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HERBERT E. ORR COMPANY

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Office of Chairman
P.U.C.O.

Received
Chairman Letter

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Investigation and Audit Division
P.U.C.O.

10/27/08

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

RE: Case Numbers: 08-917-EL-SSO, 08-918-EL-SSO

Chairman Schriber:

I represent HERBERT E. ORR CO., INC. and am writing you to express my opposition to American Electric Power – Ohio's (AEP-Ohio) proposed electricity rate increase of 51% over three years. HERBERT E. ORR CO. provides 59 family sustaining jobs in Ohio. AEP's current proposal will decrease my company's competitiveness and put Ohio's economy in jeopardy.

Manufacturers exist in a global marketplace; any unjustified increase in our costs puts unnecessary burdens on HERBERT E. ORR CO., INC. ability to compete. Manufacturers are facing the same volatility in markets and commodity prices that AEP-Ohio is; however, manufacturers do not enjoy the ability foist price increases upon our customers. Allowing AEP-Ohio to increase rates by 15% annually over three years resulting in a compound, minimum increase of 51% will result in significant pain for those of us who must compete in the real world. AEP-Ohio's proposed rate increase will have a negative effect on my company's ability to remain competitive in Ohio.

AEP-Ohio's prices should be cost based providing them with a fair, just, and reasonable price. Since AEP-Ohio's proposal does not meet this basic test it should be denied.

Sincerely,

Gregory W. Johnson
President

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