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FILE

Hunter, Donielle

From: ContactThePUCO@puc.state.oh.us
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2008 3:17 PM
To: Docketing
Subject: Docketing
Attachments: WHEA102908Y1 3761325.pdf

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
Investigation and Audit Division

Memorandum

Date: 10/29/2008

Re: William Healy
218 Cleveland Ave SW

Canton, OH 44702

PUCO

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2008 OCT 29 PM 3:18

Docketing Case No.:

08-917-EL-SSO
08-918-EL-SSO

Notes:

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10/29/2008



THE CITY OF
CANTON
WILLIAM J. HEALY II, MAYOR

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OCT 29 2008

INVESTIGATION AND AUDIT DIVISION
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

October 24, 2008

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: Case No. 08-917-EL-SSO
Case No. 08-918-EL-SSO

Dear Public Utilities Commission,

On behalf of myself and Economic Development Director Robert Torres, I take this opportunity to clarify the Office of the Mayor and the Department of Development's position on AEP Ohio's recently filed Electric Security Plan, initially expressed in letters dating October 16, 2008.

AEP Ohio is an important part of our city and has always been a strong community partner. The City is, and will continue to be, supportive of the company. We appreciate AEP's pledge to continue to give back to its neighbors through the Partnership with Ohio and weatherization assistance program. Further, we understand that AEP, like all businesses, needs to make decisions that will ensure the long-term success and solvency of their enterprise.

At the same time, however, we are acutely aware of the concerns of the other members of our community. Many of our residents are already struggling financially, and even a small increase on their utility bills will pose an enormous burden. A large electric rate increase every year could be devastating to these families.

In addition, we are concerned about the effect the proposed rate increases will have on current and future local companies. We have been fortunate as a region to have some of the lowest electricity costs in the state and because of this have enjoyed an advantage in site selection. We do not want to lose this competitive edge in attracting new development and retraining existing businesses. We are deeply concerned that sharp rate increases will negatively impact our community.

In conclusion, we recognize AEP's role as a community partner and their need for a rate adjustment. However, the impact this may have on our community is of much concern. Therefore, our offices cannot support the size of the proposed rate increase. We will continue to watch this process closely as an interested party.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. HEALY II

Mayor
WJH/bc

cc: Governor Strickland



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