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|    |                                                                                                            | 1                      |
| 1  | BEFORE                                                                                                     |                        |
| 2  | THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO                                                                    |                        |
| 3  |                                                                                                            |                        |
| 4  | In the Matter of the )                                                                                     | r                      |
| 5  | Self-Complaint of Columbus ).                                                                              |                        |
| 6  | Southern Power Company and ) CASE NO.                                                                      |                        |
| 7  | Ohio Power Company Regarding ) 06–222–EL–SLF                                                               |                        |
| 8  | the Implementation of Programs)                                                                            |                        |
| 9  | to Enhance Distribution )                                                                                  |                        |
| 10 | Service Reliability )                                                                                      | RECEI                  |
| 11 | Service Reliability )                                                                                      | VED-0                  |
| 12 | PUCO                                                                                                       | RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV |
| 13 | ů.                                                                                                         | TING D                 |
| 14 | BE IT REMEMBERED, that upon the hearing $\overline{\overline{\sigma}}$ f                                   | Z                      |
| 15 | the above-entitled matter, held at Glenoak High                                                            |                        |
| 16 | School Auditorium, 1801 Schneider Street                                                                   |                        |
| 17 | Northeast, Canton, Ohio, before Greta See,                                                                 |                        |
| 18 | Attorney Examiner, and commencing on Thursday,                                                             |                        |
| 19 | the 11th day of January, 2007, at 6:14 o'clock                                                             |                        |
| 20 | p.m., at which time the following proceedings                                                              |                        |
| 21 | were had.<br><b>This is to certify that the images appearing</b> are an                                    | L                      |
| 22 | accurate and complete reproduction of a case file<br>document derivared in the regular course of business. | ,                      |
| 23 | Technician <u>512</u> Date Processed 12207                                                                 | -                      |
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CLEVELAND COURT REPORTERS 216-621-6969

**APPEARANCES:** 1 2 3 On Behalf of the Public Utilities Commission 4 Of Ohio: PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO 5 6 BY: Greta See. Attorney Examiner 7 180 East Broad Street 8 Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793 9 614/466-0112 10 On Behalf of Ohio Consumers' Counsel: 11 12 OFFICE OF THE OHIO CONSUMERS' COUNSEL 13 BY: Rick Reese 14 Assistant Consumers' Counsel 15 10 West Broad Street, Suite 1800 16 Columbus, Ohio 43215-3485 17 614/466-8574 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

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    APPEARANCES (Continued):
2
      On Behalf of Columbus Souther Power Company
3
      and Ohio Power Company:
4
5
               AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER
      BY:
               Marvin I. Resnik
6
7
               Assistant General Counsel
8
               Regulatory Services
9
               1 Riverside Plaza
10
               Columbus, Ohio 43215-2373
11
               614/716-1606
12
13
         ALSO PRESENT: Steven Blake, Bruce Bailey,
14
    Peggy Claytor, Marylyn Scott, Anita Baltzly
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21
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1 MS. SEE: The Public 2 Utilities has assigned for public hearing at 3 this time and place Case Number 06-222-EL-SLF, 4 being captioned. "In the Matter of the 5 Self-Complaint of Columbus Southern Power 6 Company and Ohio Power Company Regarding the 7 Implementation of Programs to Enhance 8 Distribution Service Reliability." 9 As I said before, my name is Greta 10 I'm an Attorney Examiner for the Public See. Utilities Commission of Ohio and I will be 11 12 conducting this hearing. 13 As you arrived outside of this door 14 you may have met a couple of individuals from 15 the Commission's Service Monitoring and 16 Enforcement Department. In addition, Commission 17 Staff is here from your Public Affairs Office. Representatives of Columbus Southern 18 19 Power and/or Ohio Power are also available if 20 you have questions about utility matters other 21 than the reliability plan which we're here to 22 discuss tonight. Additionally, there's Staff from the Office of Consumers' Counsel who may 23 24 also be able to help you with your utility 25 service complaints and issues.

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1 I would note -- do you have someone 2 here, Mr. Reese? You do have personnel here? 3 MR. REESE: Yes. We have 4 several Staff from the Ohio Consumers' Counsel. 5 MS. SEE: Okay. I thought 6 that's what you were referring to. Consumers' 7 Counsel has intervened as a party in this 8 proceeding and will be representing the 9 interests of residential utility customers. 10 There are also several other parties that have 11 intervened in this case and they will be 12 representing the interests of their 13 constituents. 14 On October 6th. Columbus Southern 15 Power and Ohio Power, who I may also refer to as 16 AEP Ohio or AEP, filed an application with the 17 Commission to implement Enhanced Distribution 18 Service Reliability Programs and to recover the 19 cost of implementing those programs. 20 As a part of this proceedings, the 21 Staff of the Commission would be reviewing the 22 proposed service reliability plans, the 23 Company's service performance and file testimony 24 in this case, as will other interveners, and 25 file testimony supporting the positions of their

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1 constituents.

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| 2          | There are scheduled for this                    |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 3          | matter is scheduled for six local public        |
| 4          | hearings. We had one last night in Lima, this   |
| 5          | particular hearing here in Canton, there's a    |
| 6          | hearing scheduled to take place in Zanesville,  |
| 7          | Reynoldsburg, Marietta and Athens.              |
| 8          | The local public hearing is one step            |
| 9          | in the processing of this case. A public        |
| 10         | hearing is also scheduled to commence on        |
| 1 <b>1</b> | February 27th at the Commission's offices in    |
| 12         | Columbus. The purpose of that hearing is to     |
| 13         | allow AEP, the Commission's Staff, Consumers'   |
| 14         | Counsel and the other interveners to present    |
| 15         | witnesses and evidence in support of their      |
| 16         | positions in this particular case.              |
| 17         | The purpose of tonight's hearing is             |
| 18         | to receive comments from the public regarding   |
| 19         | AEP's proposed reliability plan. We will not be |
| 20         | hearing from the Company or Staff or the other  |
| 21         | interveners tonight. It's your opportunity to   |
| 22         | let the Commission know what you think.         |
| 23         | Some of you, when you arrived, you              |
| 24         | had an opportunity to sign in at the desk       |
| 25         | outside the door indicating that you want to    |

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1 offer testimony tonight. If for some reason 2 you -- the table wasn't set up when you arrived 3 and you wish to offer testimony, you can step 4 right outside and sign your name. If for some reason when I call your name you elect -- you 5 6 believe what you were going to say has already 7 been mentioned or you have decided for other 8 reasons not to give testimony, please let me 9 know and just say you pass and I'll go on to the 10 next person. 11 When I call your name, you'll be 12 asked to come forward, you'll be sworn in and 13 I'll ask you to state and spell your name for 14 the record and provide us with your address. 15 Tonight's hearing is being 16 transcribed by a court reporter. Basically all 17 that means is that it's a recording of tonight's 18 proceedings in typewritten fashion to be included in the Commission's record. It will 19 20 reflect all the comments that you make here 21 tonight. 22 If you've prepared a written 23 statement. I would appreciate it if you could provide that statement to the court reporter. 24 Ι 25 appreciate your time here tonight in coming out

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1 and giving up your evening to offer testimony. 2 I would like to know if there are any 3 questions about the process. Okay. Thank you 4 and let's get started. (Thereupon, a discussion was held off 5 6 the record.) 7 MS. SEE: At this time I 8 would like to take appearances of the parties. 9 On behalf of the Company? 10 MR. RESNIK: Thank you, Your Honor. Appearing on behalf of Ohio Power 11 12 Company and Columbus Southern Power Company, my name is Marvin Resnik. My address is 1 13 14 Riverside Plaza, Columbus, Ohio 43215. 15 MS. SEE: On behalf of the 16 Consumers' Counsel? 17 MR. REESE: Thank you, Your Honor. I'm Rick Reese, Assistant Consumers' 18 19 Counsel appearing on behalf of the residential 20 rate payers of Columbus Southern Power and Ohio 21 Power. Also on behalf of the Ohio Consumers' 22 Counsel, Janine Migden-Ostrander. 23 MS. SEE: Did I miss any 24 other counsel who wish to enter an appearance 25 With that, let's get started. tonight? Okay.

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1 First. Steven Blake? 2 MR. BLAKE: Yeah. Where would 3 you like for me to --4 Come forward. MS. SEE: 5 Mr. Blake, and take the podium. 6 MR. BLAKE: Okay. 7 MS. SEE: Mr. Blake, I need 8 you to raise your right hand. 9 MR. BLAKE: Okay. 10 (Thereupon, Mr. Blake was sworn.) MS. SEE: Please state and 11 12 spell your name for the record and provide us 13 with your address. 14 MR. BLAKE: My name is Steven Blake. B-l-a-k-e, Steven with a "V," 1003 15 16 Bachtel Street Southeast in Canton 44720. 17 What caused me to come here tonight -18 was -- really isn't supposed to be germane to 19 the proceedings, but was the lack of basic 20 efficiency in the administration of Ohio Power. 21 (Thereupon, a discussion was held off 22 the record.) 23 MR. BLAKE: Number one, as far 24 as the rate increase goes for reliability, as 25 far as the -- I'm not quite sure why an extra

CANTON COURT REPORTERS 330-452-2400 levy really needs to be imposed on rate
 holders -- or on customers because of -- for
 that reason. I would think that -- I mean, this
 isn't a third world country.

5 And I will stray a little bit and 6 relate a story about what really got me 7 irritated enough to come tonight. We got a 8 time-of-day meter and it took me several months 9 just to find someone in the customer relations 10 area of AEP even to know what I was talking 11 about. And when they did install it, they did 12 not -- they installed it, the digital meter made 13 a mistake and I didn't know how to read the 14 digital meter. I had never seen a time-of-day 15 meter.

16 I called back and I got hooked up 17 with someone at the call center in Houston. 18 Texas. It's Houston. And she convinced me --19 assured me that everything was all right. We 20 went another month and I called back and it 21 still didn't make -- the bill still did not make 22 sense, because there should have been on peak 23 and off peak billings, and so they finally came 24 out and replaced the meter. 25 I mean, this -- I can only imagine

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1 the expenses -- the labor expenses involved. I 2 mean, just the expenses alone could have paid 3 for a little bit more reliability. 4 It really is not pertinent. I just 5 think that AEP -- I never really had an issue 6 with them. We did have some reliability 7 problems. We still have occasional flickers, 8 which we never used to have when we had Ohio 9 Power -- or Ohio Edison in Alliance, but I 10 really don't think that it's correct to ask rate 11 payers to pay for reliability, because that 12 should be of a standard -- a standard of 13 Thank you. service. 14 MS. SEE: Thank you, 15 Mr. Blake. Bruce Bailey? Please raise your 16 right hand, Mr. Bailey. 17 (Thereupon, Mr. Bailey was sworn.) MS. SEE: Please state and 18 19 spell your name for the record and provide us 20 with your address. 21 MR. BAILEY: It's Bruce Bailey, 22 "B" as in boy, a-i-1-e-y, 353 1st Street 23 Northwest, Canton, And the reason I'm here is because 24 25 we've been on the AEP system for going on 16

1 years. When we first moved into our home, that 2 was the year that they trimmed the trees. They 3 didn't come back for 14 years. During that 14 4 years we experienced many. many, many outages. 5 five-minute outages, three-day outages. Just 6 lousy service.

I called and contacted numerous
people who were supposedly doing customer
service, went through two people in Canton.
Finally I got to the point where I just told
them not to call me back, but I'm not going to
waste my time or his to talk about service.

13 It wasn't until this year that they 14 finally did come back and trim trees, and now I 15 find it rather insulting that the power company 16 wants to come and take more money out of my pocket to provide something they're supposed to 17 18 be providing on an ongoing basis and that is 19 reliability. It is a cost of performing a 20 service to maintain their system. 21 And, again, I think it's absolutely 22 ridiculous for the power company to come and 23 say, "Well, we need to trim trees, we need to 24 replace power stations." That was one of the

25 excuses I heard for years out here in Canton.

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1 "Well, we need to work on that power station 2 over by East Point." Okay. They finally 3 replaced the power station at East Point and it 4 started failing. You know, you have to provide 5 the service and I have to pay it. That's pretty 6 much what I have to say. Thanks. 7 MS. SEE: Thank you. Peggy 8 Claytor? Ms. Claytor, please raise your right 9 hand. 10 (Thereupon, Ms. Claytor was sworn.) 11 MS. SEE: Thank you. Please 12 state and spell your name for the record and provide us with your address. 13 14 MS. CLAYTOR: My name is Peggy 15 Claytor, spelled C-l-a-y, "T" as in Tom, "O," 16 "R" as in Robert. Address is 1835 Dueber Avenue Southwest. Canton 44706. 17 18 MS. SEE: Thank you. 19 MS. CLAYTOR: Good evening. Мy 20 name is Peggy Claytor. I am Manager of State 21 Government Affairs for The Timken Company. I 22 appear here this evening before the Public 23 Utilities Commission of Ohio on behalf of The 24 Timken Company as a result of our significant 25 interest in issues that affect the price and

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1 availability of electricity for our Timken 2 facilities located in Ohio. More specifically, 3 I am here this evening to discuss AEP's proposed 4 Enhanced Distribution Service Reliability Plan submitted in Case Number 06-222-EL-SLF that is 5 now currently before the Commission and to 6 explain why The Timken Company opposes the plan 7 8 as currently proposed.

9 The Timken Company is an active 10 participant in the activities undertaken by the 11 Industrial Energy Users of Ohio, IEU-Ohio, being 12 a trade association that represents the interests of industrial and commercial energy 13 14 consumers on matters that affect the price and 15 availability of energy. I am also a member of 16 the Ohio Manufacturers' Association. Iama 17 member of the OMA's Energy Committee and I am a 18 prior chair of IEU-Ohio.

19 The Timken Company has also been an 20 active participant in efforts to address the 21 issues that affect the price and reliability of We've also been 22 electric service in our region. 23 very active on federal energy legislation and 24 before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 25 FERC. Our interest in these issues stems from

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the fact that the price and reliability of 1 2 energy significantly affects the competitive 3 position of The Timken Company which has been 4 headquartered here in Canton, Ohio since 1901. 5 The Timken Company is a leading 6 manufacturer of highly engineered bearings. 7 alloy and specialty steels and components, as 8 well as a provider of related products and 9 services. We have 20 plants, office buildings 10 and other facilities served by AEP's Ohio 11 operating companies located in Canton. North 12 Canton, Eaton, Niles, Bucyrus and New 13 Philadelphia, Ohio, and currently employ about 14 5,800 associates here in Ohio. 15 Collectively these plants, offices and other facilities consume in excess of 1.5 16 billion kilowatt-hours per year with an annual 17 18 cost of electricity for these facilities in 19 excess of \$44 million. 20 Prior to becoming Manager of State 21 Government Affairs for Timken, for many years I 22 handled both natural gas and electricity issues 23 for the company under the title of Purchases 24 Manager-Energy. In January 2004 AEP filed a Rate 25

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Stabilization Plan with the Commission, which
 among other things, requested that AEP's
 distribution rates remain frozen through 2008.
 except for certain charges that, to my
 understanding, do not originate from
 distribution related activities.

7 Despite IEU-Ohio's and the Commission Staff's suggestions that distribution rates be 8 9 established in a distribution-focused case. the 10 Commission agreed with AEP in its January 25. 2005 Opinion and Order approving the Rate 11 12 Stabilization Plan and determined that AEP's 13 distribution rates should be frozen through 14 2008, and that adjustments could be made to the 15 distribution rates for items that do not involve 16 distribution service, without the benefit of a 17 distribution rate case. 18 In January 2006 AEP filed a 19 self-complaint case alleging that its present

20 distribution rates cannot support the continued 21 increased expenditures that it has made over the 22 last two years on its distribution system. As a 23 result, AEP requested in its complaint that the 24 Commission allow AEP to present a plan to the 25 Commission that would allow AEP to implement a

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1 number of programs that would enhance its 2 present distribution system. 3 Subsequently, on October 6th, 2006. 4 AEP presented to the Commission an Enhanced 5 Distribution Reliability Service Plan, which as 6 indicated, was composed of a number of programs 7 that focus on asset management, service 8 reliability, vegetation management, distribution 9 station reliability and the use of enhancements 10 in technology to provide service that AEP claims 11 is beyond the base level of service reliability. 12 It is my understanding that AEP 13 estimates that the program will cost about \$640 14 million and it proposes to increase its 15 distribution rates through a rider which would 16 stay in effect until new base distribution rates 17 are established. AEP suggests that new 18 distribution rates will be set sometime after 19 2008. 20 It is also my understanding that AEP 21 is asking the Commission to increase 22 distribution rates without an examination of 23 whether the revenue that AEP is currently 24 collecting is providing AEP with adequate 25 compensation and to do so without a specific

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identification of how or when service quality
will be enhanced as a result of this rate
increase. Thus, while the rate increase aspect
of AEP's proposal is certain, the customer
benefit side of the equation seems to be rather
vague.

7 As a longstanding customer of AEP. The Timken Company wants and needs AEP to 8 9 provide reliable service. This is also 10 something that is important to the 5,800 plus 11 associates that Timken employs in this area. We 12 expect AEP to do what is necessary to provide reliable service and we know that AEP should be 13 14 fairly compensated for the service it does 15 provide.

While most of Timken's facilities 16 17 receive service at transmission voltage levels. 18 it still pays distribution service charges for 19 the distribution service provided by AEP. So, 20 as a company that must compete every day in a 21 global economy, we are deeply concerned about 22 AEP's proposal. We see it as asking the 23 Commission to authorize an increase in rates 24 without examining the adequacy of AEP's existing 25 distribution rates and to do so based on rather

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vague indications of how or when AEP's customers 1 2 might benefit from the rate increase. 3 AEP asked for and received the 4 Commission's authority to freeze its 5 distribution rates for 2008 as part of its Rate 6 Stabilization Plan. The Rate Stabilization Plan 7 has several moving parts which also work to 8 increase rates. Timken is generally supportive 9 of the Commission's Rate Stabilization Plan 10 approach and does not believe that efforts to undo or overturn these plans are consistent with 11 12 the best interests of customers. Indeed, thanks to the Commission's 13 14 Rate Stabilization Plan approach. Ohio pushed off, until the end of 2008 in AEP's case. 15 potential rate shock problems that have hurt 16 customers in other states. 17 18 We urge the Commission, Governor 19 Strickland and the Ohio General Assembly to 20 promptly address this larger question so that 21 Ohio can better manage the rate shock risks that 22 are presented by conditions in the wholesale 23 electric market as designed by the federal 24 regulators. But AEP's distribution rate 25 increase proposal seems to bypass the

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requirements of the Rate Stabilization Plan. 1 2 It is my understanding that the 3 proposal may also be viewed as an attempt to 4 bypass laws that require utilities to 5 demonstrate that their current rates are 6 providing inadequate compensation prior to 7 getting authority to increase rates. When AEP's distribution rate increase 8 proposal is viewed in the larger context which 9 10 includes AEP's efforts to require customers to 11 guarantee cost recovery for a proposed Ohio 12 electric generating plant involving more than \$1 13 billion, perhaps the Commission might begin to 14 understand why customers may feel like we have 15 the worst of all worlds. 16 When costs are low, market prices are 17 used to justify rate increases. When market 18 prices are not enough for AEP to add capacity, 19 customers are asked again to bear the costs for 20 recovery. When the Rate Stabilization Plan 21 calls for a distribution rate freeze, AEP 22 nonetheless asks the Commission to increase 23 rates and to do so without examining the 24 adequacy of AEP's existing cost-based 25 distribution rates or explaining how the

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increased rates will benefit customers. 1 2 As presented, we feel AEP's 3 distribution rate increase lacks balance and 4 fairness, both on a standalone basis and as part 5 of the larger picture. I will leave it up to 6 the lawyers to debate whether the proposal is 7 legal. 8 Thank you for holding a public 9 hearing in Canton and making it convenient for 10 us to provide comments for the Commission's 11 consideration. I will try to respond to any 12 questions you may have. 13 MS. SEE: Ms. Claytor, do you 14 have an additional copy of your written comments 15 for the court reporter? MS. CLAYTOR: Yes, Your Honor, I 16 17 do. 18 MS. SEE: Okay. Marylyn 19 Scott? Ms. Scott, would you please raise your 20 right hand? 21 (Thereupon, Ms. Scott was sworn.) 22 MS. SEE: Please state and 23 spell your name for the record and provide us 24 with your address. 25 MS. SCOTT: My name is Marylyn

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1 Scott. Marylyn is spelled M-a-r-y-l-y-n, Scott, 2 S-c-o-t-t. 3 (Thereupon, a discussion was held off 4 the record.) 5 MS. SCOTT: Okay. I'm going 6 try to speak up so everyone can hear me. I'm 7 going to read this and then I have a few more 8 comments after this. 9 AEP has been our electricity provider 10 for over 14 years. Often the electric goes out for brief periods and we reset all the clocks 11 12 and the telephone answering machine, and these 13 episodes happen every few weeks. We don't 14 bother to call the electric company. 15 Last December 1st. 2006 my husband 16 had some minor surgery and we returned from the hospital at around 3:30 p.m. to find the 17 electricity off. When we lose our electric 18 19 power we lose heat, lights and water. I called 20 the emergency phone number to report the outage. 21 The woman who answered said that our power would 22 be back on, at the earliest, on Sunday, December 23 3rd -- now, this is on December 1st that I'm 24 talking to her -- at around 11 p.m. or midnight. 25 She said. "All our crews are out."

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And I asked, "How many crews were out working?" 1 2 And I was told I was not allowed to know that. 3 I'm not allowed to know how many crews are 4 working. 5 Over the evening and the next day I 6 called three more times to try to get 7 information about the outage. In the meantime 8 we went to my brother's house down in Canton. 9 So we've been -- we had been on the road 10 traveling around. We had not seen one crew. 11 I called three more times. One young 12 man that I reached got frustrated with me when I 13 asked to speak to a supervisor and his answer 14 was, "We don't have any supervisors here." And I, being a little smart-aleck, said, "Of course 15 they're not there. They're all in the Bahamas! 16 We're up here in the winter weather." 17 He got angry with me. "We have some 18 19 of the best supervisors." "Well, yeah, but you don't have some of the best service." I said, 20 21 "How many times exactly have we had outages?" 22 And he looked it up and he said, "Since 2002 it, That's not 23 has been reported out 7 times." 24 acceptable. This is major outages. This is 25 hours and hours or even days long without water.

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1 without the use of the bathroom.

| 2  | These responses are not helpful or               |
|----|--------------------------------------------------|
| 3  | appropriate. It is not acceptable for electric   |
| 4  | power to be unreliable and unaccountable. They   |
| 5  | have a responsibility to their consumers first   |
| 6  | before any investors collect dividends. You're   |
| 7  | in the power business. You're not in the         |
| 8  | dividend business, or that's how it used to be   |
| 9  | anyway.                                          |
| 10 | The PUCO has been less than helpful              |
| 11 | in the past 15 years in advocating for their     |
| 12 | customers. I advocate that revamping the PUCO,   |
| 13 | rewriting their mission and replacing their      |
| 14 | Board would be a good beginning.                 |
| 15 | It is more than frustrating when my              |
| 16 | husband just got out of the hospital, cannot use |
| 17 | the bathroom until we find a place where he can  |
| 18 | go to use the bathroom. We live on a very small  |
| 19 | street. There are twelve houses on the street.   |
| 20 | Two people had installed generators because it's |
| 21 | that bad. If anybody has any questions, I would  |
| 22 | answer them now.                                 |
| 23 | MS.SEE: Thank you.                               |
| 24 | MS.SCOTT: Thank you.                             |
| 25 | Ms. Anita Baltzly? I think I pronounced that     |

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1 correctly. Ms. Baltzly, please raise your right 2 hand. 3 (Thereupon, Ms. Baltzly was sworn.) 4 Please state and MS. SEE: 5 spell your name for the record. 6 MS. BALTZLY: My name is Anita 7 Baltzly. That's "B" as in boy, a-l-t-z-l-y. Мy 8 address is 3024 Parklane, one word, Street 9 Northwest, Canton 44709. 10 And I'm here -- my story is that I 11 have MS, asthma, plus many other ailments and I 12 cannot, because of my MS, be without air 13 conditioning. The MS causes me to have attacks 14 in heat or anything else it affects it. If I'm 15 out in the heat, of course, it will bring on an 16 MS attack. 17 If the -- if I have a power failure. 18 I have to get out. If it's going to be off for 19 any length of time, then I have to get out of 20 the area and I have to be in air conditioning. 21 My bills -- and I have Aultcare insurance and I 22 still work 40 hours a week. And my -- on my 23 medication it runs me -- my co-pays run me 24 around \$550 a month on my medication. I cannot 25 afford another increase on another utility bill.

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1 This is ridiculous. The utilities 2 are gouging us to death. And my suggestion is: 3 Why can't the Board of Directors, why can't the 4 CEOs on some of these companies take a cut in 5 pay and help make ends meet instead of gouging 6 the working class and the poor? Give us some of 7 your bonuses at the end of the year. Help us 8 out a little bit. If some of these -- some of 9 these companies would make precedents and start 10 doing this and helping us out instead of gouging 11 us to death, that would be a real boom to the American working class and the poor. 12 When I have a power outage I suffer. 13 14 I have to get out. Do you have any questions 15 for me? I'm a single working mom. I can't 16 afford any more rate increases. I can't do it. 17 And I'm still working full time. I don't know 18 what else to do. And I work in the healthcare 19 business. 20 MS. SEE: There are no 21 questions. 22 THE WITNESS: Thank you. 23 MS. SEE: Thank you. Ιs 24 there anyone else that did not sign up that 25 wishes to offer testimony at this time?

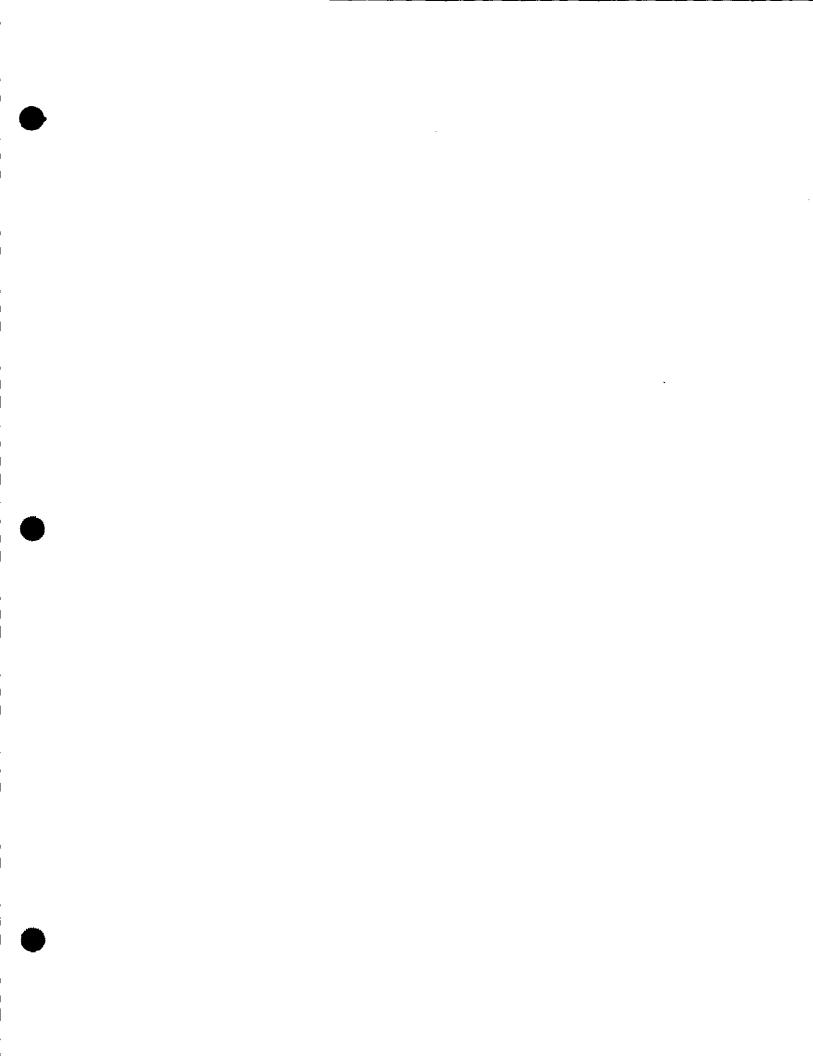
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1 Okay. We'll -- I recognize that 2 there were some -- the address and the location 3 for tonight's hearing was incorrectly published 4 given that the high school was once located on 5 44th Street. In light of that, I'm going to 6 take a recess for 15 to 20 minutes to see if 7 anyone shows up, has gone to the other location 8 and is on their way here tonight, to make sure 9 they also have an opportunity to offer 10 testimony. Okay. By my watch it's 6:50. We'll 11 12 reconvene at 7:05. 13 (Thereupon, a recess was taken.) 14 MS. SEE: We took a 15-minute 15 recess to allow anyone who may have shown up 16 later to come in and offer testimony. No one 17 has signed up on the sheet outside of the 18 auditorium. 19 I will ask an additional time if 20 there's anyone present who would like to offer 21 testimony. Okay. With that, we'll adjourn this 22 hearing. Thank you very much and thank you for 23 giving your time and offering testimony this 24 evening. 25 (Thereupon, the proceedings were

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| 1   |       |     |     |     |      |       |       | С   |     | F   |     | R   |            | т         |   | 1       | [          |          | F  |            | I        |            | С        |          | Α          |            | Т     |     | Ε   |     |  |
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|     | STATE | E ( | 0 F | •   | 0 H  | I (   | ).    |     |     | )   |     |     |            |           |   |         |            |          |    |            |          |            |          |          |            |            |       |     |     |     |  |
| 3   |       |     |     |     |      |       |       |     |     | )   |     | S   | s :        |           |   |         |            |          |    |            |          |            |          |          |            |            |       |     |     |     |  |
|     | SUMMI | Т   | C   | 0   | UN   | י ד ו | ٢.    |     |     | )   |     |     |            |           |   |         |            |          |    |            |          |            |          |          |            |            |       |     |     |     |  |
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