, AND I GO OUT THERE ALL THE TIME  
10 BECAUSE WE DO SPECIAL THINGS FOR OUR SENIORS WHERE I  
11 HAVE TO GO INTO THE HOME, AND WHEN WE GET THEM AN AIR  
12 CONDITIONER THROUGH ONE OF OUR PROGRAMS THEY CAN'T  
13 AFFORD TO RUN IT BECAUSE THEY CAN'T AFFORD THE PRICE OF  
14 THE ELECTRIC.

15 WHEN WE GET THEM INSULATION FOR THEIR HOMES  
16 THEY STILL HAVE TO KEEP THEIR THERMOSTATS AT 60 DEGREES  
17 BECAUSE THEY CAN'T AFFORD TO PAY. WE MAKE OUT HEAP  
18 PAPERS FOR THEM, DO WEATHERIZATION FOR THEM, SEND OUT  
19 OUR CHORE WORKERS TO DO THINGS AROUND THE HOUSE THAT  
20 WILL HELP THEM SAVE MONEY, AND THEY ARE STILL WEARING  
21 TWO FLANNEL SHIRTS OR LONG SWEATERS OR COATS IN THEIR  
22 HOMES BECAUSE THEY CAN'T AFFORD TO KEEP THESE THINGS UP  
23 AT A DECENT TEMPERATURE AND 60 DEGREES LIVING IN A HOME  
24 WHEN YOU ARE 85-YEARS-OLD IS NOT A DECENT TEMPERATURE.

25 SO WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE COST CONNECTED

21

1 WITH THIS NEW PLAN. THERE IS JUST SO MUCH THAT THE  
2 PEOPLE CAN DO. THERE'S JUST SO MUCH WE CAN DO. AND THEN  
3 IT BECOMES A MATTER OF DOLLARS AND CENTS AND IF YOU  
4 DON'T HAVE THE DOLLARS AND CENTS YOU'RE NOT GOING TO  
5 PAY YOUR BILL.

6 AND THIS YEAR IN THE SUMMER CRISIS PROGRAM  
7 THERE WERE 3,700 HOUSEHOLDS THAT NEEDED HELP. THAT'S  
8 16,000 MORE THAN NEEDED IT LAST YEAR. THAT TELLS YOU  
9 THAT PEOPLE, NOT JUST SENIOR CITIZENS, BUT PEOPLE CAN'T  
10 AFFORD THESE HIKES IN SERVICES.

11 IT WOULD BE NICE IF WE COULD, AND WE WOULD  
12 CERTAINLY DO IT IF WE COULD BUT YOU CANNOT DO IT IF YOU  
13 DON'T HAVE THE MONEY. AND THE SENIOR CITIZENS DO NOT  
14 HAVE THE MONEY.

15 AND THEY CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO KEEP -- WE  
16 HAVE ONE LADY THAT CALLED ME THE OTHER DAY BECAUSE SHE  
17 WAS CONCERNED THAT NO ONE WOULD BE HERE TO SPEAK FOR  
18 SENIOR CITIZENS AND SHE IS OVER THE RETIREMENT AGE BUT  
19 SHE WORKED FOR A NONPROFIT. SHE WORKED IN A NURSING  
20 HOME. SHE HAS NOTHING BESIDES SOCIAL SECURITY, AND  
21 SHE'S TRYING TO WORK TWO OR THREE DAYS A WEEK AS MUCH  
22 AS SHE CAN TO BRING IN SOME MORE INCOME. SHE HAS NO  
23 PENSION. WHEN YOU WORK FOR NON-PROFITS YOU DON'T  
24 ALWAYS HAVE PENSIONS, AND SHE SAID I CAN'T DO ANY MORE  
25 THAN I AM DOING.

22

1 SOMEBODY HAS TO SPEAK UP FOR THE SENIOR  
2 CITIZENS. SO THAT'S WHY I AM HERE TONIGHT AND WE HOPE  
3 YOU WILL LISTEN TO WHAT THEY HAVE TO SAY. THEY HAVE  
4 BEEN GOOD CITIZENS FOR YEARS IN THE STATE OF OHIO AND  
5 THE STATE OF OHIO IS AGING RAPIDLY AND THEY NEED SOME  
6 HELP. AND WE THANK YOU.

7 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: MISS  
8 CHRISTINE MCNAMARA?

9 - - -  
10 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )  
11 - - -

12 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: SPELL YOUR  
13 NAME FOR THE RECORD AND PROVIDE US WITH YOUR ADDRESS.

14 MS. MCNAMARA: CHRISTINE,  
15 C-H-R-I-S-T-I-N-E, MCNAMARA, M-C-N-A-M-A-R-A. 2135  
16 BUTTERCUP DRIVE, ELIDA, OHIO.

17 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: THANK YOU.  
18 MS. MCNAMARA: AND I JUST HAVE  
19 A BRIEF STATEMENT.

20 WE HAVE LIVED IN LAUREL OAKS FOR TWELVE YEARS  
21 AND FOR TWELVE YEARS WE HAVE HAD PROBLEMS WITH THE  
22 POWER GOING OUT ON A REGULAR BASIS. IT'S NOT ALWAYS  
23 FOR A LENGTHY PERIOD OF TIME, SOMETIMES JUST TWO OR  
24 THREE MINUTES. JUST ENOUGH TO BE A NUISANCE WHERE YOU  
25 HAVE TO GO AND RESET ALL YOUR CLOCKS AND THEN IT WILL

23

1 COME BACK ON.

2 BUT IT'S FREQUENT, AND THE SURPRISING THING  
3 ABOUT IT IS THE WIRING OUT THERE IS UNDERGROUND AND  
4 IT'S STILL A PROBLEM. WHEN YOU TRY TO CALL SOMEBODY TO  
5 TELL THEM YOUR POWER IS OUT YOU CAN'T GET ANYBODY  
6 LOCALLY AND THEY PATCH YOU IN TO SOMEBODY OUT OF KENTON  
7 OR CANTON OR DAYTON OR SOMEBODY AND THEN YOU HAVE TO  
8 EXPLAIN TO THEM WHERE YOU LIVE BECAUSE THEY HAVE NO  
9 IDEA, AND SO IT BECOMES A BIT OF A NUISANCE.

10 WE PAY ALREADY OVER \$200 A MONTH ON AN  
11 AVERAGE FOR OUR ELECTRICITY AND THERE'S PROFITS BEING  
12 MADE BY A.E.P. AND POWER COMPANIES EVERYWHERE, AND I  
13 CAN'T UNDERSTAND IF AFTER TWELVE YEARS OF MAKING  
14 PROFITS THAT THEY HAVEN'T TAKEN SOME OF THOSE PROFITS  
15 INSTEAD OF GIVING C.E.D.S AND MANAGEMENT RAISES AND  
16 BONUSES WHY THEY HAVEN'T TAKEN SOME OF THAT PROFIT TO  
17 MAKE IMPROVEMENTS IN WHAT THEY SAID NEEDED TO BE DONE  
18 FOR TWELVE YEARS THAT WE HAVE LIVED THERE.

19 SO, YOU KNOW, I DON'T UNDERSTAND. I DON'T  
20 KNOW WHY WE NEED TO BE TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF LIKE THAT,  
21 BUT THAT'S REALLY ALL I HAVE TO SAY. I THINK IT'S NOT  
22 OUR PROBLEM THAT THE UTILITIES HAVE TO MAKE  
23 IMPROVEMENTS. IT'S THEIR PROBLEM. AND THE PROFITS  
24 SHOULD BE TAKEN TO DO THAT.

25 THANK YOU VERY MUCH AND I HOPE YOU HAVE A

24

1 GREAT EVENING.

2 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: THANK YOU.

3 MR. HOWARD ELSTRO?

4 - - -  
5 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )  
6 - - -

7 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: PLEASE  
8 STATE AND SPELL YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.

9 MR. ELSTRO: FIRST INITIAL "J",  
10 HOWARD, H-O-W-A-R-D, ELSTRO, E-L-S-T-R-O. 50 TOWN  
11 SQUARE, LIMA, OHIO, 45805.

12 ON BEHALF OF DAVID J. BERGER, MAYOR OF LIMA,  
13 PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL, JOHN NIXON, AND MYSELF, HOWARD  
14 ELSTRO, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS FOR THE CITY OF LIMA,  
15 AND THE CONSTITUENTS WE SERVE, WE THANK YOU FOR THE  
16 OPPORTUNITY TO TESTIFY THIS EVENING AT THIS OHIO  
17 CONSUMERS' COUNSEL HEARING ON A.E.P.'S PROPOSED  
18 RELIABILITY IMPROVEMENT STRATEGY AND RATE INCREASE  
19 PLAN.

20 THE CITY OF LIMA HAS BEEN CONCERNED ABOUT THE  
21 RELIABILITY OF ELECTRIC SERVICE FOR OUR COMMUNITY FOR  
22 SOME TIME. WE APPRECIATE THE COMMUNICATION  
23 OPPORTUNITIES WITH A.E.P. THAT TOOK PLACE IN MAY 2005  
24 AND IN OCTOBER 2006.

25 FURTHER, THROUGH A LETTER TO BOB IVINSKAS,

25

1 THE COLUMBUS DISTRIBUTION REGIONAL SUPPORT SUPERVISOR,  
2 ON MAY 11, 2006, THE CITY REITERATED OUR CONCERNS ABOUT  
3 THE ONGOING DISTRIBUTION OUTAGES IN THE LIMA AREA AND  
4 ASSERTED THAT THE EQUIPMENT AND STATION FAILURES ARE  
5 BECOMING MORE FREQUENT AND LARGER IN IMPACT.

6 WE COMMENTED THAT A.E.P.'S OWN REPORT FOR THE  
7 PERIOD OF JULY 2002 THROUGH MARCH 2006 DEMONSTRATES TEN  
8 CIRCUITS IN THE LIMA AREA HAVE WORSENERD IN RELIABILITY.

9 THIS REPRESENTS 20 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL OF  
10 ALL CIRCUITS IN LIMA, WHICH STIMULATES A LARGE CONCERN  
11 FOR THE RELIABILITY AND DELIVERABILITY OF ELECTRICITY  
12 TO OUR CITIZENRY AND OUR BUSINESS COMMUNITY.

13 THE ENHANCED DISTRIBUTION SERVICE AND  
14 RELIABILITY PLAN THAT IS THE SUBJECT OF THIS HEARING  
15 CAUSES SEVERAL ADDITIONAL CONCERNS. IT APPEARS THAT  
16 THE HIGH COST OF UNDERGROUND LINES IN CANTON AND THE  
17 COLUMBUS AREA, TREES IN THE RURAL AND INACCESSIBLE  
18 AREAS OF SOUTHWEST OHIO, AND BAD EQUIPMENT SUPPLIED BY  
19 MANUFACTURERS ARE ALL MAJOR CAUSES FOR THE COSTS  
20 ANTICIPATED UNDER THIS PLAN.

21 AND THE QUESTION THAT PERTAINS TO ALL THREE  
22 MATTERS IS WHY SHOULD CUSTOMERS IN THE LIMA ALLEN  
23 COUNTY REGION BE ASKED TO UNDERWRITE THOSE COSTS?  
24 LET'S LOOK AT THESE ISSUES SEPARATELY.

25 THIS PLAN PROPOSES 40.2 MILLION BE SPENT ON

27

1 NOT RECOGNIZE OURSELVES AS A DIRECT BENEFICIARY OF THE  
2 MAINTENANCE OF RURAL LINES IN SOUTHWEST OHIO.

3 THIS ENHANCED DISTRIBUTION SERVICE AND  
4 RELIABILITY PLAN PROPOSES TO REPLACE 65,000 FAULTY FUSE  
5 CUTOUPS PURCHASED AND INSTALLED IN THE 80'S AND 90'S AT  
6 A COST OF \$0.23 MILLION. WE SUGGEST THAT THE  
7 MANUFACTURE AND THE COMPANY SHAREHOLDERS SHOULD  
8 SHOULDER THE MAJORITY, IF NOT ALL, OF THIS COST.

9 WE ALSO TAKE ISSUE IN GENERAL WITH THE  
10 PROPOSED RATE INCREASE. ALL CORPORATIONS ANTICIPATE  
11 AGING INFRASTRUCTURE AND THE REQUISITE CAPITAL COSTS TO  
12 MAINTAIN THAT INFRASTRUCTURE. WE BELIEVE THAT THE  
13 COSTS TO MAINTAIN THE A.E.P. INFRASTRUCTURE HAS ALREADY  
14 BEEN PREVIOUSLY RECOGNIZED BY PRIOR P.U.C.O. RATE  
15 ACTIONS AND THUS WAS THE BASIS FOR EXISTING RATES  
16 CHARGED TO THE CONSUMER THESE MANY DECADES. THUS,  
17 EXISTING REVENUES SHOULD BE USED TO RE-INVEST IN THE  
18 INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS OF THE SYSTEM.

19 WE ALSO FIND THAT THIS RATE INCREASE REQUEST  
20 IS INCONSISTENT WITH THE PROMISES MADE AT THE TIME OF  
21 OHIO'S MOVE TO A PARTIALLY DE-REGULATED ELECTRICITY  
22 SYSTEM.

23 IT APPEARS THAT THE REVENUES TO MAINTAIN THE  
24 SYSTEM HAVE BEEN USED TO IMPROVE SHAREHOLDERS' VALUE  
25 RATHER THAN TO INVEST APPROPRIATELY IN THE COMPANY'S

26

1 UNDERGROUND NETWORK SYSTEMS IN COLUMBUS AND CANTON.  
2 OUR COMMUNITY DOES NOT ENJOY THE ESTHETIC BENEFITS  
3 OFFERED BY UNDERGROUND LINES. OUR COMMUNITY HAS LONG  
4 HAD TO TOLERATE THE UNSIGHTLY EXISTENCE OF POLES,  
5 WIRES, ET CETERA, WHICH VERY MUCH DETRACT FROM THE  
6 BEAUTY OF OUR COMMUNITY.

7 WE'VE BEEN TOLD OVER THE YEARS BY A.E.P.  
8 SHOULD LIMA DECIDE TO HAVE THESE UNSIGHTLY LINES BURIED  
9 OR MOVED, THE COMMUNITY WOULD HAVE TO BEAR THOSE COSTS.  
10 THUS WE FIND IT INCONSISTENT AND INEQUITABLE FOR THE  
11 CITIZENRY AND THE BUSINESSES OF LIMA, OHIO TO BE ASKED  
12 TO SUBSIDIZE A HIGHER LEVEL OF SERVICE FOR UNDERGROUND  
13 LINES IN CANTON AND COLUMBUS.

14 THE ENHANCED DISTRIBUTION SERVICE AND  
15 RELIABILITY PLAN STATES THAT OF 36,500 MILES OF  
16 OVERHEAD DISTRIBUTION LINES THE MAJORITY OF THESE LINES  
17 ARE LOCATED IN RURAL AREAS.

18 THIS PLAN PROPOSES THAT 132.77 MILLION OVER  
19 FIVE YEARS BE SPENT ON VEGETATION MANAGEMENT IN  
20 SOUTHWEST OHIO.

21 WE DO NOT DISPUTE THAT THE MAINTENANCE OF  
22 TREES IN SOUTHWEST OHIO, ESPECIALLY ON THE RURAL LINES  
23 AND HILLY AND ACCESSIBLE TERRAINS, ARE MORE COSTLY THAN  
24 IN URBAN AREAS, BUT WE FIND IT OBJECTIONABLE TO SPREAD  
25 THOSE COSTS TO CUSTOMERS IN THE CITY OF LIMA AS WE DO

28

1 PHYSICAL ASSETS FOR LONG-TERM OPERATING PURPOSES.

2 ABOVE ALL, THE CITY OF LIMA IS OF THE OPINION  
3 THAT THE PROPOSED A.E.P. RIDER IS UNLAWFUL AND CONTRARY  
4 TO OHIO'S SOUND RATE MAKING POLICY. IT IS UNLAWFUL FOR  
5 IT SEEKS TO ESTABLISH A.E.P.'S REVENUE ENTITLEMENT  
6 BASED UPON FORWARD LOOKING INCREMENTAL CAPITAL AND  
7 OPERATING COSTS THAT CAPTURE ESTIMATED INFLATION OVER  
8 THE PLAN'S FIVE-YEAR LIFE.

9 OHIO'S GENERAL ASSEMBLY REPEALED THE  
10 REPRODUCTION COST OF NEW, LESS DEPRECIATION RATE BASE,  
11 RCLND. IN THE 70'S REPLACING IT WITH THE CURRENT  
12 ORIGINAL OR EMBEDDED COST RATE BASE FOR DETERMINING A  
13 UTILITY'S REVENUE REQUIREMENTS. IT IS CONTRARY TO  
14 SOUND RATE MAKING POLICY FOR IT IS A LONG-TERM  
15 PROPOSAL, FIVE YEARS, FOR WHICH IT SEEKS COMMISSION  
16 AUTHORIZATION AND APPROVAL FOR RECOVERY OF OVER 250  
17 MILLION DOLLARS IN ADDITIONAL REVENUES IN THE ABSENCE  
18 OF ANY DETERMINATION OF THE COMPANY'S CURRENTLY EARNED  
19 RATE OF RETURN.

20 A.E.P. SEEKS THIS AUTHORIZATION AND APPROVAL  
21 ALONG WITH DEFERRED ACCOUNTING AUTHORIZATION FOR OVER  
22 AND UNDER RECOVERY IN THE FACE OF ITS OWN  
23 ACKNOWLEDGMENT THAT IT WILL SEEK NEW BASE RATES  
24 EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 31, 2008.

25 THIS REPRESENTS AN ATTEMPT TO PRE-DETERMINE

29

THE REVENUE REQUIREMENTS TO WHICH IT MAYBE ENTITLED IN THE YET TO BE FILED BASE RATE INCREASE PROCEEDING.

LASTLY, LOCAL GOVERNMENTS HAVE BEEN LONG FACED WITH THE DEMAND FROM OUR CONSTITUENTS TO DO MORE WITH LESS. RESPONDING TO THIS DEMAND IS NOT EASY. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE A.E.P.'S CUSTOMERS ALSO LOOK TO THE COMPANY TO DO MORE WITH THE RESOURCES THEY HAVE GIVEN TO THE COMPANY.

WE DO NOT ARGUE THAT THE INFRASTRUCTURE ESPECIALLY IN THE LIMA AREA NEEDS TO BE UPGRADED AND RENEWED. IN FACT, A.E.P.'S OWN REPORTS AND LOCAL CUSTOMERS WILL ATTEST TO THE NEED.

HOWEVER, JUST AS WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT WE BELIEVE A.E.P. SHOULD FIND WAYS TO DO MORE WITH THE EXISTING REVENUES THAT OUR COMMUNITY HAS BEEN PAYING FOR ALL THESE YEARS. WE RESPECTFULLY SUGGEST TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO THAT THE RATE INCREASE BE DENIED AND THAT A.E.P. BE URGED TO CONTINUE TO FIND WAYS TO MAINTAIN AND UPGRADE ITS INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEM.

THANK YOU.

ATTORNEY EXAMINER: MR. ALAN

CHASE?

- - -

( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )

31

JOHN NIXON?

MR. NIXON: PASS.

ATTORNEY EXAMINER: MR. RAY

MAGNESS, LIMA CITY COUNCIL, FIRST WARD.

MR. MAGNESS: I'LL PASS ALSO.

ATTORNEY EXAMINER: MISS PENNY

DANIEL?

- - -

( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )

- - -

ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND SPELL YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.

MS. DANIEL: PENNY DANIEL,

P-E-N-N-Y D-A-N-I-E-L. NO "S". OUR ADDRESS IS 341 SOUTH MCFARRREN AVENUE, LIMA, OHIO, 45804.

I AM HERE THIS EVENING TO SPEAK OUT FOR THE MODERATE TO LOW INCOME FAMILIES IN THE AREA. I CAN'T QUOTE THE FIGURES THAT MR. ELSTROM AND MR. OPPERMAN QUOTED BUT I TOTALLY AGREE WITH THEM. THEY DID A FANTASTIC JOB OF EXPLAINING EXACTLY OUR ECONOMY AT THIS TIME.

I LOOK AT IT THIS WAY -- AND WE HAVE HAD SEVERAL CONVERSATIONS WITH PEOPLE IN THE AREA. IN THE LIMA AREA -- A.E.P. HAS AN EXTREMELY HIGH PROFIT SHOWN BY THEMSELVES ON THE INTERNET. WE HAVE A LOT OF PEOPLE

30

ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND SPELL YOUR NAME FOR THE RECORD AND PROVIDE US WITH YOUR ADDRESS.

MR. CHASE: ALAN, A-L-A-N.

CHASE, C-H-A-S-E. ADDRESS 222 WESTWOOD DRIVE SOUTH, LIMA, OHIO, 45805. I WILL BE BRIEF.

MY WIFE AND I MOVED TO LIMA IN MAY OF LAST YEAR. BEFORE THAT WE LIVED IN THE CITY OF KENTON, OHIO FOR ELEVEN YEARS. KENTON IS IN HARDIN COUNTY ABOUT 27 MILES EAST OF HERE. KENTON IS ALSO SERVED BY A.E.P. DURING THAT ENTIRE PERIOD IN WARM WEATHER. EVERY TIME THERE WAS LIGHTNING AND THUNDER, WE WOULD LOSE ELECTRIC SERVICE, SOMETIMES FOR SHORT PERIODS AND SOMETIMES FOR LONGER PERIODS.

DURING THAT PERIOD THE CITY COUNCIL AND THE MAYOR AND THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CONTINUALLY HAD MEETINGS AND ASKED A.E.P. TO IMPROVE THEIR SERVICE BECAUSE IT WAS HAVING AN ADVERSE EFFECT UPON THE BUSINESSES AND INDUSTRIES OF THE AREA, AND EVERY TIME A.E.P. SAID YES, THEY PROMISED THEY WOULD DO IT, BUT THEY NEVER DID. AND DURING THAT PERIOD I BELIEVE THEY ALSO RECEIVED AT LEAST ONE RATE INCREASE.

IN MY OPINION THEY ARE NOT TO BE TRUSTED.

THANK YOU.

ATTORNEY EXAMINER: THANK YOU.

32

IN LIMA ON THE OTHER HAND WHO HAVE VERY LOW INCOMES. THEY ARE HAVING A DIFFICULT TIME PAYING THEIR BILLS AS THEY HAVE THEM NOW. IF I START A BUSINESS I AM EXPECTED TO COVER ANY MAINTENANCE, HAVE MONIES AVAILABLE TO IMPROVE OR BORROW MONEY TO IMPROVE MY EQUIPMENT TO KEEP UP WITH PROGRESS.

LIMA HASN'T SEEN THAT FROM A.E.P. I HEARD EARLIER TESTIMONY ABOUT WIRING, UP AND DOWN THE STREETS, TO AND FROM THE HOUSES TO THE STREETS. I CAN TESTIFY TO ACTUALLY SEEING THAT ON A DAILY BASIS. WE ACTUALLY HAVE WIRING RUNNING UP AND DOWN THE CITY STREETS OF LIMA AND TO AND FROM THE STREETS TO THE HOUSES WITH BARE WIRING OR AT LEAST A LOT OF THE COATING GONE. I HAVE SEEN THE SQUIRRELS AND THE BIRDS BOTH GET ELECTROCUTED IF THEY HIT A BARE SPOT.

ANOTHER THING WE NEED TO LOOK AT IS WE ARE HAVING AN EXTREMELY HARD TIME KEEPING BUSINESSES IN LIMA, LET ALONE BRINGING IN NEW BUSINESS. IF YOU KEEP RAISING THE UTILITY COSTS, HOW ARE YOU GOING TO GET NEW BUSINESSES, ESPECIALLY SMALL BUSINESSES, INTERESTED IN COMING TO LIMA?

WE ARE WORKING VERY HARD -- OUR CITY COUNCIL, OUR MAYOR, ADMINISTRATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PEOPLE, ARE ALL WORKING VERY HARD TO DRAW PEOPLE INTO LIMA, NEW BUSINESSES, SO WE CAN HAVE MORE JOBS. THIS ISN'T GOING

33

1 TO HELP US BY RAISING THE UTILITIES.

2 THE OTHER ITEM THAT I WANTED TO POINT OUT IS  
3 IF YOU'RE GOING TO KEEP THIS UP, KEEP RAISING AND  
4 RAISING THESE RATES UNTIL WE HAVE ALL OUR SMALL  
5 BUSINESSES CLOSING THEIR DOORS. WE WILL NOT GET ANY NEW  
6 BUSINESSES IN BECAUSE THEY CAN'T AFFORD THE RATES. SO  
7 YOU'RE GOING TO TURN LIMA BASICALLY INTO A GHOST TOWN.  
8 RIGHT NOW WE DON'T NEED ANY MORE LOSS OF BUSINESS. WE  
9 NEED MORE BUSINESS. AND THE MID TO LOW INCOME FAMILIES  
10 ABSOLUTELY CANNOT AFFORD ANY MORE INCREASES IN THE  
11 UTILITIES.

12 I REALLY DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ELSE TO SAY.  
13 THAT'S BASICALLY JUST THE CUT AND DRIED. I MEAN, THE  
14 GRASS ROOTS OF IT. MOST OF OUR PEOPLE JUST PLAIN CAN'T  
15 AFFORD IT AND THE CITY OF LIMA CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE ANY  
16 MORE BUSINESS OVER IT.

17 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: SUE STEIN?

18 MS. STEIN: PASS.

19 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: TERESA

20 ADAMS?

21 MS. ADAMS: PASS.

22 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: PAM

23 VICKERS?

24 - - -

25 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )

35

1 FLOOD, AND FOR THOSE PEOPLE THAT THOSE SITUATIONS EXIST  
2 -- I HAPPEN TO SELL REAL ESTATE. I DON'T KNOW IF  
3 YOU'RE FAMILIAR WITH WHAT A CLUE REPORT IS, BUT  
4 INSURANCE COMPANIES KEEP TRACK OF CLUE REPORTS SO WHEN  
5 SOMEBODY IS READY TO SELL THEIR HOUSE IF THAT HOUSE HAS  
6 TAKEN ON WATER TWO TO THREE TIMES, GUESS WHAT, YOUR NEW  
7 BUYER WON'T BE ABLE TO PURCHASE INSURANCE ON THAT HOME.

8 BUT THAT'S JUST A SLIGHT IMPACT THAT A.E.P.  
9 HAS HAD ON OUR COMMUNITY AND I THINK WE DESERVE BETTER  
10 THAN WHAT WE HAVE HAD IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

11 THE LAST YEAR AND A HALF I WOULD HAVE TO SAY  
12 WE HAVEN'T PERSONALLY HAD THAT PROBLEM. IT STOPPED, BUT  
13 I NOTICED THAT IT CONTINUED OR PICKED UP IN OTHER AREAS  
14 IN ALLEN COUNTY. BUT ONE OF MY BIGGEST QUESTIONS THAT  
15 I REALLY HAVE TONIGHT HERE IS THE TIMING.

16 WE HAVE GONE SO LONG WITHOUT HAVING  
17 ACCEPTABLE SERVICE IN THIS AREA THAT I LOOK AT A.E.P.  
18 IN THE LAST COUPLE YEARS AND THEY HAVE HAD GOOD  
19 REVENUES, GOOD DIVIDENDS, BUT THEY HAVE ALSO MADE SOME  
20 VERY LARGE PURCHASES WITHIN THE LAST YEAR OR SO. YOUR  
21 LAWRENCEBURG PURCHASE 325 MILLION, YOUR DARBY  
22 ACQUISITION 182, WATERFORD 220, YOUR SERADO 100  
23 MILLION, AND YOUR NEW HEMPSTEAD PLANT AT 1.4 MILLION.

24 AND YOU'RE LOOKING AT YOUR LAWRENCEBURG TO  
25 CLOSE THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2007, DARBY THE FIRST

34

1 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND  
2 SPELL YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.

3 MS. VICKERS: PAM VICKERS.

4 P-A-M V-I-C-K-E-R-S, 1360 LOCH LOMAN, LIMA, OHIO,  
5 45805.

6 I WILL TRY TO KEEP IT LIGHT. SIX YEARS AGO  
7 MY HUSBAND WENT OUT AND PURCHASED A GENERATOR AND I  
8 HAVE TO TELL YOU I LAUGHED. I THOUGHT WHEN ARE WE EVER  
9 GOING TO USE THIS GENERATOR. A LITTLE OVER A YEAR  
10 LATER WE USED IT ALMOST TWO YEARS NON-STOP.

11 ANYONE THAT PROBABLY LIVES OUT IN OTTAWA  
12 HILLS FURTHER WEST AND I CAN TELL YOU THERE WERE TIMES  
13 WE WENT HOURS WITHOUT ELECTRICITY, SOMETIMES OVERNIGHT,  
14 AND SOMETIMES DAYS.

15 I DON'T THINK A.E.P. REALIZES THE BURDEN  
16 YOU'RE PLACING ON THE COMMUNITY HERE IN LIMA. GRANTED,  
17 WE HAVE A GENERATOR TO HOOK UP WHEN THAT WOULD HAPPEN  
18 AND IT WAS TO THE POINT WHERE I KNEW I COULD GO DOWN ON  
19 SERRIFF ROAD AND FIND THE TECHNICIAN EVERY TIME IT WENT  
20 OUT. IT WAS CONSTANTLY THE SAME LOCATION, AND YOU  
21 COULD PROBABLY CHECK YOUR RECORDS. A.E.P. NEVER MADE  
22 PERMANENT FIXES, THEY WERE ALL TEMPORARY.

23 AND WHEN YOU DO THAT, FOR THOSE WHO DON'T  
24 HAVE GENERATORS, FOR THOSE WHO DON'T HAVE BATTERY  
25 BACKUPS, AND THAT HAVE BASEMENTS, THEIR BASEMENTS

36

1 QUARTER OF 2007, AND I JUST SIT HERE AND QUESTION ARE  
2 WE SUBSIDIZING SOME OF THESE LARGE ACQUISITIONS? YOUR  
3 LAWRENCEBURG ACQUISITION, P.S.G.E. SPENT 640 MILLION  
4 DOLLARS TO BUILD THAT. IT WAS ONLY 2-1/2 YEARS OLD.  
5 IT WAS NOT FINANCIALLY SOUND FOR THEM. I THINK THEY  
6 OPERATED IT FOR -- USED 20 PERCENT OF IT. IT WAS A  
7 LOSING BUSINESS FOR THEM, BUT YOU STEPPED IN AND  
8 PURCHASED IT AT A GOOD BUY AT 325 MILLION.

9 YOU JUST RECENTLY SIGNED A MULTI-CONTRACT  
10 WITH THE CITY OF COLUMBUS AND THAT WAS BASED ON A  
11 COMPETITIVE BID PROCESS. AND IT MAKES ME WONDER MAYBE  
12 PERHAPS WHY WE ARE TAKING IN SOME OF THE COSTS OF SOME  
13 OF THOSE LINES BEING DONE IN SOUTHERN OHIO OR AROUND  
14 COLUMBUS?

15 BUT BOTTOM LINE IS YOU JUST FIND INCREASES  
16 WITH TEXAS FOR 82.7 MILLION, OKLAHOMA IN NOVEMBER FOR  
17 49.6, AND YOU COME TO US WITH OVER A HUNDRED, AND I  
18 THINK LIMA DESERVES MUCH BETTER THAN WHAT THEY HAVE  
19 RECEIVED FROM A.E.P.

20 AND I DON'T THINK THAT OUR SCHOOLS SHOULD  
21 CARRY THIS BURDEN. I DON'T THINK THAT OUR COMMUNITY  
22 SHOULD CARRY THE BURDEN, AND I THINK A.E.P. SHOULD DO  
23 WHAT IS RIGHT HERE AND I THINK WE HAVE DESERVED A GOOD  
24 BUSINESS FROM YOU FOR THE LAST FIVE OR SIX YEARS AT  
25 LEAST, SO I WOULD BE VERY DISAPPOINTED IF THIS INCREASE

37

1 WAS PASSED

2 AND IF IT IS PASSED, THEN I WOULD THINK  
3 PERHAPS OF GOING OUT AND BUYING STOCK IN A.E.P. BECAUSE  
4 YOU WILL CONTINUE TO GROW. THANK YOU.

5 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: RICK  
6 JOHNSON?

7 - - -  
8 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )  
9 - - -

10 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND  
11 SPELL YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.

12 MR. JOHNSON: MY NAME IS RICK  
13 JOHNSON. R-I-C-K J-D-H-N-S-O-N.

14 I AM HERE TONIGHT TO OPPOSE THIS RAISING OF  
15 THESE RATES. IT'S NOT GOING TO AFFECT ME PROBABLY AS  
16 MUCH AS A BUNCH OF YOU PEOPLE BECAUSE I DO MAKE A  
17 HALFWAY DECENT LIVING, BUT THE SENIOR CITIZENS AND MY  
18 PARENTS AND PEOPLE THAT'S ON FIXED INCOME. IT'S REALLY  
19 PUTTING A HURT ON THEM BECAUSE A LOT OF THEM IS HAVING  
20 TROUBLE WITH THE HEALTH CARE THE WAY IT'S HIGH NOW.  
21 THEY HAVE TO PICK BETWEEN EATING AND TAKING THEIR DRUGS  
22 AND NOW THEY HAVE TO PICK BETWEEN HAVING HEAT OR AIR  
23 CONDITIONING IN THE SUMMER, YOU KNOW, IT JUST SEEMS TO  
24 ME THIS WORLD HAS BECOME TOO GREEDY.

25 THERE'S BEEN PROFITS MADE BY A.E.P.. IT'S

39

1 SPELL YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.

2 MS. STRIFF: SUSAN STRIFF.  
3 S-U-S-A-N S-T-R-I-F-F. I LIVE AT 305 SOUTH UAVERLY,  
4 APARTMENT-C, IN CRIDERSVILLE, OHIO, 45806.

5 I AM HERE ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY COMPLEX  
6 THAT I LIVE IN. IT'S A GOVERNMENT HOUSING AND WE ARE  
7 BASICALLY BASED ON AN INCOME WE HAVE. MOST OF THE  
8 PEOPLE ARE ON LOW INCOME THAT LIVE IN THERE. SOME OF  
9 THEM HAVE ZERO INCOME. AND I AM AGAINST THE UTILITY  
10 RATE INCREASE BECAUSE WE JUST CAN'T HARDLY AFFORD THE  
11 UTILITY INCREASE RIGHT NOW AS IT IS.

12 LIKE I SAY, I LIVE IN A SUBURB, I DON'T LIVE  
13 IN LIMA, AND I AM AGAINST IT BECAUSE WE ARE PAYING FOR  
14 THINGS THAT LIMA, OHIO IS BENEFITING MORE THAN WHAT THE  
15 SUBURBS ARE.

16 I LIVE IN A DIFFERENT COUNTY AND THAT'S ALLEN  
17 COUNTY AND I LIVE IN AUGLAIZE COUNTY AND THE RATE  
18 INCREASE WOULD AFFECT US VERY BADLY. I ALSO WANT TO  
19 COMMENT ON THE FACT THAT THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE ZERO  
20 INCOME OUT THERE, THEIR UTILITY IS PAID FOR BUT ONLY A  
21 CERTAIN PERCENTAGE OF IT IS PAID FOR AND THEY ARE  
22 RESPONSIBLE FOR THE REST OF IT. IF THEY CANNOT AFFORD  
23 THE REST OF THEIR UTILITY IT WILL BE TURNED OFF.

24 SO THE RATE INCREASE WILL AFFECT EVERYBODY  
25 WHO LIVES OUT THERE, NOT ONLY ME BUT OTHER PEOPLE WHO

38

1 JUST LIKE ANY BUSINESS, AND THEY SHOULD BE REINVESTING  
2 IN THEIR EQUIPMENT AND ALL THAT TO KEEP IT MAINTAINED  
3 AND NOT HAVE TO COME TO THE PUBLIC TO GET MORE MONEY,  
4 YOU KNOW, FOR -- NOT LIKE PAYING SHAREHOLDERS, I MEAN.  
5 WHY SHOULD THE SHAREHOLDERS AND C.E.O.'S GET ALL THE  
6 MONEY AND THEN THEY COME AND ASK US FOR MORE.

7 I JUST THINK IT'S RIDICULOUS AND I THINK THAT  
8 P.U.C.O. OUGHT TO DENY IT. I THINK THAT IN A WAY THAT  
9 THIS SHOULD BE SOMETHING THAT SHOULD HAVE TO BE PUT ON  
10 A BALLOT FOR PEOPLE VOTE ON IT INSTEAD OF JUST LETTING  
11 ONE ORGANIZATION, YOU KNOW, MAKE A DECISION FOR ALL OF  
12 US. THIS ROOM OUGHT TO BE FULL. AS A MATTER OF FACT,  
13 IT OUGHT TO BE PACKED OUT IN THE HALLS HERE, YOU KNOW,  
14 BECAUSE, LIKE A LOT OF THEM STATED, AROUND HERE OUR  
15 ECONOMY IN THIS TOWN HAS WENT DOWN, WE DON'T NEED RATES  
16 RAISING, BECAUSE JUST LIKE THE WOMEN PREVIOUSLY SAID WE  
17 ARE GOING TO LOSE BUSINESS. WE CAN'T GET BUSINESS TO  
18 COME IN HERE NOW HARDLY.

19 SO I THINK IT'S A BAD THING FOR LIMA AND IT'S  
20 A BAD THING FOR THE PUBLIC. AND THAT'S ALL I HAVE.

21 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: SUE STRIFF?

22 - - -  
23 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )  
24 - - -

25 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND

40

1 LIVE THERE. WE HAVE HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE PEOPLE WHO  
2 LIVE THERE AND ELDERLY PEOPLE WHO LIVE THERE. SO I AM  
3 STRONGLY AGAINST THE INCREASE DUE TO THE FACT THAT WE  
4 CANNOT AFFORD TO PAY IT EITHER.

5 THANK YOU.

6 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: LESLIE  
7 WIREMAN?

8 MR. WIREMAN: I'LL PASS.  
9 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: KATHY

10 STUCKEY?

11 MS. STUCKEY: I'LL PASS.  
12 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: THOMAS

13 SINN?

14 - - -  
15 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )  
16 - - -

17 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND  
18 SPELL YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.

19 MR. SINN: THOMAS T. SINN.  
20 S-I-N-N. MY ADDRESS IS 355 SECOND STREET, LATTY, OHIO.  
21 I HAVE A LITTLE DIFFERENT TAKE. I AM FROM A VERY SMALL  
22 COMMUNITY. IT TOOK ME ABOUT AN HOUR AND TEN MINUTES TO  
23 GET HERE. IT'S ACTUALLY FAIRLY CLOSE TO FORT WAYNE,  
24 INDIANA.

25 A LOT OF THE COMMENTS I HAD WERE ALREADY



41

1 SPOKEN SO I JUST WANT TO REITERATE SOME THAT MY  
2 COMMUNITY HAS GIVEN. ONE WAS THAT THREE TO FOUR YEARS  
3 AGO WE HAD THE SAME TYPE PROBLEMS, CONSTANT PROBLEMS,  
4 AND TO MAKE LONG STORY SHORT, WITH ALMOST COMING TO  
5 THREATS OF CONTACTING P.U.C.O. FOR HELP WE GOT SOME OF  
6 OUR PROBLEMS TAKEN CARE OF.

7 IT'S STILL NOT 100 PERCENT BUT I KNOW IT'S A  
8 UTILITY AND I UNDERSTAND THERE'S GOING TO BE STORMS  
9 THAT TAKE THINGS OUT, I UNDERSTAND THAT.

10 MY PROBLEM IS WITH THE RATE INCREASE AND IN  
11 MY COMMUNITY OUR OHIO POWER WAS TAKEN OUT OF OUR  
12 COMMUNITY AND TAKEN TO VAN VERT AND THEN TAKEN TO LIMA  
13 FROM THERE. SO NOW WHEN WE NEED HELP WE ARE ONE HOUR  
14 PLUS BEFORE WE EVEN WILL GET SOMEONE THERE. IT'S  
15 USUALLY OVER LONGER THAN THAT BECAUSE BY THE TIME  
16 SOMEONE IN LIMA IS CALLED OUT AND THEY GO TO THEIR  
17 TRUCK AND GET TO OUR VILLAGE, IT'S THAT FAR AWAY, IT'S  
18 GOING TO BE AN HOUR AND A HALF JUST TO GET TO US. THEN  
19 THEY STILL HAVE TO FIND AND CORRECT THE PROBLEM.

20 THAT WAS A WAY OF THE BIG FIRM A COUPLE YEARS  
21 AGO DOWNSIZING, WE UNDERSTAND THAT. I LOST A JOB WITH  
22 ANOTHER UTILITY FROM DOWNSIZING FROM A TELEPHONE  
23 COMPANY IN THAT AREA.

24 WE DON'T FEEL THAT FOR WORSE SERVICE WE  
25 SHOULD PAY MORE, BECAUSE OF THE LONGER SERVICE. WE

42

1 HAVE THE SAME PROBLEMS SOME OF THE PEOPLE MENTIONED  
2 WITH THE LINES FRAYING. I DO UNDERSTAND THAT THE  
3 COATING ON THE WIRES DOESN'T NECESSARILY MEAN A WHOLE  
4 LOT, BUT I ALSO KNOW THAT THESE WIRES, I HAVE LIVED IN  
5 THIS COMMUNITY FOR OVER 50 YEARS AND THEY HAVE NEVER  
6 BEEN CHANGED IN THAT 50-YEAR PERIOD. WHEN THE POWER  
7 CAME TO LATTY A LOT MAY STILL BE ORIGINAL.

8 I THINK PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE IS A BIG  
9 THING. I THINK IF MORE WOULD HAVE BEEN DONE OR KEPT  
10 DONE THAT SOME OF THESE PROBLEMS WE HAVE HAD WOULD HAVE  
11 BEEN MAINTAINED BETTER.

12 I HAVE THE SAME COMPLAINT FROM SOME OF MY  
13 TOWN WHICH IS PROBABLY 40 PERCENT FIXED INCOME TO LOW  
14 INCOME. THEY ARE VERY CONCERNED WITH PAYING MORE THAN  
15 THEY CAN'T EVEN PAY NOW.

16 I HAVE ANOTHER COMMENT. IT'S A DIFFERENT  
17 OUTLOOK ON THE TREES CAUSING PROBLEMS AND THAT SORT.  
18 IN OUR COMMUNITY A.E.P. CAME TO TOWN AND OUR COMMUNITY  
19 IS BUTCHERED NOW. THE WAY THEY TRIMMED THE TREES IS  
20 DISGUSTING. YEARS AGO THEY WOULD TOP THEM OFF AND  
21 ROUND THEM. NOW THEY CUT HUGE "V'S", MADE THE TREES  
22 "L'S". TREES THAT MIGHT BE WORTH SOMETHING IN VALUE TO  
23 YOUR HOME TO SELL NOW IS A DETRIMENT RATHER THAN A  
24 PLUS.

25 I HAD COMPLAINTS FROM MY VILLAGE AND I WENT

43

1 TO THE TREE TRIMMERS AND ASKED COULD WE DO IT THIS WAY.  
2 I WAS SHORT WITH. I CONTACTED HELP AT THE A.E.P. THEY  
3 DID COME DOWN. WE GOT AS FAR AS ONE RESIDENT CAME OUT  
4 WITH A GUN AND THREATENED THEM NOT TO CUT THE TREE  
5 BECAUSE YOU'RE RUINING HIS TREE.

6 IT GOT RATHER UGLY AND THE RESPONSE WAS  
7 PRETTY MUCH WELL. I DON'T CARE, WE ARE KEEPING THESE  
8 TREES OUT OF THE WIRES, AND I JUST FELT THAT WAS VERY  
9 UNBUSINESSLIKE AND INAPPROPRIATE. AND THE WAY THEY DID  
10 THE TREES, YOU DRIVE DOWN 127 FROM MY VILLAGE INTO  
11 PAULDING OHIO YOU WILL KNOW WHAT I MEAN, IT'S SAD.

12 THE OTHER COMMENT I HAD WAS WE HAVE A.E.P.  
13 STREET LIGHTING IN OUR SMALL COMMUNITY WHICH WE PAY A  
14 CONTRACT FOR. YEARS AGO I HAVE BEEN ON COUNCIL AND  
15 MAYOR. I AM JUST 50-YEARS-OLD AND I HAVE BEEN ON  
16 COUNCIL OR MAYOR FOR OVER TWENTY YEARS NOW. NOBODY  
17 ELSE WANTS THE JOB. I GET PAID TWO DOLLARS A DAY AND  
18 WHEN PEOPLE CALL AND CHEW ME OUT, I STOP THEM AND SAY  
19 THAT'S TWO DOLLARS' WORTH, CALL ME TOMORROW, BECAUSE IT  
20 ISN'T WORTH THE HASSLE.

21 ONE OF THE JOBS THAT A.E.P. HAS NOW GIVEN ME  
22 IS WHEN OUR STREET LIGHTS GO OUT, RATHER THAN THEM  
23 DOING ROUTINE MAINTENANCE AND CHECKING THE LIGHTING OR  
24 HAVING SOMEBODY DRIVE THROUGH THE COMMUNITY AT NIGHT  
25 WHEN WE HAD LOCAL PEOPLE, THEY HAVE EVEN GONE AS FAR AS

44

1 TO SEND ME A FORM THAT I FILL OUT AND GIVE THEM THE  
2 INFORMATION.

3 I HAVE TO TELL THEM THREE DIFFERENT THINGS --  
4 IS IT OUT ALL THE TIME, IS IT INTERMITTENT, IS LIGHT  
5 HITTING IT GOING IN AND OUT -- SO THEY CAN DETERMINE  
6 HOW TO FIX IT. I JUST FEEL THAT THIS IS THEIR  
7 RESPONSIBILITY. I DIDN'T NEED ANY MORE WORK.

8 THE LAST COMMENT I HAVE IS THE REHAB WORK I  
9 THINK NEEDS TO CONTINUE. I HOPE THEY DON'T DOWNSIZE  
10 ANY MORE BECAUSE IF THEY GO FARTHER AWAY FROM LIMA WE  
11 MIGHT AS WELL WAIT FOREVER FOR SERVICE.

12 AND THIS ISN'T JUST THE OHIO POWER. WE HAVE  
13 TROUBLE WITH OUR PHONE COMPANY'S DONE THE SAME THING  
14 AND, IN FACT, IF I WOULD RUN MY BROTHER'S BUSINESS  
15 WHERE I COME IN AND TELL YOU YOU'RE GOING TO MAIL YOUR  
16 BILLS TO ME RATHER THAN ME BRING THEM INTO THE OFFICE  
17 WHERE WE ALWAYS DID BEFORE OR TELL SOMEBODY THAT THEIR  
18 SERVICE IS GOING TO BE FURTHER AWAY AND THAT MY  
19 APPLIANCE REPAIRMAN IS NOT GOING TO BE THERE FOR AN  
20 HOUR AND A HALF LONGER BECAUSE HE LIVES 60 MILES AWAY.  
21 I WOULD BE OUT OF BUSINESS OR MY BROTHER WOULD, AND I  
22 JUST THINK IT'S POOR BUSINESS.

23 AND SOME OF THE DOWNSIZING THEY HAVE DONE AND  
24 HOW IT'S HURT THE SMALLER COMMUNITIES, LIMA, AND THE  
25 CITIES GET A LOT MORE ATTENTION BECAUSE THEY ARE BIG.

45

1 US LITTLE GUYS ARE WORSE. AND BESIDES EVERYTHING ELSE,  
2 THEY ARE TAKING OUR FUNDING ALSO. THE GOVERNMENT IS, SO  
3 IT'S A STRUGGLE ALL THE WAY AROUND AND WE CERTAINLY  
4 DON'T NEED A UTILITY INCREASE ON TOP OF THAT.

5 THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

6 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: SHEILA  
7 DEVILLE?

8 - - -  
9 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )  
10 - - -

11 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND  
12 SPELL YOUR NAME AND GIVE YOUR ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.

13 MS. DEVILLE: SHEILA DEVILLE,  
14 S-H-E-I-L-A D-E-V-I-L-L-E. 727 MICHAEL AVENUE, LIMA,  
15 OHIO. 45804.

16 THE PROBLEM WITH THE RATE INCREASE TO ME IS  
17 DETRIMENTAL TO EVERYBODY INVOLVED. WITHIN THE STATE OF  
18 OHIO NOT JUST LIMA, OHIO. A LOT OF US CAN'T AFFORD IT.  
19 YES, I WORK. I AM A MANAGER AT A FAST FOOD RESTAURANT,  
20 AND AT THE RESTAURANT MY COMPANY TELLS ME IF I WANT A  
21 PAY INCREASE OR RATE INCREASE IN MY WAGES THAT I HAVE  
22 TO GIVE THE COMPANY SOMETHING THEY WANT, WHICH IS  
23 PERFORMANCE.

24 IF A.E.P. WANTS THEIR RATE INCREASE WHY  
25 AREN'T THEY GIVING LIMA AND THE CITIZENS OF THIS STATE

47

1 CAN'T AFFORD TO KEEP IT GOING.

2 NOW, IF THE STATE CAN RECOGNIZE THAT THE  
3 UTILITIES ARE GETTING TOO MUCH, WHY CAN'T THE P.U.C.O.  
4 RECOGNIZE THIS? IF A.E.P. WANTS ME TO PAY THEM MORE  
5 MONEY THEY SHOULD GIVE ME A SERVICE. I AM IN CUSTOMER  
6 SATISFACTION AT MY JOB. I AM SUPPOSED TO SATISFY MY  
7 CUSTOMERS. A.E.P. NEVER HAS DONE THAT TO THIS DAY IN  
8 MY OPINION.

9 AND I THINK THAT THE PEOPLE OF THIS  
10 COMMUNITY, NOT JUST ME, NOT JUST THE MIDDLE CLASS, NOT  
11 JUST THE LOW CLASS, NOT JUST THE PEOPLE MAKE BUNCHES OF  
12 MONEY, CANNOT AFFORD TO GIVE A.E.P. MORE MONEY WHEN  
13 THEY DON'T DO ANYTHING TO HELP THE COMMUNITIES AND HELP  
14 IMPROVE THEIR SERVICE TO THE CUSTOMER. I'M NOT A  
15 SATISFIED CUSTOMER. I DON'T THINK ANYBODY IN THIS  
16 AUDIENCE IS A SATISFIED CUSTOMER OF A.E.P.

17 THANK YOU.

18 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: I AM UNSURE  
19 OF THIS NAME. DICK COUNTNESS?

20 MR. COUNTNESS: I'LL PASS.

21 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: JOHN  
22 SCHNEIDER?

23 - - -  
24 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )  
25 - - -

46

1 A PERFORMANCE? THEY ARE NOT.

2 I CONTACTED A.E.P. PERSONALLY THREE YEARS AGO  
3 WITH A PROBLEM IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD. I STILL HAVE NOT  
4 BEEN RESPONDED TO BY A.E.P. AND THIS IS THREE YEARS  
5 OLD. I CONTACTED THE P.U.C.O. AND TRIED TO GET THEM  
6 INVOLVED IN THE SITUATION. THE P.U.C.O. HAS TRIED BUT  
7 A.E.P. WON'T EVEN RESPOND TO THEM.

8 I DROVE TO COLUMBUS, OHIO TO ONE RIVERSIDE  
9 PLAZA AND TALKED TO A GREG GRIFFIN FROM A.E.P. WHO NO  
10 LONGER IS EMPLOYED THERE AND I WAS TOLD BY HIM THAT HE  
11 HAD NO IDEA WHAT WE WERE GOING TO DO ABOUT THE PROBLEM  
12 I HAD, WHICH WAS TRANSFORMERS SPARKING AND ARCING ALL  
13 OVER THE STREET, NOT JUST AT MY CORNER BUT AT A FEW  
14 CORNERS.

15 SO I SAID OKAY, WHAT'S GOING TO BE DONE?  
16 WELL, GO HOME AND WE'LL SEE WHAT WE CAN DO. WELL,  
17 NOTHING HAS EVER BEEN DONE, BECAUSE MY POWER GOES IN  
18 AND OUT ON AND OFF, IT'S INTERMITTENT. IT CAN BE DAYS,  
19 IT CAN BE A COUPLE MINUTES.

20 ANOTHER PROBLEM I HAVE IS THE STATE OF OHIO  
21 ITSELF THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS HAS  
22 REALIZED THAT THE UTILITY RATES ARE SO BAD, AND I AM  
23 TALKING ALL THE UTILITIES, THAT THEY CLOSED DOWN L.C.I.,  
24 WHICH IS THE LIMA CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTE, AND THEY ARE  
25 SAYING THE PROBLEM WITH IT IS THE UTILITIES AND THEY

48

1 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND  
2 SPELL YOUR NAME AND GIVE YOUR ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.

3 MR. SCHNEIDER: JOHN SCHNEIDER.  
4 J-O-H-N S-C-H-N-E-I-D-E-R. I LIVE AT 2325 WALES  
5 AVENUE, LIMA, OHIO. 45805. I AM IN AGREEMENT WITH MANY  
6 OF OUR PREVIOUS SPEAKERS SO I WILL BRIEF.

7 I AM PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN ENCOURAGING  
8 A.E.P. TO RESPOND TO THE SPECIFIC CONCERNS STATED BY  
9 MR. ELSTRO AND THE LIMA CITY GOVERNMENT. I HOPE THEY  
10 CAN PUBLICLY RESPOND TO THOSE CONCERNS.

11 I ALSO CALL ON A.E.P. TO STATE PUBLICLY MORE  
12 CLEARLY WHAT IS THE AVERAGE PERCENT INCREASE IN THE  
13 FEES FOR THE CONSUMER, ALSO HOW MUCH WOULD THIS BE FOR  
14 THE AVERAGE RESIDENTIAL CONSUMER, HOW MUCH WOULD THIS  
15 COST THEM?

16 I HAVE CONCERN WITH LOW AND MODERATE FAMILIES  
17 AND ALSO NEIGHBORHOODS. SOME COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS  
18 THAT I AM INVOLVED WITH ARE DOING WHAT WE CAN TO  
19 IMPROVE RESIDENTIAL AREAS BUT ALSO TO BRING COMMERCIAL  
20 DEVELOPMENT TO LOW AND MODERATE INCOMES, AND I HAVE  
21 CONCERNS ABOUT WHAT THE UTILITY INCREASE, HOW THAT  
22 WOULD IMPACT EFFORTS MADE TO IMPROVE THE ECONOMY AND  
23 DEVELOPMENT OF THOSE LOW AND MODERATE INCOME  
24 NEIGHBORHOODS.

25 THANK YOU.

49

1 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: RUSSELL  
 2 COLLEY?  
 3 MR. COLLEY: WE WILL FILE A  
 4 WRITTEN PETITION.  
 5 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: LISA MAULT?  
 6 ( NO RESPONSE )  
 7 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: CYNDY  
 8 COLLINS?  
 9 ---  
 10 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )  
 11 ---  
 12 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND  
 13 SPELL YOUR NAME AND ALSO YOUR ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.  
 14 MS. COLLINS: CYNDY COLLINS.  
 15 C-Y-N-D-Y C-O-L-L-I-N-S. 1320 LOCH LOMAN WAY, LIMA,  
 16 45805. A LOT OF MY POINTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN TAKEN SO I  
 17 WILL ALSO TRY TO BE BRIEF.  
 18 ONE OF THE PROBLEMS THAT I HAVE WITH A E.P.  
 19 IS NOT ONLY IN THEIR RELIABILITY AND THEIR SERVICE BUT  
 20 IN THEIR COMMUNICATION. AND AN INDICATION OF THAT WAS  
 21 DURING THE ICE STORM. THERE WAS VERY VERY POOR  
 22 COMMUNICATION TO THE COMMUNITY. TO THE MEDIA. AND TO  
 23 THE CONSUMERS. THAT NEEDS A MAJOR OVERHAUL.  
 24 AS ANOTHER LADY MENTIONED. WHEN YOU CALL AND  
 25 YOU LIVE ON A STREET THAT IS LOCH LOMAN WAY AND YOU'RE

51

1 POWER TO DEDICATE TEN MILLION DOLLARS TO SERVICE AND  
 2 RELIABILITY CONCERNS. THE FUNDS WILL NOT BE RECOVERED  
 3 FROM TAXPAYERS AND THE COMMISSION WILL WORK TO  
 4 DETERMINE WHERE AND HOW THE FUNDS WILL BEST BE SPENT.  
 5 AS A CONSUMER I URGE THE P.U.C.O. AND  
 6 WHATEVER INFLUENCE THE O.C.C. HAS TO MAKE SURE THAT  
 7 A.E.P. FOLLOWS THIS DIRECTIVE. THANK YOU.  
 8 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: BOB MOONEY?  
 9 ---  
 10 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )  
 11 ---  
 12 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND  
 13 SPELL YOUR NAME AND GIVE YOUR ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.  
 14 MR. MOONEY: BOB MOONEY.  
 15 M-O-O-N-E-Y. 441 SOUTH DEVEY, LIMA, 45804.  
 16 MINE WILL BE BRIEF. I LIVED AT MY PRESENT  
 17 RESIDENCE FOR 17 YEARS. AND FOR 15 YEARS WE HAVE  
 18 COMPLAINED TO A E.P. ABOUT THE POWER OUTAGE ON THE EAST  
 19 SIDE OF TOWN.  
 20 IT WASN'T UNTIL JUST A FEW YEARS BACK THAT  
 21 THEY FINALLY FIXED IT. AND FOR THAT SIDE OF TOWN WE  
 22 HAVE THE HOSPITAL AND SEVERAL RESTAURANTS AND  
 23 BUSINESSES OVER THERE THAT WERE WITHOUT POWER AND LOST  
 24 BUSINESS BECAUSE THEY DIDN'T FIX THE UPGRADE AND SO  
 25 THEY COULD JOIN WITH THE RESTAURANTS THAT THEY BUILT

50

1 TRYING TO EXPLAIN THAT AND GET LORLOMAIN AND ALL KIND  
 2 OF WORDS. YOU'RE NOT COMFORTABLE THAT YOU HAVE REACHED  
 3 SOMEBODY THAT KNOWS WHAT PART OF THE UNITED STATES  
 4 YOU'RE IN. SO TO HAVE OUR CALLS GOING SO FAR AWAY I  
 5 THINK IS ALSO VERY POOR.  
 6 I HAVE A BROTHER WHO'S A WORKAHOLIC. I NEVER  
 7 HARDLY TALK TO HIM BUT WHEN HE CALLS I KNOW THE NEXT  
 8 WORDS OUT OF HIS MOUTH WILL BE "DO YOU HAVE POWER OVER  
 9 THERE?" AND THAT IS. HE IS ON THE WEST SIDE OF TOWN.  
 10 THERE'S A LOT OF DEVELOPMENT THERE. AND I DON'T BELIEVE  
 11 THAT A.E.P. HAVE KEPT UP WITH THE CONSTRUCTION. AT THE  
 12 END OF SERIFF ROAD WE HAVE THE PRIMROSE COMMUNITY FOR  
 13 SENIORS. WE ARE GOING TO GET A SUPER WAL-MART. AND MY  
 14 PARTICULAR SERVICE IS TAPPED OFF OF EAST OF TOWN AND  
 15 IT'S GETTING WORSE AS THERE IS MORE DEVELOPMENT.  
 16 IT WOULD SEEM THAT. MY SENSE WOULD BE AS YOU  
 17 HAVE MORE CUSTOMERS YOU WOULD HAVE MORE MONEY TO  
 18 UPGRADE THE SERVICE.  
 19 AND LASTLY. I'D JUST LIKE TO MAKE A POINT.  
 20 THIS IS FROM THE P.U.C.O. WEB SITE OUT OF A PUBLICATION  
 21 THEY HAVE CALLED THE MONITOR. AND I WOULD URGE THE  
 22 P.U.C.O. TO TAKE A LOOK AT THIS PARAGRAPH IN THEIR  
 23 COMMUNICATION THAT I FOUND THAT GOES INTERNALLY TO  
 24 THEIR EMPLOYEES AND EXTERNALLY TO THE COMMUNITY: IN  
 25 JULY 2006 THE P.U.C.O. HAS DIRECTED AMERICAN ELECTRIC

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1 ONTO TO UPGRADE THE POWER SO EVERYBODY WOULD HAVE IT.  
 2 I JUST FEEL THAT IT TOOK THEM FIFTEEN YEARS  
 3 TO FIX THAT AND I THINK THAT A GOOD PREDICTION OF  
 4 FUTURE BEHAVIOR ON UPGRADES IS THE PAST. THANK YOU.  
 5 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: RON BIBLE?  
 6 ---  
 7 ( THE WITNESS WAS SWORN IN. )  
 8 ---  
 9 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND  
 10 SPELL YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.  
 11 MR. BIBLE: RON BIBLE. R-O-N  
 12 B-I-B-L-E. 5055 DAISY LANE, ELIDA, OHIO.  
 13 I AM SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE RESIDENTS OF  
 14 AMERICAN TOWNSHIP. I FOR ONE HAD A CALL FROM A  
 15 RESIDENT ABOUT WHY IN AMERICAN TOWNSHIP DO WE HAVE SO  
 16 MANY OUTAGES AND I AM NOT GOING TO REITERATE THE -- WE  
 17 HAVE HEARD FROM BUSINESS. WE HAVE HEARD FROM THE SENIOR  
 18 CITIZENS. SO I WILL JUST SAY I AM ALSO AGAINST RATE  
 19 INCREASES.  
 20 I THINK THE SERVICE SHOULD BE. THE  
 21 INFRASTRUCTURE SHOULD BE FIXED WITH THE FUNDS  
 22 AVAILABLE. BUT I WANTED TO GO ON THE RECORD FOR THE  
 23 PEOPLE OF AMERICAN TOWNSHIP THAT THE INFRASTRUCTURE ON  
 24 THE WEST SIDE NEEDS IMPROVEMENT. MY NEIGHBORS ALL  
 25 AROUND US. POWER WAS OUT. THEIR BASEMENTS FLOOD. I CAN

53

1 QUOTE YOU SEVERAL PEOPLE WHO SPENT 3 OR \$4,000 ON  
2 BACKUP GENERATORS.

3 AND I WOULD LIKE TO THANK MR. ELSTRO AND THE  
4 CITY OF LIMA. I DON'T THINK YOU COULD PRESENT ANY  
5 BETTER THE REASONS THAT LIMA AND ALLEN COUNTY SHOULDN'T  
6 HAVE AN INCREASE IN ELECTRICAL FEES TO PAY FOR OTHER  
7 PARTS OF OHIO WITH THE ECONOMIC SITUATION AS IT IS IN  
8 ALLEN COUNTY.

9 AND I WOULD LIKE ONE JUST QUICK NOTE.  
10 INDIVIDUALLY WE ARE NOT HERE TO DO THIS BUT I AM GOING  
11 TO DO IT ANYWAY. I THINK THE INDIVIDUAL POWER WORKER  
12 DOES AN EXCELLENT JOB. I HAVE SEEN THEM. THE PROBLEM I  
13 THINK IS MANAGEMENT UP. I AM NOT GOING TO LECTURE ON  
14 THE AMERICAN ECONOMIC SYSTEM BUT WHAT WE HAVE DONE IS  
15 GONE CLEANER AND MEANER FOR MORE PROFIT AND LESS  
16 SERVICE.

17 SO I JUST WANT IT ON THE RECORD THAT  
18 INFRASTRUCTURE IN THIS AREA DEFINITELY NEEDS IMPROVED.

19 THANK YOU.

20 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: TIM

21 LUCEWIREMAN?

22 - - -  
23 ( THE WITNESS WAS SUORN IN. )  
24 - - -

25 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: STATE AND

55

1 HOW ABOUT WE START WITH A SLOGAN THAT SAYS JUST SAY NO.  
2 I THINK THAT'S A BETTER SLOGAN.

3 SO WHY ARE WE REALLY HERE? A.E.P. SPINS THE  
4 WHEEL AND IF THE PUBLIC DOES NOT ADEQUATELY PROTECT  
5 ITSELF THE COMPANY GETS WHAT IT WANTS.

6 IT'S NOT JUST IN OHIO, MY FRIENDS. IT'S  
7 EVERYWHERE. AND IT ISN'T NECESSARILY FOR THE BEST  
8 INTERESTS OF THE PUBLIC. IF THE P.U.C.O. LOOKS AT THE  
9 MILLIONS IN NET PROFITS THAT THE COMPANY CURRENTLY  
10 EARNS. THEN THE P.U.C.O. MUST JUST SAY NO.

11 IF A.E.P. REALLY WANTS TO INVEST IN THEIR  
12 BUSINESS THEN THEY SHOULD USE THEIR PROFITS AND THE  
13 P.U.C.O. SHOULD JUST SAY NO. I AM ACTUALLY HERE AS A  
14 REPRESENTATIVE OF OVER 400 CONSTRUCTION WORKERS IN A  
15 SEVEN COUNTY AREA SURROUNDING ALLEN COUNTY. I GET A  
16 LOT OF FEEDBACK FROM MY MEMBERS BECAUSE THEY ARE JUST  
17 ABOUT AS AGGRESSIVE AS I AM. THEY WON'T COME HERE TO  
18 SPEAK BECAUSE IF YOU ASK THEM TO STAND UP IN A MEETING  
19 THEY ALL GO RUNNING FOR THE DOOR. SO I WANT EVERYBODY  
20 TO UNDERSTAND THAT I AM THEIR VOICE. AND THEY WANT THE  
21 PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO JUST SAY NO.

22 I THINK WE HAVE HEARD IT ALL HERE TONIGHT  
23 FROM SENIOR CITIZENS. FROM WORKING CLASS FAMILIES. THAT  
24 THERE'S NO NEED FOR THE INCREASE BECAUSE THE COMPANY IS  
25 ALREADY SUPPOSED TO BE PROVIDING RELIABLE SERVICE. IT'S

54

1 SPELL YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE RECORD.

2 MR. LUCEWIREMAN: L-U-C-E-U-  
3 I-R-E-M-A-N. I WOULD LIKE TO BRING A LITTLE BIT OF  
4 IRREVERENCE TO THE GATHERING TONIGHT BECAUSE, LADIES  
5 AND GENTLEMEN, YOU THOUGHT YOU WERE COMING HERE TO A  
6 PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION EVENT. WHAT YOU HAVE REALLY  
7 COME FOR IS WHAT I WOULD CALL THE A.E.P. DOUBLE DIP  
8 LOTTERY. A GAME WHERE ONLY ONE COMPANY CAN PLAY. ONE  
9 COMPANY CAN WIN. AND ALL THE RATE PAYERS ARE LOSERS.

10 70 MILLION DOLLARS. I WONDER WHAT THAT WOULD  
11 LOOK LIKE IN MY GARAGE IN A HUNDRED DOLLAR BILLS. I AM  
12 TRYING TO IMAGINE WHAT 70 MILLION DOLLARS WOULD LOOK  
13 LIKE. I KNOW TO A.E.P. IT'S NOT A LOT. THEY CONSIDER  
14 IT A FAIRLY SMALL INCREASE IN THE BIGGER SCHEME OF  
15 THINGS. BUT FOR WORKING CLASS FAMILIES IT'S HARD TO  
16 IMAGINE HOW MUCH GARAGES THAT WOULD FILL.

17 IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE BECAUSE A LOT OF WORKING  
18 CLASS FAMILIES ARE TRYING TO IMAGINE HOW THEY ARE GOING  
19 TO PAY THEIR CURRENT BILL.

20 SPEAKING OF BUCKS -- NO, NOT THOSE BUCKS --  
21 THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION NEEDS TO DEVELOP THEIR  
22 OWN PUBLIC RELIABILITY SERVICE PROGRAM IN MY OPINION.  
23 THE BUCK STOPS HERE WOULD BE A GREAT SLOGAN TO START  
24 WITH.

25 WAIT A MINUTE. I HAVE SOMETHING ELSE IN MIND.

56

1 PART OF THE DEAL. IT WAS SOMETHING THAT THE PUBLIC  
2 UTILITIES COMMISSION SAID THIS IS A GOOD IDEA. LET'S  
3 SET ASIDE MONEY SO THAT THERE CAN BE RELIABLE SERVICE.  
4 AND I DON'T SEE ANY NEED TO INCREASE THEIR RELIABILITY  
5 PROGRAM. IF YOU WANT TO CALL IT THAT. TO INCREASE THE  
6 PAY TO THEM WHEN THEY ARE NOT GENERATING WHAT THEY ARE  
7 SUPPOSED TO IN THE FIRST PLACE.

8 WE ARE ASKING WORKERS TO PAY FOR THESE  
9 INCREASES ALONG WITH INCREASES IN COSTS THAT THE  
10 COMPANY HAS TO IN THEORY PASS ALONG.

11 A.E.P. MAKES SURE THEY MAKE MONEY EVERY YEAR  
12 EVERY MONTH THAT THEY ARE IN OPERATION. SO THIS IS MORE  
13 OR LESS A BONUS PROGRAM THE WAY I SEE IT. WELL, I GOT  
14 TO TELL YOU SOMETHING. THE CONSTRUCTION WORKERS WOULD  
15 LIKE A BONUS PROGRAM HERE BUT I GUARANTEE THE PUBLIC  
16 UTILITY COMMISSION IS NOT GOING TO GIVE THEM ONE.

17 IN THIS CASE THEY SHOULDN'T GIVE A.E.P. ONE  
18 EITHER. SO WORKERS IN AND AROUND THE LIMA AREA ASK THE  
19 PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO DO WHAT I SAID AND THAT  
20 IS JUST SAY NO TO THIS RIDICULOUS INCREASE. 70 MILLION  
21 DOLLARS.

22 THANK YOU.

23 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: SAM

24 BASSETT?

25 MR. BASSETT: I'LL PASS.

57

ATTORNEY EXAMINER: KYLE LEWIS?  
( NO RESPONSE )

ATTORNEY EXAMINER: THAT WAS  
EVERYONE THAT I HAD ON THE LIST WHO HAVE REQUESTED AN  
OPPORTUNITY TO OFFER TESTIMONY.

IS THERE ANYONE ELSE THAT WOULD LIKE TO OFFER  
TESTIMONY AT THIS TIME THAT DIDN'T PUT THEIR NAME ON  
THE LIST?

MS. GARLAND: I WOULD LIKE TO  
READDRESS THE STAND AGAIN, MA'AM.

ATTORNEY EXAMINER: LET ME JUST  
REMIND YOU THAT YOU'RE STILL UNDER OATH.

MS. GARLAND: YES, MA'AM.

FROM WHAT I HAVE HEARD HERE AND FROM WHAT I  
SEE HERE WHEN I WAS UP ON THE STAND. I MOVED FROM LIMA  
IN 1995. THIS WAS MY HOME FROM THE TIME I WAS TWO. I  
MOVED BECAUSE I FELT LIMA DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO OFFER  
ME BECAUSE OHIO STATE GRANTS WAS JUST GETTING ON THE  
MOVE HERE IN LIMA. AND SO MY COLLEGE, THEY DIDN'T HAVE  
THE OFFER, AND SO THAT'S HOW I ENDED UP IN TOLEDO.

BUT I FORESEE LIKE THE TAXPAYERS, THEIR  
TAXPAYERS, THEY ARE MOVING OUT BECAUSE THE JOBS ARE  
MOVING. THEY ARE MOVING OUT BECAUSE THE UTILITY BILLS  
ARE GETTING SO HIGH ON THEM THEY CAN'T AFFORD THEM AND  
MEET THEIR FAMILY EXPENSES AT THE SAME TIME. TO FEED

58

THEIR CHILDREN. PUT CLOTHES ON THEIR BACKS, ET CETERA.  
AND THEY CAN MOVE BECAUSE THEY GO PLACES WHERE THE JOBS  
ARE.

YOUR SENIOR CITIZENS, THE ONES THAT HAVE NICE  
PENSIONS AND SOME MONEY IN THEIR POCKET, THEY ARE  
MOVING OUT. THEY ARE GOING TO GO TO FLORIDA, SOMEPLACE  
WHERE IT'S WARM, WHERE THEY DON'T HAVE TO PAY MORE THAN  
ONE UTILITY BILL BECAUSE THEY CAN'T AFFORD WHAT IS  
BEING PRESSED ON THEM.

YOU'RE FACED WITH SENIOR CITIZENS THAT CHOOSE  
TO STAY HERE BECAUSE THIS IS THEIR HOME AND HAS BEEN  
FOR YEARS AND THEY DON'T WANT TO LEAVE IT. SO YOU'RE  
GOING TO BUILD BIGGER GRAVEYARDS BECAUSE THEY ARE DOING  
WITHOUT THEIR UTILITIES AND IN THE WINTERTIME THEY ARE  
GOING FREEZE TO DEATH BECAUSE THEY CAN'T AFFORD TO PAY  
THEM. SO YOU BETTER GET READY TO MAKE MORE GRAVEYARDS  
IF THESE THINGS CONTINUE TO RISE AND GO UP.

AS FAR AS THE REST OF THE LEVELS, YOU'VE GOT  
YOUR LOW INCOME PEOPLE, YOUR FIXED INCOME PEOPLE, THEY  
CAN'T MOVE. THEY DON'T HAVE THE MONEY. THEY DON'T HAVE  
THE CHOICE. SO WHAT IS YOUR CONSUMER? YOUR CONSUMER IN  
LIMA, OHIO IS MOSTLY YOUR SENIOR CITIZENS, YOUR LOW  
INCOME PEOPLE, BECAUSE THEY CANNOT MOVE BUT AT THE SAME  
TIME THEY CAN'T AFFORD THESE RATE HIKES, SO WHAT DO  
THEY DO?

59

WHEN I LIVED HERE AND THEY HAD THE BLIZZARD  
IN 1978 I HAD AN OLDER LADY AND GENTLEMAN THAT LIVED  
NEXT-DOOR TO ME. IT WAS A TWINPLEX. ON MY SIDE OF THE  
HOUSE, AND IT WAS BIGGER THAN THEIR SIDE, I HAD A NEW  
BABY AND THIS HOUSE WASN'T INSULATED SO MY HEAT WAS UP  
ON 90 AND MY BILL WAS \$250 A MONTH.

THIS OLDER COUPLE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE  
TWINPLEX, EVERYBODY WAS SAYING TURN DOWN YOUR HEAT,  
PLEASE HELP WITH THE ECONOMY, AND EXCUSE ME BUT THE OLD  
LADY DIED BECAUSE SHE FROZE TO DEATH IN HER BED TRYING  
TO TURN DOWN THE HEAT BECAUSE THEY COULDN'T AFFORD THE  
BILL AND THEY WERE TRYING TO HELP THE ECONOMY.

SO LIMA BETTER LOOK AT WHAT IT'S LOOKING AT  
AND SEE WHERE IT'S GOING AND THE P.U.C.O. AND UTILITY  
COMPANIES, THEY BETTER OPEN THEIR EYES AND SEE WHERE  
THEY ARE GOING BECAUSE, LIKE THE GENTLEMAN SAID, THE  
UTILITY COMPANIES AND THE BIG COMPANIES, THEY ARE  
GETTING TOO GREEDY, TOO GREEDY. I UNDERSTAND THEY PAY  
A LOT OF PEOPLE, THEY PAY A LOT OF WAGES, AND I  
UNDERSTAND ALSO A LOT OF PEOPLE ASK FOR WAGE INCREASES,  
BUT IT'S GETTING TOO GREEDY TO THE POINT WHERE THE  
CONSUMERS CANNOT AFFORD IT AND THE PEOPLE ARE LEAVING.  
THE TAXPAYERS THAT COULD AFFORD IT BECAUSE THEY ARE ON  
A MINIMUM WAGE JOB THAT CAN AFFORD TO PAY A LITTLE BIT  
OF THIS, THEY ARE DYING. YOU'VE GOT ME AND I'M 33

60

YEARS OLD WITH FAMILIES THAT ARE DYING. WHY? BECAUSE  
OF HEART ATTACKS, BECAUSE OF STRESS, BECAUSE OF  
UTILITIES RAISING PRICES AND EVERYTHING. EXCUSE ME, IF  
THEY GET A RAISE MAYBE THEY MIGHT GET 50 CENTS ON THE  
DOLLAR RAISE AND THEY'VE GOT THE ELECTRIC COMPANY, GAS  
COMPANY, RENT, ET CETERA. EVERYBODY'S GETTING RAISES,  
THE GROCERY STORE, RAISES. WHERE IS THEIR RAISES TO  
COVER ALL THEM SIX DIFFERENT CATEGORIES? IT'S NOT  
THERE.

SO I THINK THAT ALL THE UTILITY COMPANIES  
NEED TO SIT DOWN AND LOOK, CAN YOU IMAGINE WHAT LIMA  
WOULD BE IF EVERYBODY WENT OUT AND BOUGHT GENERATORS?  
I HAVE ONE. THOSE THINGS HAVE TO BE OUT IN THE  
BACKYARD FOR YOU TO USE THEM BECAUSE OF THE FUMES THAT  
COME OFF THEM AND THOSE THINGS ARE VERY NOISY. CAN YOU  
IMAGINE WHAT LIMA WOULD SOUND LIKE AND SMELL LIKE IF  
EVERYBODY IN LIMA HAD GENERATORS BECAUSE THEY DECIDED  
TO SAY NO TO THE ELECTRIC COMPANY AND THE ELECTRIC  
COMPANY JUST SAY OKAY, THEN WE WILL JUST TURN YOU OFF,  
SO THEY GOT SOMETHING DIFFERENT AND THEY GOT A  
GENERATOR SO THEY COULD STILL EXIST.

BUT BOY, THE CITY IS NOT GOING TO SMELL TOO  
GOOD AND THERE'S GOING TO BE NOISE LIKE CRAZY AND THERE  
GOES YOUR AIR POLLUTION.

AND THOSE THAT CAN AFFORD GENERATORS, THEY

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1 ARE GOING END UP LIKE THE OLD LADY. THEY ARE GOING TO  
2 FREEZE TO DEATH IN THEIR BEDS BECAUSE OHIO HAS COLD  
3 WINTERS. AND THE ONES THAT DOES NOT. THEY ARE GOING TO  
4 MOVE TO FLORIDA OR SOMEPLACE ELSE WHERE THEY ARE NOT  
5 GOING TO FREEZE TO DEATH BECAUSE THEY CAN'T PAY THEIR  
6 UTILITY BILLS.

7 THAT'S ALL I'VE GOT TO SAY.

8 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: THANK YOU.

9 SINCE THERE'S NO FURTHER TESTIMONY TO BE  
10 TAKEN, THE HEARING IS ADJOURNED.

11 THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND ATTENDANCE.  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
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19  
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25

62

1 C E R T I F I C A T E  
2  
3  
4

5 I, SHELLEY DAY, A NOTARY PUBLIC AND  
6 PROFESSIONAL COURT REPORTER WITHIN AND FOR THE STATE OF  
7 OHIO, DULY COMMISSIONED AND QUALIFIED, DO HEREBY  
8 CERTIFY THAT THE WITHIN CAPTIONED HEARING WAS BY ME  
9 REDUCED TO COMPUTER TRANSCRIPTION. AND THAT THE  
10 FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND CORRECT TRANSCRIPTION OF SAME.  
11

12 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY  
13 HAND AND AFFIXED MY SEAL OF OFFICE IN HANCOCK COUNTY,  
14 OHIO, ON THIS 13TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2007.  
15  
16  
17  
18

19 \_\_\_\_\_  
20 SHELLEY DAY, PROFESSIONAL REPORTER  
21 NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF OHIO  
22

23 MY COMMISSION EXPIRES AUGUST 10, 2010.  
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# CITY OF LIMA, OHIO

*David J. Berger, Mayor*

50 Town Square Lima, Ohio 45801-4900 419/228-5462 Fax 419/221-5214  
www.cityhall.lima.oh.us

May 11, 2006

Mr. Bob Ivinskas  
Columbus Distribution Regional  
Support Supervisor  
A.E.P. Ohio  
850 Tech Center Drive  
Gahanna, OH 43230-6605

Dear Mr. Ivinskas:

We found the presentation of May 8, 2006 thorough and helpful, and appreciated all of the dialogue with you and your AEP colleagues who were present. We are also grateful for the company's ongoing willingness to continue to meet to discuss issues and progress in coming months.

The City of Lima urges AEP to continue its efforts in upgrading the electrical infrastructure for the Lima service area. We applaud the work that AEP has done to date concerning the Eastown Road Substation, and look forward to completion of the work planned for the balance of 2006.

Of particular interest was the review of the chart entitled *Distribution Outages in the Lima area from 7/2002 to 3/2006*. It appears from the chart that the majority of recent outages are directly related to equipment and station failures, rather than acts of God or intrusions by animals and such. During our discussion, it was noted that the company's generation and distribution are now two separate and distinct divisions, with the former being profitable and the latter being fiscally constrained. The City's conclusion from this discussion and from reflection on the above noted chart is that reinvestment in distribution infrastructure is restricted and having consequences: **outages due to equipment and station failures are becoming more frequent and larger in their impact.**

Additionally, in our discussion of the recent PUCO staff critiques of AEP operations, it was noted that ten circuits in the Lima area have worsened in reliability. This



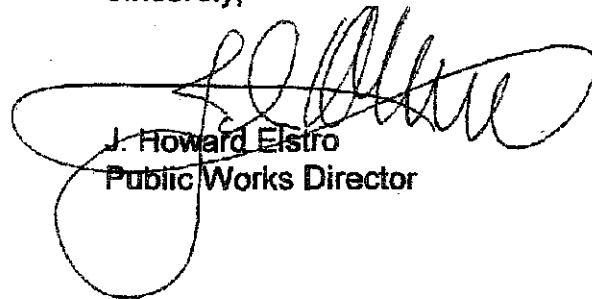
Mr. Bob Ivinskas  
May 11, 2006  
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represents 20% of the total of all circuits in Lima, which stimulates a large concern for the reliability and deliverability of electricity to our citizenry and business community.

As you have noted, AEP promises to reinvest in this infrastructure, and again we support your efforts in this regard, and look forward to updates of your progress.

We look forward to the AEP Progress Update Meetings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. Howard Elstro', is written over the typed name and title. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

J. Howard Elstro  
Public Works Director

JHE/mg

cc: Rick Gard, Mgr., Distr. Svc., AEP, Lima  
Mayor Berger  
Kirk Niemeyer



# CITY OF LIMA, OHIO

*David J. Berger, Mayor*

50 Town Square    Lima, Ohio 45801-4900    419/228-5462    Fax 419/221-5214  
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**Remarks for testimony at Public Utilities Commission of Ohio  
Hearing on AEP's *Enhanced Distribution Service and Reliability Plan*  
Case #06-222-EL-SLF  
Wednesday, 1/13/07**

On behalf of David J. Berger, Mayor of Lima; President of Council John Nixon; and myself, Howard Elstro, Director of Public Works, City of Lima; and the constituents we serve, we thank you for the opportunity to testify this evening at this Ohio Consumers Counsel hearing on AEP's proposed reliability improvement strategy and rate increase plan. The City of Lima has been concerned about the reliability of electric service for our community, for some time. We appreciate the communication opportunities with AEP that took place in May 2005 and October 2006. Further, through a letter to Bob Ivinskis, the Columbus Distribution Regional Support Supervisor on May 11, 2006, the City reiterated our concern about the ongoing distribution outages in the Lima area and asserted that the equipment and station failures are becoming more frequent and larger in impact. We commented that the AEP's own report for the period of July 2002 thru March 2006 demonstrates "ten circuits in the Lima area have worsened in reliability. This represents 20% of the total of all circuits in Lima, which stimulates a large concern for the reliability and deliverability of electricity to our citizenry and





business community.”

The *Enhanced Distribution Service and Reliability Plan* that is the subject of this hearing causes several additional concerns. It appears that the high cost of underground lines in the Canton and Columbus area, trees in the rural and inaccessible areas of southwest Ohio, and bad equipment supplied by manufacturers are all major causes for costs anticipated under this plan. And the question that pertains to all three matters is, why should customers in the Lima/Allen County region be asked to underwrite those costs?

Let's look at these issues separately:

1. This plan proposes \$40.2 million be spent on underground network systems in Columbus and Canton. Our community does not enjoy the aesthetic benefits offered by underground lines. Our community has long had to tolerate the unsightly existence of poles, wires, etc., which very much detract from the beauty of our community. We have been told over the years by AEP that, should Lima decide to have these unsightly lines buried or moved, the community would have to bear those costs. Thus, we find it inconsistent and inequitable for the citizenry and businesses of Lima, Ohio, to be asked to subsidize a higher level of service for underground lines in Canton and Columbus.
2. The *Enhanced Distribution Service and Reliability Plan* states that “of the 36,500 miles of overhead distribution lines, the majority of these lines are located in rural areas.” This plan proposes \$132.77 million

over five years be spent on vegetation management in southwest Ohio. We do not dispute that maintenance of trees in southwest Ohio, especially on the rural lines in hilly and inaccessible terrains, are more costly than in the urban areas. We do, however, find it objectionable to spread those costs to customers in the City of Lima, as we do not recognize ourselves as a direct beneficiary of the maintenance of rural lines in southwest Ohio.

3. This *Enhanced Distribution Service and Reliability Plan* proposes to replace 65,000 faulty fuse cutouts purchased and installed in the 80's and 90's at a cost of \$50.23 million. We suggest that the manufacturer and company shareholders should shoulder the majority, if not all, of this cost.

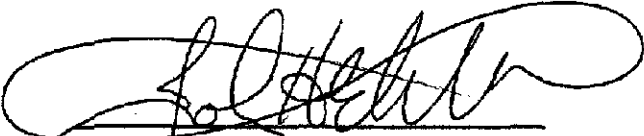
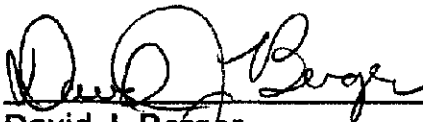
We also take issue, in general, with the proposed rate increase. All corporations anticipate aging infrastructure and the requisite capital cost to maintain that infrastructure. We believe that the cost to maintain the AEP infrastructure has already been previously recognized by prior PUCO rate actions, and thus was the basis for existing rates charged to the consumers these many decades. Thus, existing revenues should be used to reinvest in the infrastructure needs of the system. We also find this rate increase request inconsistent with the promises made at the time of Ohio's move to a partially deregulated electricity system. It appears that the revenues to maintain the system have been used to improve shareholder value, rather than to invest appropriately in the company's physical assets for long-term operating purposes.

Above all, the City of Lima is of the opinion that the proposed AEP rider is

unlawful and contrary to Ohio's sound rate making policy. It is unlawful for it seeks to establish AEP's revenue entitlement based upon forward looking incremental capital and operating costs that capture estimated inflation over the plan's five-year life. Ohio's General Assembly repealed the "reproduction cost of new, less depreciation rate base" (RCLND) in the 1970's, replacing it with the current "original" or "embedded cost" rate base for determining a utility's revenue requirements. It is contrary to sound rate making policy, for it is a long term proposal (five years) for which it seeks Commission authorization and approval for recovery of over \$250,000.00 in additional revenues in the absence of any determination of the company's currently earned rate of return. AEP seeks this authorization and approval (along with deferred accounting authorization for over/under recovery) in the face of its own acknowledgment that it will seek "new base rates" effective December 31, 2008. This represents an attempt to predetermine the revenue requirements to which it may be entitled in the yet to be filed base rate increase proceeding.

Lastly, local governments have long been faced with the demand from our constituents to do more with less. Responding to this demand is not easy. However, we believe AEP's customers also look to the company to do more with the resources they have given the company. We do not argue that the infrastructure (especially in the Lima area) needs to be upgraded and renewed. In fact, AEP's own reports and local customers will attest to the need. However, just as with local government, we believe AEP should find ways to do more with the existing revenues that our community has been paying for all these years. We respectfully suggest to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio that the rate

increase be denied, and that AEP be urged to continue to find ways to maintain and upgrade its infrastructure system.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
J. Howard Elstro  
Director of Public Works  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David J. Berger  
Mayor  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John G. Nixon  
President of Council

COMMENTS TO OHIO CONSUMERS COUNCIL  
AEP HEARING @ LIMA SENIOR HIGH  
TOPIC: Possible rate increases.....1/10/07

1. I HAVE HEARD FOR SEVERAL YEARS NOW THAT AEP WOULD IMPROVE THEIR INFRASTRUCTURE TO IMPROVE SERVICE AND TO BETTER ACCOMMODATE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH IN AND AROUND LIMA.
2. AUGUST 9, 2002, I ATTENDED A MEETING WITH CITY AND COUNTY OFFICIALS AND OTHER COMMUNITY LEADERS AT WHICH TIME WE WERE TOLD BY AEP THAT THEY UNDERSTOOD OUR PLIGHT AND WOULD BE WORKING TO IMPROVE THEIR SERVICE, AND ABOVE ALL ATTEMPT TO MAKE IT MORE RELIABLE. THAT HAS BEEN OVER 4 YEARS AGO, AND I DARE SAY THAT WE ARE STILL WAITING FOR THOSE TANGIBLE IMPROVEMENTS.
3. MY TELEVISION STATION HAS HAD MEDIOCRE IF NOT POOR SERVICE FROM FIRST OHIO POWER AND THEN AEP OVER THE YEARS. OFTENTIMES THERE IS A LACK OF RESPONSE, OR NO LOCAL CONTACTS, WHEN TRYING TO FIND OUT WHAT IS GOING ON. WLIO-TV HAS A VERY IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE COMMUNITY TO NOTIFY PEOPLE

DURING EMERGENCIES. I FEEL WE JUSTIFIABLY NEED TO HAVE PRIORITY DURING OUTAGES CAUSED BY WEATHER OR DURING ANY UNEXPECTED OUTAGES. AS A DISEMINATOR OF NEWS AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION, WE MUST BE ABLE TO COUNT ON RELIABLE SERVICE FROM OUR POWER PROVIDER. AEP HAS NOT BEEN RELIABLE WITH THEIR SERVICE OVER THE YEARS. ADDITIONALLY, I FEEL STRONGLY THAT THEY HAVE NOT KEPT UP WITH THE ECONOMIC AND RESIDENTIAL GROWTH OF OUR COMMUNITY.

4. IN THE TELEVISION BUSINESS CURRENTLY WE ARE MAKING THE TRANSITION TO DIGITAL HDTV, A PROJECT COSTING IN EXCESS OF THREE MILLION DOLLARS. IS IT RIGHT FOR ME TO ASK MY ADVERTISERS TO PAY FOR THIS UPGRADE BEFORE THEY SEE THE BENEFITS? I DON'T THINK SO....AS A SERVICE ORIENTED BUSINESS, IT IS MY RESPONSIBILITY TO BEAR THE COST TO MAKE MY PRODUCT BETTER TO KEEP UP WITH THE TIMES AND TECHNOLOGY. THEN AS I PROVIDE A BETTER PRODUCT OR SERVICE THEN I CAN PERHAPS JUSTIFY CHARGING MORE FOR MY PRODUCT.....NOT BEFORE!!!

5. IT IS CERTAINLY NOT ACCEPTABLE FOR AEP TO REQUEST A RATE INCREASE TO PAY FOR AN UPGRADE OF SERVICE THAT WE HAVE BEEN PROMISED FOR YEARS, AND SERVICE THAT HAS BEEN BELOW AVERAGE AT BEST TO BEGIN WITH. AS CONSUMERS WE NEED TO SEE THE IMPROVEMENTS IN THEIR PRODUCT AND SERVICE BEFORE BEING ASKED TO HELP FINANCE MORE MEDIOCRITY.

Bruce A. Opperman  
President / Gen.  
WLEW-TV / NBC Lima