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October 17, 2008

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PUCO

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
Attention:Docketing Division
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

RE: Local Public Hearing on 10/15/2008 West Chester, Ohio
Case Number 08-920-EL-SSO

To PUCO:

I live in Monroe, Ohio, I am a widow at age 55 in 2004 my husband passed away. I have a lot of financial problems since his death, and the Duke bills just keep going up and up. The service stinks and they charge for everything. I have never seen so many riders. My use is so small, but I have all these charges that are not right. I have my heat set at 55 degrees all winter and do not ever use my air conditioning, I just sweat. I use a flash light for lighting all I can and hardly use any of their products but my even billing is \$153.11 per month. It is a sin that Duke changes these bills to widows and people in financial need. I have a job, but I can't afford to pay them, with the gas for the cars, the property tax in Monroe, Ohio and all the bill have gone crazy and I took a huge cut in pay to keep my job. I work at a Cemetery and sales are really down there and I was asked to take a cut.

I just don't know how to make it and when Duke took over they said their prices would be less and we would have better service. The lied about both, the even charge to have a gas hot water heater lit to the amount of over \$150.00 when I called Duke, the other thing they do is chopped up all trees in my front yard. I have sent two other letters one dated on March 6, 2008 and August 27, 2008. I am sure you can look back at those two letters. I sent pictures of my home and the no trespassing signs, and the trees with damage. What a mess. I would like to get some one else for my electric and natural gas service, however they have a monopoly on their service and you can't get away from them. They need some competition and thy would have to lower their prices or go out of business if the had competition.

I have enclosed a letter I was sent about the increase you people at the PUCO approved. I think this is terrible. I hope you add all my letters to this hearing request. I am ready to sell out and leave the state of Ohio so I can live,. The State of Ohio has never done anything for me in the 60 years I have been here, and that is the truth. Now I am a widow, they would never help, even with this charges for Duke. Please help me get a job at Duke with all their big wages so I can pay my bill with them. They are just down the road on Todhunter Road from my home I pass it every day to work, the cars there are twice a many since Duke took over. Their employees are a lot more, and their is where I want to work with the big wages.

I had written to ask you about IGS Energy, you did not respond to me as I had requested. I have

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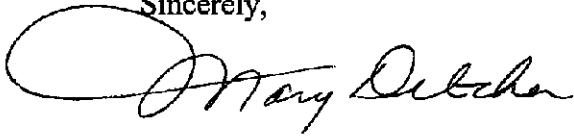
Technician SM

Date Processed 10/27/08

sent you a copy of the add they sent me and wanted to know if they were reliable for gas. You did not respond to my letter, and this special has expired. I just can't get any help even an answer to a letter.

Please put a stop to this hike increase and help stop all of us from freezing this winter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Detcher". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

Mary Detcher
440 Todhunter Road
Monroe, Ohio 45050-1025

*I attended the public hearing did not
speak. My son-in-law gets upset when I
tell lots of people I am a widow.*