

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

- - -

In the Matter of the :  
Application of Columbus :  
Southern Power Company for:  
Approval of its Electric :  
Security Plan; an : Case No. 08-917-EL-SSO  
Amendment to its Corporate:  
Separation Plan; and the :  
Sale or Transfer of :  
Certain Generating Assets.:  
:  
In the Matter of the :  
Application of Ohio Power :  
Company for Approval of :  
its Electric Security : Case No. 08-918-EL-SSO  
Plan; and an Amendment to :  
its Corporate Separation :  
Plan. :

- - -

PROCEEDINGS

before Ms. Valerie A. Lemmie, Commissioner, and  
Ms. Kimberly W. Bojko, Hearing Examiner, at the  
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 East Broad  
Street, Room 11-E, Columbus, Ohio, called at 12:30  
p.m. on Tuesday, October 21, 2008.

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22           ARMSTRONG & OKEY, INC.  
185 South Fifth Street, Suite 101  
23           Columbus, Ohio 43215-5201  
            (614) 224-9481 - (800) 223-9481  
24           Fax - (614) 224-5724

25           - - -

1 APPEARANCES:

2 American Electric Power  
By Mr. Marvin I. Resnik  
3 One Riverside Plaza  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-2373

4  
On behalf of Columbus Southern Power  
5 and Ohio Power Company.

6 Janine L. Migden-Ostrander  
Ohio Consumers' Counsel  
7 By Mr. Rick Reese  
Assistant Consumers' Counsel  
8 Ten West Broad Street, Suite 1800  
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3485

9  
On behalf of the Residential  
10 Ratepayers of Columbus Southern Power  
and Ohio Power Company.

11  
Mr. Joseph V. Maskovyak  
12 Ohio State Legal Services Association  
555 Buttles Avenue  
13 Columbus, Ohio 43215

14 On behalf of the Appalachian People's  
Action Coalition.

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1                   Tuesday Afternoon Session,

2                   October 21, 2008.

3                   - - -

4           EXAMINER BOJKO: We will now commence the  
5 official record of the local hearing today. The  
6 Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has assigned for  
7 public hearing at this time and place case numbers  
8 08-917 and 08-918-EL-SSO, being captioned in the  
9 matter of the application of Columbus Southern Power  
10 Company and Ohio Power Company for the approval of  
11 their electric security plans and amendments to the  
12 corporate separation plans, and for Columbus Southern  
13 Power the sale or transfer of certain generating  
14 assets.

15           My name is Kim Bojko, I am an  
16 attorney-examiner in the Commission's Legal  
17 department, and I am one of the examiners assigned to  
18 this case.

19           As indicated previously, other Commission

20 personnel are also present at the hearing today to

21 help answer your questions, and with me is

22 Commissioner Lemmie.

23 I note that there are a number of parties

24 who have filed motions to intervene in these matters

25 and are participating actively in these cases. There

1 are intervenors who represent commercial customers,  
2 industrial customers, residential customers, and  
3 other consumer advocates. At this time I will ask  
4 counsel that is present for those intervenors to  
5 stand up and make an appearance.

6 On behalf of Columbus Southern Power  
7 company and Ohio Power Company.

8 MR. RESNIK: Thank you, your Honor. My  
9 name is Marvin Resnik, I am appearing on behalf of  
10 Ohio Power Company and Columbus Southern Power  
11 Company. My address is One Riverside Plaza,  
12 Columbus, Ohio 43215.

13 EXAMINER BOJKO: And the office of the  
14 Ohio Consumers' Counsel.

15 MR. REESE: Thank you, your Honor. On  
16 behalf of the residential ratepayers of Columbus  
17 Southern Power and Ohio Power Company, and on behalf  
18 of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel, Janine  
19 Migden-Ostrander, I'm Rick Reese, Assistant

20 Consumers' Counsel, Ten West Broad Street, 18th

21 floor, Columbus, 43215.

22 I also wanted to note -- your Honor --

23 that we have four staff members from the Ohio

24 Consumers' Counsel that are here to answer any

25 questions you might have from our perspective on the

1 case.

2 Thank you.

3 EXAMINER BOJKO: Thank you.

4 Are there any other counsel for

5 intervenors present that would like to make an

6 appearance today?

7 MR. MASKOVYAK: Yes, please. My name is

8 Joe Maskovyak. I'm with the Ohio State Legal

9 Services Association, we intervened on behalf of

10 APAC, Appalachian People's Action Coalition, which is

11 a consortium of low-income consumers from southeast

12 Ohio.

13 EXAMINER BOJKO: Thank you.

14 Are there any other intervenors that

15 would like to make an appearance?

16 (No response.)

17 EXAMINER BOJKO: Seeing none, we will

18 proceed.

19 As indicated previously, on July 31st,

20 2008, Columbus Southern Power and Ohio Power Company,  
21 collectively they are called AEP Operating Companies  
22 and they filed applications with this Commission to  
23 establish a standard service offer for competitive  
24 retail electric services based on an electric  
25 security plan, commonly known as the ESP.

1           The local public hearings are only one  
2   aspect of the case process. The company has filed  
3   its application. We will have local hearings. There  
4   have been four other hearings scheduled and there is  
5   one to be held next week, and the evidentiary hearing  
6   is scheduled to commence on November 17th, 2008,  
7   right here at the Commission offices in Columbus.

8           The purpose of that hearing is to allow  
9   AEP, the numerous intervenors, and the Commission  
10   staff to present expert witnesses and evidence in  
11   support of their positions.

12          The purpose of today's hearing is to  
13   receive comments from the public regarding AEP's  
14   applications. We want to hear from you. We have the  
15   company's request. We will have the evidentiary  
16   hearings later in November to hear the intervenors'  
17   positions. Today is about hearing from the public.

18          When you arrived, you were offered a  
19   chance to sign up to testify, and if you missed that

20 opportunity, that is still fine, you may go back out  
21 to the table and sign up or at the end we'll give one  
22 last opportunity for people to come up and offer  
23 their comments.

24 I will take witnesses in order that they  
25 signed up, and if you do not wish to testify when I

1 call your name, please pass at that time.

2 Before you begin your statement, as  
3 Commissioner Lemmie indicated, you need to state your  
4 name and your address and then you will be required  
5 to take an oath or affirmation stating that what you  
6 are about to say is the truth. Your testimony will  
7 be considered part of the official record of the case  
8 to be reviewed by the Commission and the examiners  
9 before they make their final decision.

10 All testimony will be under oath and  
11 attorneys for the company or other intervenors will  
12 be allowed to ask you questions about the statements  
13 that you make. Should you decide that you do not  
14 want to testify, again, just pass when the  
15 opportunity comes.

16 Once you are finished testifying, you may  
17 leave today's proceeding, or if you've decided that  
18 you do not want to testify, please feel free to leave  
19 at any time.

20           Again, there's a court reporter here, she  
21 will be recording your statements in a typewritten  
22 fashion so please speak clearly so that the court  
23 reporter can accurately reflect your comments, and  
24 please also speak slowly so she can accurately  
25 reflect your comments. If you have a prepared

1 written statement, it is helpful if you could provide  
2 that to the court reporter as well.

3 We appreciate your participation in  
4 today's hearing and we want everyone who wishes to  
5 have a chance to comment to do that so please be  
6 courteous of others.

7 Before we get started with our first  
8 witness, are there any questions as to the process of  
9 today's hearing?

10 (No response.)

11 EXAMINER BOJKO: Seeing none, at this  
12 time I will call our first witness, Ms. Sue Phillips.

13 Ms. Phillips, could you raise your right hand,  
14 please?

15 (Witness sworn.)

16 EXAMINER BOJKO: Please proceed. State  
17 your name and address, please.

18 - - -

19 SUE PHILLIPS

20 being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law,

21 testified as follows:

22 DIRECT TESTIMONY

23 MS. PHILLIPS: My name is Sue Phillips.

24 My address is Directions for Youth and Families, 1515

25 Indianola Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43201.

1 EXAMINER BOJKO: Please proceed.

2 MS. PHILLIPS: Thank you.

3 Good afternoon, Commissioner Lemmie and

4 Attorney Bojko. I am representing Directions for

5 Youth and Families and I'm here today to talk about

6 AEP's corporate responsibility in this community.

7 Directions for Youth and Families is a

8 human services organization with the mission to

9 empower families and their children to make sound

10 choices and achieve promising futures. We provide

11 behavioral health and clinical treatment services in

12 clients' homes, schools, and other community centers

13 for at-risk youth, families, and children in central

14 Ohio.

15 Treatment programs help families build on

16 their strengths to address issues including drug and

17 alcohol abuse, violence, family dynamics, teen

18 parenting, delinquency, and many, many other issues.

19 We also provide prevention programs at two youth

- 20 centers in our community through after-school
- 21 creative and performing arts, young people learn life
- 22 skills that are alternatives for delinquency and
- 23 violence and drug and alcohol use.
- 24           Directions has over 100 years of
- 25 experience serving young people and families.

1 Outcomes for our clients are measured in their steps  
2 to self-sufficiency, sound decision-making, and  
3 progress toward individual goals. Outcomes for our  
4 organization are measured on client success and our  
5 partnerships which help us provide services for youth  
6 and families in need.

7 With the support of corporations like  
8 American Electric Power we serve 7,500 young people  
9 and families every year; 75 percent of those clients  
10 are living at or near the poverty level.

11 A 2004 Cone Corporate Citizenship Study  
12 found that 89 percent of Americans want nonprofit  
13 organizations like ours and corporations to work  
14 together; 76 percent believe these partnerships will  
15 result in a more positive image of the charitable  
16 organization; 70 percent of respondents indicated  
17 that if they heard about a particular  
18 corporation-charity partnership, they would be more  
19 likely to give money to a charity.

20           Corporations' funding of nonprofit  
21 organizations is just one of the reasons that their  
22 support is so vital. Leadership, vision, and  
23 expertise are also benefits that corporations provide  
24 organizations like ours.  
25           Corporate leaders contribute countless

1 hours of their time assisting organizations with  
2 strategic planning, best practices, financial  
3 management, program development, staffing issues, and  
4 information technology. Corporate members of our  
5 board of directors are our ambassadors in the  
6 community often leveraging other supporters and  
7 funding.

8         Directions for Youth and Families is very  
9 fortunate to have corporate partnerships to help  
10 further our mission. We are especially grateful to  
11 American Electric Power for providing top management  
12 leadership on our board of directors for more than 12  
13 years.

14         Currently AEP's COO is actively working  
15 to raise awareness about one of our youth centers  
16 that's in a Columbus neighborhood that offers few  
17 opportunities for young people. The area around the  
18 center has disproportionately high factors that  
19 contribute to increased delinquency, including

20 poverty, gang activity, and drug dealing. With funds

21 being raised we will improve the youth center

22 facility to meet program and regulatory needs.

23 AEP has also supported Directions

24 financially for nearly 25 years. Our organization

25 continues to be able to increase needed services to

1 many more families and their children because of the  
2 financial support and leadership of American Electric  
3 Power.

4 We have deepest appreciation for American  
5 Electric Power's involvement and especially for its  
6 commitment to the children and families of our  
7 community.

8 Thank you very much for the opportunity  
9 to share the importance of AEP's partnership with us.  
10 Thank you.

11 COMMISSIONER LEMMIE: Thank you.

12 EXAMINER BOJKO: Thank you.

13 I will do my best to read the names that  
14 are printed on the paper and pronounce them  
15 correctly, I apologize if that doesn't occur.

16 Mr. Walter Offinger.

17 MR. OFFINGER: Offinger.

18 EXAMINER BOJKO: Offinger. Thank you.

19 MR. OFFINGER: You did well.

20 EXAMINER BOJKO: Please raise your right

21 hand.

22 (Witness sworn.)

23 EXAMINER BOJKO: Please proceed with your

24 name and address.

25 - - -

1                   WALTER OFFINGER

2   being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law,

3   testified as follows:

4                   DIRECT TESTIMONY

5           MR. OFFINGER: My name is Walter

6   Offinger. I'm from 1261 Marwood Drive, Zanesville,

7   Ohio 43701.

8           I am a volunteer board member of the

9   Wilds, a conservation facility in southeastern Ohio,

10   and I have a statement here I'd like to read from our

11   executive director.

12           The Wilds and American Electric Power, a

13   partnership for the future. The Wilds, located on

14   nearly 10,000 acres of reclaimed mine lands in

15   southeastern Ohio, is one of the largest and most

16   innovative wildlife conservation centers in the

17   world. Since its inception, but particularly over

18   the last ten years, the Wilds has made great strides

19   in achieving its mission to advance conservation

20 through science, education, and personal experience.

21 None of that would be possible without the valuable

22 partnership of American Electric Power.

23 The initial land grant which took the

24 Wilds from conception to reality was a gift from AEP

25 back in 1984, and it remains the largest single

1 conservation gift in the state of Ohio to date.

2 Since that time AEP and its employees have remained  
3 committed partners, providing support and  
4 participation to nearly every aspect of the  
5 organization.

6 Over the past decade AEP, AEP-Ohio, and  
7 the AEP Foundation have contributed nearly \$750,000  
8 in direct support to the programs, the projects, and  
9 the facilities of the Wilds. This includes regular  
10 and consistent support to the Wilds' operating  
11 budget; support for thousands of school children to  
12 participate in educational programming at the Wilds,  
13 providing key integrating experiences that are  
14 critical components in science education;  
15 sponsorship, both financial and logistic, of teacher  
16 training workshops that provide continuing education  
17 opportunities, as well as university credits for  
18 teachers throughout Ohio. Over the past ten years  
19 nearly 300 teachers have participated in these

20 workshops.

21           Additionally, AEP corporate leaders

22 participate in the leadership of the Wilds board of

23 trustees, and AEP regularly hosts board meetings on

24 behalf of the Wilds. AEP and the Wilds represent a

25 unique public-private partnership that is improving

1 the quality of life for the citizens of Ohio and the

2 citizens of the world.

3 Thank you.

4 EXAMINER BOJKO: Miss Mary Beth Lohse.

5 MS. LOHSE: Lohse. I apologize, I didn't

6 bring an extra copy, but I can give you this after my

7 testimony.

8 THE EXAMINER: Would you please raise

9 your right hand?

10 (Witness sworn.)

11 EXAMINER BOJKO: Please proceed. Name

12 and address.

13 - - -

14 MARY BETH LOHSE

15 being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law,

16 testified as follows:

17 DIRECT TESTIMONY

18 MS. LOHSE: My name is Mary Beth Lohse.

19 I live at 33070 Cotterill Road in Pomeroy, Ohio.

20 I've traveled a hundred miles to testify  
21 here today because I'm very concerned about Ohio's  
22 energy future. The Commission is now in the process  
23 of executing your responsibilities under Ohio's  
24 recently enacted energy bill, Senate Bill 221. You  
25 will be making decisions that will impact all of the

1 citizens of Ohio for many years to come.

2       We are here to talk specifically about  
3 American Electric Power's proposed rate plan, but I  
4 hope my comments will influence the thinking of the  
5 Commission as you review all the rate plans now under  
6 consideration.

7       I live in Meigs County, one of the  
8 poorest counties of the state with one of the highest  
9 unemployment rates. I won't dwell on how AEP's rate  
10 increases will impact the low-income households in my  
11 area of the state because I am sure the Commission  
12 will hear that testimony from many others.

13       What I do want to say is that the  
14 Commission must take a long-term view in the  
15 decisions you make. The two criteria that should  
16 guide you is cost and environmental impact. How can  
17 the Commission make sure that utilities are  
18 delivering electric services at the lowest cost? The  
19 answer is simple: The cheapest kilowatt is the one

20 you do not buy.

21 In fact, every dollar that is spent on

22 energy efficiency saves \$3 that would be spent on

23 producing energy from coal or nuclear, that's why I

24 was very happy to see that the energy bill requires

25 investor-owned utilities to reduce electricity demand

1 in Ohio by 22 percent by the end of 2025.

2       The Commission must make sure that  
3 utilities achieve this goal. But if the Commission  
4 is serious about making sure that Ohio consumers are  
5 getting the best value for their energy dollar, you  
6 will set up incentives for the utilities to exceed  
7 that goal.

8       I'm glad to see that AEP is committing  
9 \$178 million in energy efficiency spending in Ohio in  
10 the next three years. I'm disappointed that AEP has  
11 not produced a detailed plan for how that money will  
12 be spent. AEP should be required to specify exactly  
13 what kind of efficiency plans will be offered; this  
14 is not difficult.

15       Energy efficiency programs have been  
16 offered in other states for many years, they have  
17 included free energy audits, rebates on  
18 energy-efficient appliances, help with home  
19 weatherization, and free pickup and disposal of old

20 appliances. Steps like these would be very  
21 beneficial to low-income AEP customers in my area of  
22 Ohio, but the plan doesn't even specify whether AEP's  
23 energy efficiency funds will be spent on residential  
24 customers.

25 I think AEP's plan should be specific as

1 to who will be required to pay for energy efficiency  
2 programs and who will benefit from them.

3       Significant energy savings can come from  
4 all classes of customers: Residential, commercial,  
5 and industrial, so all classes of customers should  
6 pay for these programs and should benefit from them.  
7 The Commission should carefully oversee any special  
8 deals that are made with commercial or industrial  
9 customers and make sure that each class is paying and  
10 benefiting proportionately.

11       In addition, the funds must be spent  
12 throughout the AEP service territory. The Commission  
13 must make sure that rural counties like Meigs get  
14 their fair share of efficiency funding.

15       Another question is how will we know that  
16 the funds are being spent properly and are achieving  
17 their purpose? I suggest that the Commission require  
18 an independent third party to administer and monitor  
19 AEP's energy-efficiency programs. There should be

20 transparency in these programs so that the public can  
21 be assured that real income savings are being  
22 achieved.

23         The another advantage of energy  
24 efficiency is not only is it the cheapest source of  
25 energy, it's also the most environmentally benign.

1 Currently Ohio's electric generation is definitely  
2 not environmentally benign. Almost 90 percent of the  
3 electricity used by Ohioans is produced by coal; this  
4 is why Ohio is the nation's fourth largest  
5 contributor to global warming.

6 I, like many others, expect that there  
7 will be federal regulations limiting carbon  
8 emissions. Ohio needs to be ready for a  
9 carbon-constrained world.

10 Luckily, again, this has been addressed  
11 in the energy bill which requires that by 2025  
12 12.5 percent of energy sold in Ohio is to be from  
13 renewable sources. This is a standard the Commission  
14 should not only embrace but also expand.

15 As current events have so vividly shown,  
16 it's very risky to have 90 percent of one's financial  
17 portfolio in stocks. It will also be just as risky  
18 for Ohio to continue to have such a large percentage  
19 of its energy portfolio in coal.

20           As utilities diversify their energy  
21 sources, emphasis must be made on those that are  
22 sustainable and have the least environmental impact.  
23 This means we should decrease reliance on nuclear  
24 power because of environmental problems of mining  
25 uranium and storing nuclear waste. We should also

1 decrease our reliance on fossil fuels for electricity  
2 generation, especially coal.

3 Coal is a global commodity in high  
4 demand. Its price can be expected to increase.  
5 Carbon controls could cause further price increases.  
6 This will translate into even more pressure on the  
7 Commission to raise rates for AEP customers if AEP  
8 continues to rely so heavily on coal for electricity  
9 production.

10 So the Commission should grant AEP's  
11 current rate increase request only in exchange for a  
12 long-term plan to make sure that all AEP customers,  
13 including the low-income households in Meigs County,  
14 have affordable electricity in the future.

15 The first part of the plan must emphasize  
16 energy efficiency; this will reduce demand and avoid  
17 the cost of building new generation facilities. The  
18 second part must diversify AEP's energy sources with  
19 alternatives that have less environmental impact and

20 do not contribute to global warming.

21 To hold down energy costs and reduce

22 environmental impacts, electricity from coal and

23 other fossil fuels that face price volatility should

24 be replaced gradually by electricity from renewable

25 sources such as solar and wind which will not face

1 increasing fuel costs.

2 Thank you very much for your kind

3 attention.

4 COMMISSIONER LEMMIE: Thank you very

5 much.

6 EXAMINER BOJKO: Ms. Dearrea King.

7 MS. KING: Hello.

8 EXAMINER BOJKO: Please raise your right

9 hand.

10 (Witness affirmed.)

11 - - -

12 DEARREA KING

13 having first duly affirmed, as prescribed by law,

14 testified as follows:

15 DIRECT TESTIMONY

16 MS. KING: My name is Dearrea King, and I

17 live at 2141 Lisa Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43219.

18 My concern is simply this: I'm a

19 grandmother raising three grandchildren, and it's

20 always the taxpayers, we're bailing out everybody

21 else. Everybody -- companies are raising rates.

22 There is no money in households, and it's hard to pay

23 bills. It's hard to keep up with everything else and

24 take care of your families.

25           And then when the bills come, if the

1 whole bill is not paid, then we get the shutoff  
2 notices. So it's on our backs. Nobody asked us "Can  
3 you do this?" But it's okay to take, take, take.  
4 And that's my concern, because I'm having a hard  
5 enough time as it is now taking care of the family  
6 that I have, and then we're constantly having added  
7 expense put on our back when nobody is asking us can  
8 we afford to do this.

9 COMMISSIONER LEMMIE: Thank you.

10 EXAMINER BOJKO: Mr. Rick Platt.

11 (Witness sworn.)

12 EXAMINER BOJKO: Please proceed. Name  
13 and address.

14 - - -

15 RICK PLATT

16 being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law,  
17 testified as follows:

18 DIRECT TESTIMONY

19 MR. PLATT: My name is Rick Platt, and my

20 personal address is 880 West Locust Street in Newark,  
21 Ohio. I'm the president and CEO of the Heath-Newark  
22 Licking County Port Authority and there's issues I'd  
23 like the Commission to consider.

24 No one likes rate increases and, yes, you  
25 are considering a rate increase, but there's things

1 in this AEP plan that are important elements that go  
2 beyond that increase and I wanted to bring them up  
3 for your consideration.

4 I think the role of the PUCO is to  
5 fulfill the need for competitiveness. We've got to  
6 ensure, even when there are rate increases, that our  
7 industrial and commercial users are not hampered in  
8 their competition which is other states around our  
9 nation and around the globe. We also need to ensure  
10 that our Ohio sites can compete versus others.

11 Our port authority owns 350 acres that  
12 are served by sub-transmission, primary, and  
13 secondary service through AEP. They're an important  
14 partner in what we do.

15 A buffer against this rate increase,  
16 other states, even the heavily subsidized TVA who we  
17 compete with on their sites, are seeing rate  
18 increases as well. So I'm convinced that this plan  
19 does fulfill the need for competitiveness as it's

20 proposed.

21 Also, the important thing is to fulfill

22 the need for growth. I think really when we talk

23 about the potential for future increases, the best

24 insurance against those being even worse increases in

25 the future is to have growth. That's really the

1 Wal-Mart model of being able to grow in order to  
2 bring costs down.

3 The best way for both competitiveness and  
4 growth is to invest in economic development. I've  
5 been doing, even though I consider myself still  
6 young, 20 years of economic development and I  
7 remember the heyday of Ohio not too far ago was --  
8 before there was deregulation when utilities were  
9 investing and were being promoters of economic  
10 development.

11 I don't think it's any coincidence that  
12 was some of the greatest growth in Ohio in the last  
13 20 years.

14 So I encourage that this part of AEP's  
15 plan be given great consideration and continue to be  
16 a part of AEP's plan that you approve. Economic  
17 development is what needs your greatest  
18 consideration. Thank you for that.

19 COMMISSIONER LEMMIE: Thank you.

20 EXAMINER BOJKO: Miss Elizabeth Isett.

21 MS. ISETT: You did well.

22 EXAMINER BOJKO: I'm sorry. Could you

23 please pronounce your name?

24 MS. ISETT: Elizabeth Isett.

25 EXAMINER BOJKO: Please raise your right

1 hand.

2 (Witness sworn.)

3 EXAMINER BOJKO: Thank you. Name and  
4 address for the record, please.

5 - - -

6 ELIZABETH ISETT

7 being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law,  
8 testified as follows:

9 DIRECT TESTIMONY

10 MS. ISETT: Elizabeth Isett, 204  
11 Maplewood Avenue, Whitehall, Ohio 43213.

12 My concern today is the rate increase  
13 that AEP has proposed. By my math, if my electric  
14 bill today, this year, was \$100, next year, if AEP  
15 gets their increase, it would be 115, and by the  
16 following year it would be 132.25, by the third year  
17 it would be 152.09, and in three years they would  
18 have increased my electric bill by over 50 percent.

19 I don't think my wage is going to

20 increase in three years by 50 percent. I just don't

21 believe it will happen.

22 According to the website, AEP reported in

23 January that they made \$1,089,000,000. Somehow I

24 find it really difficult to be able to justify this

25 large an increase when they're reporting this kind of

1 earnings. I just have a big problem with that. And  
2 I hope, although I realize the price of everything  
3 goes up, that if they are granted any increase, it's  
4 considerably more conservative.

5 Thank you.

6 COMMISSIONER LEMMIE: Thank you.

7 EXAMINER BOJKO: Mr. John Clair.

8 MR. CLARK: Clark.

9 EXAMINER BOJKO: Clark. Please raise  
10 your right hand.

11 (Witness affirmed.)

12 EXAMINER BOJKO: Please proceed.

13 - - -

14 JOHN CLARK

15 having first duly affirmed, as prescribed by law,  
16 testified as follows:

17 DIRECT TESTIMONY

18 MR. CLARK: My name is John Clark. I  
19 reside at 305 South Virginia Lee Road in Columbus,

20 Ohio.

21 I'm a retiree from AEP after having spent

22 27 years with the company. During that time I worked

23 on various and sundry activities, one of which during

24 1992 into 1993 was referred to as the Towers Perrin

25 Study. This was a process reengineering study that

1 looked at, first of all, when they first proposed  
2 functionally merging Ohio Power and Columbus &  
3 Southern, not legally, but functionally, as well as  
4 other types of reengineering.

5       The study went on for an extended period  
6 of time but out of that we identified wide areas of  
7 duplication of effort, unnecessary activities, things  
8 that just didn't need to be done, as well as some  
9 that were downright purposeless. You know, someone  
10 had written a rule and they were complying with the  
11 rule and then they would file the results, nothing  
12 happened to it.

13       Well, what this led to was there were  
14 staff adjustments -- Isn't that a polite way to put  
15 it? -- staff adjustments as people being let go, but  
16 it also curtailed a lot of expenditure. So reviewing  
17 the processes of the organization led to cost  
18 curtailments.

19       Now, this occurred prior to the merger of

20 central and southwest with the current American  
21 Electric Power, so what I'm proposing is that prior  
22 to coming to the Commission and seeking an exorbitant  
23 rate increase, which is what I believe a 15 percent  
24 per year increase is for three years, that there  
25 should be further belt tightening that the

1 organization -- that AEP needs to go back and once  
2 again look through all of their processes, what are  
3 they doing, what is necessary, how can it be  
4 streamlined. If they're able to minimize costs, they  
5 may be able to come back to the Commission with a  
6 more reasonable request for a rate increase.

7 Thank you.

8 COMMISSIONER LEMMIE: Thank you.

9 EXAMINER BOJKO: Miss Jacqueline  
10 Thompson.

11 MS. THOMPSON: Hi.

12 (Witness sworn.)

13 EXAMINER BOJKO: Please proceed.

14 - - -

15 JACQUELINE K. THOMPSON

16 being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law,

17 testified as follows:

18 DIRECT TESTIMONY

19 MS. THOMPSON: Thank you. I am 63 years

20 old.

21 EXAMINER BOJKO: I'm sorry, name and

22 address for the record.

23 MS. THOMPSON: I'm sorry. Yes, it's

24 Jacqueline K. Thompson, 287 Maplewood Avenue,

25 Whitehall, Ohio 43213. And I was glad to hear that

1 one of our other Whitehall citizens was here before  
2 me, and I think we have another one after me.

3 I am 63 years old. I am on a fixed  
4 income. Because of the increases in utilities, food,  
5 and gasoline I have taken a job and put into place  
6 cutbacks to conserve. I even hung my clothes  
7 outdoors to dry all spring and summer to cut costs on  
8 electricity, and it worked. I saved approximately  
9 \$40 per month by doing so.

10 But it doesn't matter what Americans do  
11 to conserve, the profit-driven utilities will just  
12 keep raising their rates to offset any decrease in  
13 usage.

14 Now AEP wants to raise its rates again,  
15 and what do we get in return? We get ancient  
16 infrastructure that takes electricity off line every  
17 time there's an extreme weather event. In the past  
18 few years some people have been without heat and  
19 electricity for a week or more as a result. AEP does

20 nothing to upgrade its facilities. The only thing  
21 they know how to do is come through my neighborhood  
22 and decimate our trees.

23 I know that there are some states where  
24 rates are based upon the time of day of usage, but  
25 Ohio doesn't even give us the opportunity to save by

1 using electricity during off-peak hours.

2 I respectfully request that you deny  
3 AEP's rate increase request and direct all resources  
4 to provide assistance to those among us who are in  
5 dire straits because of the country's economic  
6 crises.

7 Heat and electricity is not an  
8 extravagance; it is a necessity for survival. It is  
9 our right. Now, when you consider this and other  
10 utility increases, think not of those who can afford  
11 it, those for which this will be an inconvenience,  
12 think instead of the least among us, those who cannot  
13 sustain the very minimum of living conditions to  
14 which all Americans should be entitled.

15 Thank you.

16 COMMISSIONER LEMMIE: Thank you.

17 EXAMINER BOJKO: Miss Dianne Garrett.

18 (Witness sworn.)

19 - - -

20 DIANNE GARRETT

21 being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law,

22 testified as follows:

23 DIRECT TESTIMONY

24 MS. GARRETT: I've lived in Whitehall for

25 almost 19 years and living there --

1 EXAMINER BOJKO: Name and address,  
2 please.

3 MS. GARRETT: I'm sorry, Dianne Garrett,  
4 720 Bernhard Road, Whitehall, Ohio 43213.

5 I have lived in Whitehall for almost 19  
6 years and living there is an education every day. We  
7 speak 35 languages, all of which are in our schools.  
8 Our community supports a large low-income ratio  
9 within the city of about 18,000 residents.

10 Whitehall has one of the highest numbers  
11 of low-income senior citizens as well as  
12 single-parent families. Many families consist of  
13 grandparents on fixed incomes raising their  
14 grandchildren. About 75 percent of our school  
15 children receive free or reduced lunches as well as  
16 free meals in the summer months. To say that a  
17 monumental rate increase in the area would cause  
18 hardships is an absolute understatement.

19 My husband and I are lucky in many ways,

20 but we see much sadness around due to people living  
21 at the poverty level and in close proximity. We are  
22 facing retirement in a few years and every day we  
23 watch as our 401(k) bounces up and down. That  
24 retirement may not come as soon as we had hoped.  
25 Everyday life is starting to cost exorbitant amounts

1 just to have food, shelter, transportation, fuel, and  
2 health care. Placing such an increase for utilities  
3 just adds insult to injury.

4 The utility company along, with our  
5 congressional leaders, must start getting serious  
6 about tapping into the renewable energy sources.  
7 Sitting back and asking us to pay more is not the  
8 answer. Don't we have enough families living in  
9 shelters or in cars because they can't afford an  
10 everyday life?

11 Thank you.

12 COMMISSIONER LEMMIE: Thank you.

13 EXAMINER BOJKO: Mr. Bill Dingus.

14 MR. DINGUS: Sometimes it chokes me as  
15 well.

16 - - -

17 BILL DINGUS

18 being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law, was  
19 examined and testified as follows:

20 DIRECT TESTIMONY

21 MR. DINGUS: Bill Dingus, 216 Collins

22 Avenue, South Point, Ohio, currently Executive

23 Director of the Lawrence County Economic Development

24 Corporation.

25 Commissioner Lemmie, thank you and the

1 record for allowing me to testify today. I've been  
2 involved in economic development for four decades,  
3 started way back in the days of the Rhodes Raiders  
4 and remember the economic development team of 40  
5 years ago. That economic development team was a  
6 combination of the utility companies, predominantly  
7 the electric company, the local newspaper, and the  
8 local bank.

9       We've lost our local newspaper, they now  
10 are a national conglomerate, our banks have merged  
11 into national conglomerates, and we feel quite  
12 fortunate that AEP has truly tried to keep that Ohio  
13 identity and have maintained their position as a  
14 partner in economic development.

15       Sunday's Toledo Blade listed the top ten  
16 performers in Ohioan counties. You must realize that  
17 Lawrence County, where I represent, is in the middle  
18 of Appalachia across from Huntington, West Virginia,  
19 and Ashland, Kentucky, and at one point we were

20 83rd in the state in poverty.

21 We've had a good run over the last

22 decade. Things are going well. The Toledo Blade in

23 their Sunday article talked about not all counties

24 are doing poorly in Ohio, and talked about ten

25 counties that were top performers. Seven of those

1 ten counties were in Appalachia. The top of those  
2 ten -- the top of those seven was Lawrence County.

3 We had the number one greatest reduction  
4 in continued reduction in unemployment. Our  
5 unemployment has stayed at below the state average  
6 for years now, and sometimes below the national  
7 average. Back in the spring we were the lowest we  
8 had been since back in the '60s.

9 So I guess I give much of that credit to  
10 our strong partner AEP because really they have been,  
11 in the area of training, financial support, bringing  
12 leads to our community.

13 Quite frankly, I've been -- I have an  
14 interesting past. I had spent 25 years at Adena  
15 University and I've only spent the last 4 to 5  
16 directly totally involved full-time in economic  
17 development, and in those 4 to 5 years we have had  
18 twice the number of leads from AEP economic  
19 development people as what we've had from our own

20 state of Ohio Department of Development. So we do  
21 feel very positive about their understanding of their  
22 partnership in this.

23       You know, in economic development too  
24 what we often don't realize from a household  
25 standpoint is the importance for that continuous

1 nonwavering electricity. We've had a number of  
2 occasions where -- steel industries where the energy  
3 just wavered, that it would actually stop the  
4 process, an electronic digitally-driven process, and  
5 create a lot of wasted material. So this is not an  
6 unusual thing when you get wavering industry.

7       I worry too about us continuing to  
8 rebuild our system. It is an aging system. You  
9 know, in mission work -- I've spent time in  
10 third-world countries, in Nicaragua or other places,  
11 and electric to brownout or to totally blackout and  
12 each time it happens my only thought is, boy, how  
13 lucky we are back home.

14       My big concern is that should that  
15 happen, even a brownout in Ohio, that alone would  
16 cause knee-jerk reactions. Whatever we do, we need  
17 to be in a planned technique, so I think the idea of  
18 looking at this as a multiyear plan, whatever the  
19 final decision, is a very important one.

20 I still -- as I said, I was at Adena  
21 University, and I still teach business classes and,  
22 you know, one of the things we say is most of  
23 economics is common sense. When we look at coal,  
24 coal still is the energy of our electricity; some day  
25 that may waver a bit, but today it is there. And as

1 such coal is an international commodity. It is one  
2 that the China coming on board and so on is going to  
3 skyrocket coal.

4       The cost of the utensils, the  
5 transformers today to get transformers for larger  
6 transformers, we're two years behind. It is hard to  
7 believe what is driving the price up as our companies  
8 compete on an international basis for these products.  
9 Definitely the prices are increasing.

10       I think the AEP rate increase for a  
11 planned period of time is a very sensible way for the  
12 PUCO to look at.

13       And as a close I would ask that you  
14 really consider this as a sequential raise that you  
15 can truly understand the importance of the utility  
16 company, particularly Ohio Power, to economic  
17 development. As I say, they are our top partner  
18 today and, keep in mind of not only electricity, but  
19 that nonwavering continuous electricity and how

20 important that is.

21 So I would be pleased to answer any

22 questions if need be. Thank you.

23 COMMISSIONER LEMMIE: Thank you.

24 Appreciate your comments.

25 EXAMINER BOJKO: Miss Barbara Thomson.

1 DR. BARBARA THOMSON

2 having first duly affirmed, as prescribed by law,

3 testified as follows:

4 DIRECT TESTIMONY

5 DR. THOMSON: Thank you very much. My

6 name is Dr. Barbara Thomson. I live at 6529 Sunbury

7 Road, Westerville, Ohio, in Genoa Township, 43082,

8 and I'm here to discuss Ike and other issues that

9 have gone on. I was told this was the place I was

10 supposed to come, so it's a little different than

11 what you have been discussing. Is that okay?

12 COMMISSIONER LEMMIE: Yes.

13 DR. THOMSON: Okay. The day of Ike, it

14 hit very quickly, we were either to have floods or we

15 were to have heavy-duty winds. We got the heavy-duty

16 winds and branches started snapping. I was outside

17 and suddenly a large branch from our wild cherry

18 tree, which is gigantic, fell right next to me when I

19 was doing some weeding, and it was a great shock

20 because it just missed me.

21 I ran to the house, ran inside and said

22 to my husband, "This is really bad. What's

23 happening?" And he said, "I've got the weather

24 channel on and there's 30-mile-an-hour wind." And I

25 said, "Forget that." Branches snapped all around and

1 we eventually lost our electricity.

2 My husband has recently had surgery and

3 I'm taking care of him. He's not to be out of bed.

4 It was very, very difficult.

5 We had flashlights and we managed for

6 quite a few days, and we wondered when we would get

7 electricity. And eventually one night I woke up and

8 I heard what sounded like people talking, and so I

9 threw on my raincoat and ran downstairs, looked

10 outside, and there was an AEP truck down on the

11 highway.

12 So I ran down the driveway and saw the

13 man, he said he was from West Virginia, and I said --

14 he said, "I'm going to try to get electricity on." I

15 said, "You know, we have a number of places around

16 here that have a branch across the wires and you've

17 got to get the branches off before you can give us

18 electricity." He said, "We're assessing the

19 situation."

20           And so I walked back down the driveway  
21   and all of a sudden, bang, and I started running, and  
22   the whole sky exploded just as if it were a fireworks  
23   thing, and burning leaves started falling around me  
24   and I had just gotten under our overhang.  
25           With that, the burning leaves set the

1 branches that the tree trimmers had been trying --  
2 had been cutting down and were at the base of the  
3 tree on fire, and smoke from the transformer that had  
4 been blown and the smoke from the burning leaves went  
5 up and into the gables of our house.

6 My husband, who is in bed and not  
7 supposed to walk down the steps more than twice, once  
8 down and once up, had to get out of bed and try to  
9 struggle down the stairs in the dark, and I ran  
10 inside and there our whole upstairs was filled with  
11 smoke.

12 I had been on the line with the fire  
13 department as I was charging around and they did come  
14 immediately, and he said, "This guy's setting off  
15 fires everywhere." He said, "You may have a latent  
16 fire in your rafters and your house may burn down  
17 later this evening, I'll leave a fireman here, but  
18 we're really short-staffed." I said, "I'll just stay  
19 up all night, put my husband to bed downstairs on the

20 sofa, and keep track of that." I said, "Don't give  
21 up a person. I will let you know if the smoke  
22 continues to increase." Fortunately, it did not, but  
23 if you want to smell anything I'm wearing, you'll  
24 know what's happened.  
25 Then it got even worse because they

1 turned, eventually, the lights on on the houses that  
2 didn't have branches, but I ran out to the driveway,  
3 down the driveway, and said, "Don't do the house next  
4 to us because the Diblasis and the Reckners, their  
5 tree in the ravine is leaning right on top of the  
6 nextdoor garage and they have two cars, their mower,  
7 and gasoline." And he said, "We are aware of what's  
8 going on." I said, "Well, you weren't aware of all  
9 these that you've blown."

10 And so I started over there and I wanted  
11 to check their dog because they weren't home at the  
12 time. And I talked to the dog through the window and  
13 then I started walking down their walkway, and all of  
14 a sudden, boom, and then the whole thing exploded and  
15 I'm running again away. And their tree popped up off  
16 the garage straight up and it burned in less than  
17 five minutes. If you've never seen a tree in total  
18 flame at once, it was unbelievable.

19 People from around the neighborhood came

20 and -- they were out on their porches watching and it  
21 was really bad. And we were fortunate that they  
22 didn't blow up the whole garage.

23 And I ran back out and said, you know,  
24 "You're very lucky you didn't do that, but this is  
25 very bad." And I said, you know, "Why would you do

1 that?" He said, "We're going to get as many people  
2 on line as possible because AEP looks bad if they  
3 don't get a lot of people back on line." I said,  
4 "You destroyed our transformer, and we don't know  
5 about our electric box, et cetera."

6 Turns out they destroyed my computer, our  
7 televisions, part of our electric box was destroyed,  
8 and then you can't even get anyone to give you any  
9 help. So we just got electricity last Friday. And  
10 I've been getting up with my husband, who's not  
11 allowed to use the restroom at night, five to eight  
12 times every night and nobody cared.

13 They took all of our houses that they --  
14 where they blew up the transformers and put those on  
15 the bottom of the list, and when I called to find out  
16 when we might get electricity, they said, "Well  
17 you're on the bottom of the list now because there's  
18 just a few houses now in that area, and so you will  
19 have to wait." And it has been very stressful for

20 everyone.

21 My nextdoor neighbor runs her business

22 from her house; her computer was blown. I mean,

23 people have real hardships, and I can't even imagine

24 the cost to those blown transformers, et cetera.

25 Plus we had no phone service for two weeks because

1 they had sent the AT&T people down to Texas, too.

2 And I saw a man across the road at the  
3 box and I said -- I ran over and said, "What about  
4 telephones? I can't even use the landline." And he  
5 said, "They've given me an old truck, they've given  
6 me a computer that doesn't even have the data I can  
7 use in this, so," he said, "we have no idea when  
8 you'll get telephones."

9 This has been a real disaster. And I  
10 have a full-time professional job. This has been  
11 awful. And my husband has been very good natured and  
12 very good about the whole thing, but it's been  
13 traumatic for everyone. People across the street who  
14 were out on their porch that night watching the sky  
15 and when the explosion went off, they had seen me  
16 there and they saw the fire come down, they thought I  
17 was probably burning up. This should never happen.

18 I hope that we can look at the rise in  
19 cost and do something about that that people have

20 discussed because I also live in a community that has  
21 a very high ratio -- the woman next door has her own  
22 business, which may fail, the man on the other side,  
23 his wife is baby-sitting everywhere she can because  
24 he's been out of work for a year a half.

25           And we do not live in a depressed area,

1 but we have a lot of people who are retired and they  
2 are not able to eat properly or give their kids  
3 proper food. And the teachers that I know at schools  
4 are putting sandwiches into the kids' backpacks when  
5 they leave on Friday because they don't have anything  
6 on Saturday and Sunday. So I think we all need to  
7 tighten our belts, and that includes AEP.

8 Thank you very much.

9 COMMISSIONER LEMMIE: Thank you.

10 EXAMINER BOJKO: Olas Dunson.

11 MR. DUNSON: I'll pass. Thank you.

12 EXAMINER BOJKO: Ann Miller. Please  
13 raise your right hand.

14 (Witness sworn.)

15 EXAMINER BOJKO: Please proceed. Name  
16 and address.

17 - - -

18 ANN MILLER

19 being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law,

20 testified as follows:

21 DIRECT EXAMINATION

22 MS. MILLER: My name's Ann Miller. My

23 address is 3515 Amity Road in Hilliard, Ohio.

24 As a small business owner I'm certain

25 that I will not be able to increase my prices to my

1 customers by 15 percent for the next three years and  
2 likely neither will they. Like other businesses and  
3 individuals, I'll tighten my belt and work to reduce  
4 costs internally, and I will look for alternative  
5 opportunities for business building and profit. I  
6 believe that AEP should be required to do the same.  
7 I'm sure they can do it.

8         Since AEP is a publicly traded company,  
9 it's documented that the following excesses are  
10 taking place: According to Business First, August  
11 29th, 2008, list of highest-paid executives in  
12 2007, six executives in the top 25 work for AEP --  
13 Yes, that's 24 percent -- and combined bring home  
14 \$37.85 million annually. Six people, \$37.85 million.

15         Almost equally appalling is that these 6  
16 people of the top 25 on the list own the fewest  
17 shares of stock in their company that pays them so  
18 richly.

19         I believe strongly in capitalism,

20 competition, and the free market system. If I don't  
21 agree with the practices of a company, pay or  
22 otherwise, I don't patronize them. Where else can I  
23 go to get my electricity?  
24           How can this situation be acceptable to  
25 anyone? How can we let it continue? Before the PUCO

1 considers any rate increase for AEP shouldn't AEP be  
2 required to look inward? In these times of obscenely  
3 paid, unaccountable executives leading their  
4 companies to government bailouts, corporate America  
5 must reform itself starting at the top. A public  
6 utility whose customers have no choice of supplier  
7 should be absolutely required to do so.

8 Thank you.

9 COMMISSIONER LEMMIE: Thank you.

10 EXAMINER BOJKO: Mr. Kern. Raise your  
11 right hand.

12 (Witness sworn.)

13 EXAMINER BOJKO: Please proceed with your  
14 name and address.

15 - - -

16 JOHN KERN

17 being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law,  
18 testified as follows:

19 DIRECT TESTIMONY

20           MR. KERN: Name is John Kern. I live at  
21 6970 Young Road, it's in Grove City, Ohio 43123.  
22           I think I'm here on behalf of most of the  
23 middle class people and poverty and below that I  
24 think that 45 percent over three years is just a tad  
25 bit ridiculous. I'm sure that I'm not going to get a

1 15 percent raise within that for the next three years  
2 for each year. I know I won't get that combined for  
3 the next three years.

4 I'd like to retire sometime, and I hope I  
5 don't have to take another full-time job just to pay  
6 for my utilities. I think it's pretty well proven  
7 that the people that are poverty stricken already or  
8 on fixed incomes, with school levies, price of gas  
9 going up, price of food going up, I don't know where  
10 they're going to get their money. You know, they're  
11 stealing the copper from the transmission lines  
12 already, that ought to give you some kind of idea  
13 that they're trying to make ends meet.

14 I think if you allow that, I think it's  
15 wrong. What I really think, if you do that, you  
16 better build some more homeless shelters because  
17 that's going to put a lot more of us in there.  
18 That's what I've got to say about it.

19 EXAMINER BOJKO: Thank you.

20 COMMISSIONER LEMMIE: Thank you.

21 Appreciate your comments.

22 EXAMINER BOJKO: Mr. Rod Bodwalk.

23 MR. BODWALK: Close enough.

24 (Witness sworn.)

25 EXAMINER BOJKO: Please state your name

1 and address.

2 - - -

3 ROD BODWALK

4 being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law,

5 testified as follows:

6 DIRECT TESTIMONY

7 MR. BODWALK: My name is Rodney Bodwalk.

8 I live at 580 East Whittier, Columbus, Ohio 43206.

9 You know, I hate to talk about money, but

10 my parents said, you know, it always comes down to

11 this. And this is not about champagne. This is

12 about a basic necessity: Heat and light. And that's

13 what half of these people are saying.

14 You know, I sing the praises of AEP, they

15 do a lot of good things, but a 45 percent rate

16 increase over three years? He said "excessive." I

17 think it's way past excessive.

18 And the other point I want to make, I'll

19 be brief, you know the CEO of this company made

20 19.6 million in one year. That's not a salary,  
21 that's a Lotto. What a winner. If any of us could  
22 do that, we'd be done, wouldn't we? There would be  
23 toes in the sand.

24 Thank you.

25 EXAMINER BOJKO: Thank you.

1           Mr. Ron Green.

2                   - - -

3                   RONALD GREEN

4   being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law,

5   testified as follows:

6                   DIRECT TESTIMONY

7           MR. GREEN: I'm Ronald Green. My

8   business address is 1901 East Dublin-Granville Road,

9   Columbus, Ohio. I'm here today as both a business

10   customer and a residential customer.

11           I'm the executive director of the Simon

12   Kenton Council, Boy Scouts of America, and we cover

13   17 counties in central and southern Ohio. We

14   represent or we have participating 40,000 children

15   and almost 8,000 adult leaders. We have three

16   offices in our territory and four camps, and we have

17   dozens of AEP accounts. As a matter of fact, they

18   are one of our largest supplier of any type.

19           And like my predecessors up here from the

20 Wilds, Directions for Youth, and the Lawrence County  
21 Economic Development Authority, I would also like to  
22 attest that AEP is a very good corporate citizen. In  
23 addition to the company which gives us not only  
24 corporate support, they give us expertise and  
25 resources, whether it be technology, engineering,

1 facilities development, and their employees are  
2 amongst our most active.

3 I would tell you that AEP's employees  
4 probably in number are the most contributors we've  
5 got and the most volunteers at all levels, including  
6 mentors for at-risk youth throughout our territory.

7 In addition, I would also like to say  
8 that, as I say, they've been -- throughout the  
9 company -- great leaders and great volunteers from  
10 the chairman, who has been a volunteer actively, on  
11 down through all ranks of the company.

12 While none of us likes a rate increase, I  
13 can tell you both as a resident and as a business  
14 leader I've found them to be very responsive. A lot  
15 of our electric lines are in the woods in camps and  
16 they've been very responsive to our needs.

17 And also, having relocated here about  
18 four years ago from another part of the country, I  
19 can tell you that while no nonprofit organization

20 wants to see their costs go up, proportionately here

21 in central Ohio we pay less for our utilities than --

22 as a percent of the whole than in other parts of the

23 country.

24 And so in closing I just would like to

25 say we value our relationship with American Electric

1 Power as a corporate citizen and their employees as  
2 neighbors and individual contributors. Thank you.

3 COMMISSIONER LEMMIE: Thank you.

4 EXAMINER BOJKO: Miss Amy Taylor.

5 - - -

6 AMY TAYLOR

7 being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law,  
8 testified as follows:

9 DIRECT TESTIMONY

10 MS. TAYLOR: My name is Amy Taylor. I'm  
11 the chief operating officer for the Columbus Downtown  
12 Development Corporation at 150 South Front Street,  
13 Suite 210, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

14 The organization I work for is focused on  
15 revitalizing downtown Columbus to continue to be the  
16 economic engine for our community and it can continue  
17 to be everybody's neighborhood. I appreciate the  
18 opportunity to speak for a few minutes about AEP and  
19 their corporate responsibility.

20           If you take a look at what's happening  
21   downtown and the progress that we're making towards  
22   achieving our goal, you're going to see a pattern and  
23   that's public-private partnership. The public sector  
24   and the private sector in our communities work  
25   together to accomplish big things. We call it The

1 Columbus Way, and that's how we get things done.

2       If you look around our community, the  
3 public and private sectors are working together to  
4 build hospitals, stadiums, and parks to better the  
5 community for our residents.

6       We are very fortunate to have many  
7 wonderful corporate citizens, and AEP tops that list.  
8 I have been privileged to work with the company  
9 closely. AEP's chairman, Michael Morris, is on our  
10 board of directors, and AEP has taken a leadership  
11 role in priority projects for transforming downtown,  
12 that's the Scioto Mile, a premier riverfront park in  
13 our community which, when complete, will offer a  
14 place for families, residents, and everyone to come  
15 down and enjoy our riverfront.

16       We've been talking about revitalizing the  
17 riverfront for more than 30 years, but it wasn't  
18 until AEP partnered with the city of Columbus that  
19 things really started to take shape. AEP contributed

20 a lead gift, which is impressive in and of itself,

21 but they not only talk the talk, they walk the walk.

22 Even more than money, they have led a

23 fund-raising campaign with their colleagues in the

24 community and we've raised more than \$40 million to

25 build this project from the public and private

1 sectors.

2 AEP also contributed a full-time  
3 executive, Dale Heydlauff, to lead the project for  
4 one year, and his enthusiasm, leadership and support  
5 has made all the difference. This project is really  
6 going to happen.

7 We broke ground in April of this year and  
8 by June of 2011 the entire community will be invited  
9 to celebrate the grand opening. Thanks to AEP the  
10 fabric and the face of downtown Columbus is about to  
11 change. The riverfront will be transformed into a  
12 destination and attraction for the entire region.  
13 This project was once only a dream and it now is  
14 about to become a reality.

15 AEP is an important corporate citizen  
16 and, like several of the folks who spoke before me,  
17 we are appreciative that they not only make financial  
18 investments in this community, but they invest their  
19 time and their heart and their soul.

20           Thank you.

21           EXAMINER BOJKO: Thank you.

22           Mr. Mike Tanchuk.

23           (Witness sworn.)

24           EXAMINER BOJKO: Please state your name.

25           - - -

1                   MIKE TANCHUK

2   being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law,

3   testified and was examined as follows:

4                   DIRECT TESTIMONY

5           MR. TANCHUK: Mike Tanchuk. The business

6   address is State Route 7, Hannibal, Ohio.

7           Good afternoon. I'm the president and

8   CEO of Ormet Corporation. As background, I've been

9   in the metals business my entire career. I started

10   in steel and moved into aluminum. I've operated

11   smelters on both coasts of the U.S. and the midwest

12   and in Iceland. I've been directly involved in

13   building smelters, keeping smelters in business,

14   shutting them down and restarting operations.

15           There is a single element that is key to

16   determining the fate of an aluminum producer, and

17   that is the power contract. Ormet operates a primary

18   aluminum plant in Hannibal, Ohio, that produces about

19   265,000 metric tons of aluminum each year. It uses

20 about 530 megawatts of energy. I believe that we are  
21 the largest single industrial user of electricity in  
22 Ohio.

23 Power is over 1/3 of the cost to produce  
24 aluminum. Aluminum is a worldwide commodity with a  
25 price set on the London Metal Exchange. As a

1 producer of a commodity Ormet has no ability to  
2 affect the price of our product. Our profitability  
3 is based on controlling production costs to make us  
4 competitive in a global market.

5 Our hourly employees are represented by  
6 the United Steelworkers of America. We work closely  
7 with the union members and leadership every day to  
8 make the operations safer and more efficient. The  
9 steelworkers are also very involved in the process of  
10 obtaining a competitive power contract for the  
11 Hannibal operation.

12 Our plant runs 24/7, every day of the  
13 year, with a very even power load. With our process  
14 even a short loss of power causes severe impact, and  
15 power losses of greater than six to eight hours would  
16 shut down the operation completely requiring six to  
17 nine months to restart and many millions of dollars.  
18 We require stable power and AEP provides this  
19 reliability.

20 Ormet is one of the region's largest  
21 employers with more than a thousand people who in  
22 turn support another 2,400 jobs in the region.  
23 Counting both direct and indirect jobs Ormet  
24 operations accounts for 3,400 jobs and almost  
25 \$200 million in wages and benefits each year. Ormet

1 offers one of the best employment opportunities in  
2 the region with wages that are far above average for  
3 the area, and our employees are eligible for  
4 significant benefit packages.

5 Ormet provides more than \$56 million in  
6 direct wages and salaries annually to our employees  
7 and more than \$50 million per year annually in  
8 employee health care and other employee benefits.  
9 The company also pays monthly benefits for more than  
10 1,400 retirees of the company living in Ohio and  
11 another thousand retirees who live in West Virginia.  
12 The cost of the retired pension is about \$50 million  
13 a year.

14 Each year Ormet contributes about  
15 \$2.8 million in tax payments to the state and local  
16 governments, and the state is receiving about  
17 \$6.8 million per year in individual income taxes,  
18 sales taxes, electricity taxes from Ormet-related  
19 activity.

20 Ormet's production affects the success of  
21 local businesses such as transportation, electrical  
22 supply, barging, tools, computer, and insurance  
23 companies, and increase their revenue when Ormet  
24 increases production. Also our employees stimulate  
25 the local economy by spending their wages at area

1 businesses and restaurants.

2 In early-2005 the smelter was completely  
3 shut down for nearly two years due to volatile and  
4 rising electricity costs in the wholesale market.  
5 The impact of the shutdown on the community was  
6 dramatic. Wages and salaries from Monroe County fell  
7 by 26 percent during 2005.

8 The personal and financial impact on the  
9 employees in the communities was severe. Fortunately  
10 in late-2006 the agreement was reached with AEP and  
11 the Public Utilities Commission to provide power to  
12 restart the smelter.

13 Working closely with the Public Utilities  
14 Commission, AEP and Ormet, with the strong support of  
15 Governor Strickland, we were able to develop a plan  
16 that was a major win for all constituencies. Ormet  
17 obtained a reliable power source of electricity  
18 through 2008 that allowed the company to restart the  
19 plant, reemploy more than a thousand people, and

20 continued to fund the retiree benefits.

21 AEP was able to develop a rate structure

22 that allowed them to continue to earn the return

23 authorized by the Public Utilities Commission under

24 the rate stabilization plan. Southeastern Ohio

25 regained a major employer and has benefited

1 significantly from the economic development that has  
2 resulted from the restart. In 2007 wages and  
3 salaries in Monroe County rose by 27-1/2 percent.

4 We recognize AEP's commitment to Ohio and  
5 look forward to continuing our relationship to  
6 support economic development and job retention in an  
7 area of Ohio that is facing way above-average  
8 unemployment rates.

9 Thank you for your time.

10 EXAMINER BOJKO: Just a minute. We have  
11 a question from the OCC counsel.

12 - - -

13 CROSS-EXAMINATION

14 By Mr. Reese:

15 Q. Yes, Mr. Tannic.

16 A. Tanchuk, yes.

17 Q. Tanchuk?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Okay. I was curious, what kind of impact

20 do you think a 15 percent per year rate increase will

21 have on your employees in the community?

22 A. Well, like I said, the cost of power is

23 about 33 percent of our production cost. In today's

24 environment with metal costs Ormet would not be able

25 to survive with that type of an increase.

1       Q. So Ormet does or does not support a  
2 15 percent per year rate increase?

3       A. I can't speak to the specifics. That's  
4 for the Public Utility Commission to decide. What we  
5 support is a balance between job retention, economic  
6 development for the people of Ohio, and a strong --  
7 financially strong AEP, and I think that's really the  
8 job of the Public Utility Commission to find that  
9 balance. We certainly will work with everyone to  
10 help with that.

11      Q. Do you think that a 45 percent increase  
12 over three years would negatively impact your  
13 employees?

14      A. You know, again, with the wages and  
15 salaries that we provide in the community it's a  
16 good bit, but we do not under any circumstances look  
17 at that type of a wage increase so it would impact,  
18 obviously, the employees.

19           MR. REESE: Thank you.

20 EXAMINER BOJKO: Thank you.

21 MR. TANCHUK: Thank you.

22 EXAMINER BOJKO: The next name I'm having

23 difficulty reading, Jerry Leard, or Leonard. It's

24 Leonard, right?

25 MR. LEARD: Jerry Leard. My name is

1 Jerry Leard. I live at 2287 Indiana Avenue. I'm an  
2 AEP customer. I'd like the AEP-Ohio electric  
3 security plan to include financial incentives for --

4 EXAMINER BOJKO: I'm sorry. Mr. Leard,  
5 before we start could you take the oath.

6 MR. LEARD: Sure.

7 EXAMINER BOJKO: Just raise your right  
8 hand.

9 (Witness sworn.)

10 EXAMINER BOJKO: I apologize. Could you  
11 please start from the beginning.

12 COMMISSIONER LEMMIE: And if you don't  
13 mind, talk slowly so the transcriber accurately  
14 captures your comments.

15 - - -

16 JERRY LEARD

17 being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law,  
18 testified as follows:

19 DIRECT TESTIMONY

20           MR. LEARD: Okay. I would like the  
21   AEP-Ohio electric security plan to include financial  
22   incentives for green energy production in the form of  
23   renewable energy credits. Renewable energy credits  
24   would be produced from electricity generated by  
25   solar, wind, biomass hardware on the AEP-Ohio

1 customer's property. AEP-Ohio could purchase the  
2 renewable energy credits or aggregate and sell the  
3 accumulated renewable energy credits produced by  
4 AEP-Ohio customers.

5 Thank you.

6 COMMISSIONER LEMMIE: Thank you.

7 EXAMINER BOJKO: Thank you.

8 Dr. R.P. Schrott. Schrodtt.

9 DR. SCHRODT: Schrodtt.

10 EXAMINER BOJKO: Schrodtt?

11 DR. SCHRODT: Yeah.

12 EXAMINER BOJKO: S-c-h-r-o-d-t?

13 DR. SCHRODT: Yes.

14 EXAMINER BOJKO: Thank you. Raise your  
15 hand.

16 (Witness sworn.)

17 EXAMINER BOJKO: State your name and  
18 address for the record.

19 DR. SCHRODT: Raymond Paul Schrodtt, 7057

20 Cloverdale Lane, Columbus, Ohio 43235.

21 EXAMINER BOJKO: Please proceed.

22 - - -

23 DR. R.P. SCHRODT

24 being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law,

25 testified as follows:

1                   DIRECT TESTIMONY

2           DR. SCHRODT: I've worked in education  
3 most of my life and recently retired. Unfortunately,  
4 the only stable source of income I have at this point  
5 is Social Security. The Social Security  
6 Administration recently announced that it was raising  
7 benefits over 5 percent, which is extraordinary, this  
8 coming year. But when one looks at other prices  
9 increasing constantly, such as 15 percent per year  
10 proposed by AEP, there's some sort of disconnect  
11 going on here. Others have voiced concern about  
12 this. It just seems to me that anybody that proposes  
13 that type of increase must have no social conscience.  
14           Others have spoken to the fact that the  
15 poor are squeezed more and more. I don't put myself  
16 quite in that category, but with the cost of medical  
17 supplies, medicines and so forth going up, and health  
18 care, constantly, we need to ask the Public Utilities  
19 Commission and AEP to please take into consideration

20 thoughts of having a social conscience.

21 Thank you.

22 COMMISSIONER LEMMIE: Thank you.

23 EXAMINER BOJKO: Thank you.

24 Mr. Matthew Reitman. Raise your right

25 hand.

1 (Witness sworn.)

2 EXAMINER BOJKO: Please state your name  
3 and address for the record.

4 - - -

5 MATT REITMAN

6 being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law,  
7 testified as follows:

8 DIRECT TESTIMONY

9 MR. REITMAN: My name is Matt Reitman. I  
10 reside at 237 East 11th Avenue here in the capital  
11 of the great state of Ohio. I'm also the coordinator  
12 of the Ohio Student Environmental Coalition, it's a  
13 statewide network of student groups working for a  
14 clean, safe, and just future for all. And,  
15 obviously, I'm an AEP customer here in Columbus.

16 So I think that, quite simply, we're here  
17 to talk about costs, and as one of the younger people  
18 in the room it's really important to me to have that  
19 discussion and have it seriously. I'm going to be,

20 you know, seeing the outcomes of what goes on today

21 for a long time, hopefully, as will the other folks

22 that I brought with me from OSEC today.

23 And in thinking about these costs I'm

24 really concerned about AEP's plans in terms of fossil

25 fuels and global warming and what that's going to

1 mean, and I want to have that conversation here in  
2 the Public Utilities Commission process at the same  
3 time as we're talking about the Senate bill.

4       Specifically, AEP is trying to build new  
5 coal-fired power generation and they're also  
6 considering new generation from nuclear power at the  
7 same time as they're asking for more money from  
8 customers, and I'm really concerned because the costs  
9 of coal are skyrocketing and nuclear is really, it's  
10 kind of like a distant and expensive thought at the  
11 moment, and so in thinking about American Electric  
12 Power asking for more money from me and other  
13 customers in Ohio, I want to see them prioritize  
14 further investment in efficiency and conservation  
15 rather than spending more money on these other  
16 more-expensive options.

17       Also, in talking about global warming,  
18 which I see really as the most important piece of  
19 this economic discussion in the future, AEP CEO's

20 Michael Morris has said that reducing greenhouse gas  
21 emissions to the point where scientists are  
22 recommending that we do, he said that it is, quote,  
23 "an unaccomplishable goal," and as a young person I  
24 think that runaway climate change and all the health  
25 and environmental and economic impacts of that is

1 like an unthinkable threat. It's an unallowable

2 threat.

3 And I'm concerned the scale of these

4 other issues, fossil fuels and global warming, as

5 they play into this conversation with the Public

6 Utilities Commission process is going to make this

7 whole -- this whole conversation irrelevant unless we

8 address them at the same time.

9 So if American Electric Power wants to

10 raise our rates 15 percent every year for the next

11 three years, I think the least they can do is address

12 these other problems at the same time.

13 Thanks.

14 EXAMINER BOJKO: Miss Kristen Arnold.

15 Please raise your right hand.

16 (Witness sworn.)

17 EXAMINER BOJKO: State your name and

18 address for the record, please.

19 - - -

20 KRISTEN ARNOLD

21 being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law,

22 testified as follows:

23 DIRECT TESTIMONY

24 MS. ARNOLD: My name is Kristen Arnold.

25 I live at 2311 Hoxton Court, Columbus, Ohio 43220.

1 I'm a student at The Ohio State University here in  
2 Columbus and as a young American I'm very concerned  
3 with where this country is going in terms of  
4 combating global climate change and also the negative  
5 effects and impacts it's having on the communities in  
6 Ohio and the United States right now.

7 Ohio has a great potential to invest in  
8 clean and just energy sources like wind and solar,  
9 and what will this plan directly do to address the  
10 need to dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions  
11 in this country and the world?

12 Thank you.

13 EXAMINER BOJKO: Okay. Mr. Andrew Riedy.

14 - - -

15 ANDREW RIEDY

16 being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law,  
17 testified as follows:

18 DIRECT TESTIMONY

19 MR. RIEDY: My name's Andrew Riedy. I

20 live at 2288 North High Street, Apartment 1 here in  
21 Columbus, Ohio, and I'd like to say that, sadly  
22 enough, the economics of this situation is pretty  
23 much a given. When you have CEO's making such a  
24 salary and then you have folks such as who testified  
25 here today struggling to make ends meet and you have

1 a monopolistic economic system such as AEP providing  
2 power just because, due to economies of scale, it's  
3 the only reasonable way to provide affordable power  
4 to Ohioans, it's kind of a given. There's no reason  
5 that they should be allowed to pursue a 15 percent  
6 rate hike over the next three years, but that's  
7 beside the point.

8 In my opinion, the economy of it, I mean,  
9 it's a given. The question is should they be allowed  
10 to do that. No. Not until they tighten their own  
11 belts. They should not be able to make a profit to  
12 such an exorbitant extent where they're allowed to  
13 compensate CEOs when it, you know, inherently needs  
14 to be an industry of economy of scale, an industry  
15 that's a monopoly, and that's beside the point.

16 The point is if they want 15 percent out  
17 of Ohioans over the next three years, what are we  
18 getting in return for that? Are we going to get more  
19 technology such as the same, or are we going to have

20 more coal powered plants? Are we going to have more  
21 unfortunate families that live in Appalachia getting  
22 cancer from the smoke stacks and this dirty, dirty  
23 energy source that it's been known to do and proven  
24 to do? What are we getting?  
25 Why don't we have an investment in green

1 jobs? Why don't we invest in the infrastructure of  
2 what it's going to take to provide energy over the  
3 next hundred years? Why are we investing in old  
4 technologies that are known to be dirty?

5 Thank you.

6 COMMISSIONER LEMMIE: Thank you.

7 EXAMINER BOJKO: Mr. E.J. Thomas. Please  
8 raise your right hand.

9 (Witness sworn.)

10 EXAMINER BOJKO: State your name and  
11 address, please.

12 MR. THOMAS: My name is E.J. Thomas,  
13 Chair of the board of Habitat for Humanity, 88 East  
14 Broad Street, 19th floor.

15 EXAMINER BOJKO: Please proceed.

16 MR. THOMAS: Thank you.

17 - - -

18 E.J. THOMAS

19 being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law,

20 testified as follows:

21 DIRECT TESTIMONY

22 MR. THOMAS: I'm here to testify in that

23 role as Chairman not on the rate request but, rather,

24 on the issue of AEP's good corporate citizenship over

25 the years, in our opinion, as those who are connected

1 with Habitat for Humanity.

2           Throughout their service territory AEP  
3 employees, with the encouragement of the company's  
4 management, have volunteered countless hours helping  
5 build homes for partner families who would otherwise  
6 not be able to afford them. They've done this with  
7 about 30 of our 70 affiliates across the state and,  
8 obviously, with the service territory being mid-Ohio  
9 and down, it's probably the majority of those habitat  
10 affiliates. And I'm guessing that they're closing in  
11 on a million dollars in terms of the money that they  
12 have donated to the effort of building low-income  
13 housing.

14           Their combination of shareholder, not  
15 ratepayer funded, assistance and volunteer  
16 participation have helped the Columbus affiliate  
17 build five houses in as many years and a number of  
18 others throughout their service territory. As such,  
19 AEP has been a significant player in the continued

20 sustainability and growth of Habitat for Humanity in

21 central and southern Ohio.

22       The success of nonprofits in the region

23 clearly relies on a corporate philosophy that

24 provides generous financial and volunteer support,

25 and in that regard AEP has stepped in and stepped up

1 year after year; for that, many low-income families  
2 of Ohio are most grateful.

3 Thank you.

4 COMMISSIONER LEMMIE: Thank you.

5 EXAMINER BOJKO: Mr. Jeff Swaragen.

6 (Witness sworn.)

7 EXAMINER BOJKO: Please state your name  
8 correctly. I'm sure I did not get it right.

9 - - -

10 JEFFERY F. SWANAGAN

11 being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law,  
12 testified as follows:

13 DIRECT TESTIMONY

14 MR. SWANAGAN: Jeffrey F. Swanagan. I  
15 reside at 5874 Moray Court. I'm also the executive  
16 director of the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium.

17 I too am here to comment about AEP and  
18 their corporate citizenship. They have been  
19 impressive role models of corporate citizenship, they

20 have given back to the community with its time,  
21 talent, and treasures of the company as well as the  
22 team members of AEP.

23         For example, Wildlights, which has been  
24 featured at the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium for over 15  
25 years, including a recent grant from AEP to provide

1 LED lights, which are very good green lights,  
2 generating 200,000 guests per year, that without  
3 their support the zoo would have only had 1/10 of  
4 that type of attendance.

5 That attendance of 200,000 over the years  
6 has enabled the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium to become  
7 the region's premier family destination, and through  
8 that success in the last five years the Columbus Zoo  
9 and Aquarium has been able to provide over \$3.5  
10 million of conservation worldwide, and we are very  
11 grateful for their leadership and support.

12 Thank you.

13 COMMISSIONER LEMMIE: Thank you.

14 EXAMINER BOJKO: Carmen Allen.

15 (Witness sworn.)

16 EXAMINER BOJKO: Please state your name  
17 and address.

18 - - -

19 CARMEN ALLEN

20 being first duly sworn, as prescribed by law,

21 testified as follows:

22 DIRECT TESTIMONY

23 MS. ALLEN: Carmen Allen. My residential

24 mailing address is 2215 Dresden Street, 43211, that's

25 in Columbus.

1 I'd like to say that I support AEP's kind  
2 of aggressive stance to saying we have to do  
3 something soon and now is -- the time is right for  
4 change, but I also have to speak to the natural  
5 person, the resident, the homeowner, the renter, that  
6 the term "energy efficiency" is no longer a buzz in  
7 my household. It's went beyond the light bulbs and  
8 the replacement of certain items in our home and  
9 energy-efficient appliances, because those bulbs  
10 and -- those light bulbs, those appliances cost more  
11 money.

12 So it's quite understandable that AEP  
13 will propose a substantial rate increase to fund this  
14 type of initiative, but as a consumer I ask you to  
15 consider the language that is being used right now,  
16 does it make the consumer really aware of about what  
17 the 45 percent increase will really mean if it takes  
18 place in the next three years? It means also that  
19 you could use less and still pay more.

20           It also means that my granddaughter right  
21 now will pay 45 percent more for utility services  
22 than her mother would, and that my daughter and my  
23 son-in-law would share in the responsibility with me  
24 and my husband now to pay this burden over the next  
25 three years.

1           It also means that my mother, who's 74  
2 years old, who gets Social Security, will not be able  
3 to afford her electric service and no matter how she  
4 tries to reduce her consumption, she will still pay  
5 more.

6           I'm asking that the PUCO consider that  
7 each customer class should be a benefactor in AEP's  
8 service territory in this process, that I would like  
9 to see a commitment to energy efficient programs and  
10 the inclusion of the middle class in the programs for  
11 persons in economic crisis and in poverty as well.

12          I realize that this proposal has come  
13 before the safety nets have actually been put in  
14 place that would help the consumers be able to  
15 shoulder such a burden. I'm sure it's going to come  
16 back down in some formal language or House bill, but  
17 I'd like the PUCO to consider now that we are going  
18 to get the bill and we cannot afford to pay it at  
19 this point.

20           We appreciate the opportunity to come out  
21   and have a voice today. This issue is hard. It's  
22   very critical. I even stammer while I'm speaking  
23   because the responsibility that you guys have to make  
24   sure that we have a greener, healthier environment  
25   for even my grandkids to be raised in is incredible

1 and it's overwhelming, but the outcomes of people not  
2 being able to afford a basic necessity of life is  
3 kind of at risk too.

4 So I'm, again, I would just ask that you  
5 consider before you go ahead with a 45 percent rate  
6 increase over the next three years, that you put the  
7 safety nets in place for everyone, and that you raise  
8 income levels so that the middle class is included in  
9 receiving the benefits of those programs.

10 Thank you.

11 COMMISSIONER LEMMIE: Thank you.

12 EXAMINER BOJKO: That concludes the  
13 witness list that I have. Is there anybody in the  
14 audience that was unable to put their name on the  
15 witness list that would like to speak at this time?

16 (No response.)

17 EXAMINER BOJKO: Seeing none, I think --  
18 would you like to conclude?

19 COMMISSIONER LEMMIE: We certainly

20 appreciate everyone coming out and listening and  
21 sharing their thoughts and their comments with us, we  
22 really appreciate you taking the time to do that and,  
23 again, they are included in the official record of  
24 the case and will be taken under consideration by the  
25 members of the Commission and our hearing officers.

1 Thank you very much again for coming out.

2 EXAMINER BOJKO: At this time we will  
3 conclude the local public hearing. Thank you for  
4 attending.

5 (The hearing concluded at 2:05 p.m.)

6 - - -

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1 CERTIFICATE

2 I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a  
3 true and correct transcript of the proceedings taken  
4 by me in this matter on Tuesday, October 21, 2008,  
5 and carefully compared with my original stenographic  
6 notes.

7 \_\_\_\_\_  
8 Maria DiPaolo Jones, Registered  
9 Diplomat Reporter and CRR and  
Notary Public in and for the  
State of Ohio.

10 My commission expires June 19, 2011.

11 (MDJ-3279)

12 - - -

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**in**

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Summary: Transcript Columbus Southern Power, Public Hearing 10/21/08 electronically filed by Mrs. Jennifer D. Duffer on behalf of Armstrong & Okey, Inc.