

FILE

08-935-EL-SSO

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October 22, 2008

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 E. Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215
Attn: Docketing Division

PUCO

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Dear Manager:

We are writing to you about Case 08-935-EL-SSO involving First Energy/Toledo Edison/NW Ohio electric rate increase proposal. We believe that in this current economic situation that this proposal is unwarranted.

Considering that this company's rates are already higher than any other electric company in the great State of Ohio, taxpayers are already encumbered with financial depressions of epic proportions. It's bad enough to be concerned about daily living with our total financial responsibilities (being a lower income, older couple on Social Security) without seeing on the news the comparison rates of First Energy/Toledo Edison as a company, combined with the yearly income of the CEO. We're sure he doesn't have to worry about whether he can afford to pay his energy bills!

We read a statement in the newspaper about many energy companies (gas and electric) are proposing raising rates due to lessened demand for their product because of high prices. In times like these, when massive corporate greed has taken over common sense, affordable prices would increase demand instead of lessening it. Give the people a break! This newspaper stated that a spokesman for these companies stated that the price hike was needed because people were cutting back on consumption and thereby reducing their profits. The rate increase was needed to make up for losses. Can you imagine actually letting someone quote you on that statement? What rubbish! The federal government is not going to bail us out if we can't pay our electric bill! Toledo Edison will just turn us off!

We're all for free trade and a fair market, but this rate increase is not fair especially to people like us. We are not a CEO and there will always be people like us on lower incomes. The rate increases hurt us the worse and no one seems to care. We need PUCO to step up to the plate and do what is right, not crawl into bed with these people. Consider the consumer for a change; it will be a breath of fresh air for you!

Sincerely,

Warren & Susan Robison

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Warren & Susan Robison

Technician *SM*

Date Processed *10/27/08*

FirstEnergy
shouldn't
raise rates

I read with great interest the guest column of Oct. 11 written by FirstEnergy President of Ohio Operations Jim Murray. I respect Mr. Murray and his opinions. FirstEnergy is a strong supporter of our community.

When Davis-Besse was built, consumers were promised that it would lead to lower electric rates for our region. That has not happened. In fact, FirstEnergy residential and commercial rates are consistently among the highest in the state and nation.

In 2003, FirstEnergy's net income was \$444 million; in 2004, \$907 million; in 2005, \$879 million; in 2006, \$1.25 billion; and in 2007, \$1.3 billion. In the past five years profits totaled \$4.7 billion dollars. The fact of the matter is that FirstEnergy is making huge profits. It is time for the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio to recognize that private corporations have a responsibility to their customers too, and as long as FirstEnergy is making record profits, it is unfair to burden the ratepayers of Toledo with higher electrical rates.

When was the last time that PUCO ever turned down FirstEnergy for a rate increase? With record profits, why do they need a rate increase, and why don't they reduce our rates? Historically, our electric service has been excellent, so why does this company need to invest \$1 billion dollars in capital improvements to improve reliability?

In closing, I urge consumers to voice their opinions, in writing, on this extremely important matter. You can do so by sending our comments to:

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Attention: Docketing Division, Case #08-935-EL-SSO, 180 Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43215 or call 1-800-686-7826.