

FILE

MR. AND MRS. JEFF JONES

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RECEIVED-BOOKETING DIV

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Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 Broad St.
Columbus, Ohio 43215

PUCO

Dear PUCO Representative:

I have heard that American Electric Power wants to raise their rates for the Lima area and I oppose that. The case I am referring to is 08-917-EL-SSO. We have not received any improvements to our system in years. We have paid for improvements in other areas of Ohio through our past increases. This is not right. AEP needs to spend some money in this area before they raise our rates. We are not getting our monies worth now, so why should they be allowed to raise our rates. We often have power outages and it takes days to get the power back on. These power outages have not all been weather related and it has been a hardship for residents each time it has occurred. Normal living is severely interrupted during these power outages. We constantly have to reset all digital clocks and timers because of these intermittent outages.

American Electric Power is not just asking for a small rate increase but a huge amount over the next three years. This is not justified during poor economic times. They need to curb their expenses and stay on a budget like most households must do. These times do not dictate raising rates which will trickle down to other areas of life and ultimately increase prices in all businesses. Inflation will start running wild if things are not kept under control. It would be irresponsible of your commission to approve such an increase at this time. Many people are unemployed and wages in this town are not comparable to wages in a large city like Columbus. A different rate structure should be established for small towns and kept in line with the cost of living based on the average wages in that area.

These sudden rate increases are outrageous and if approved would cause an unnecessary hardship on residents and businesses, including break the budgets of our local schools. I urge you not to approve the increase requested by American Electric Power.

Thank you,



Mr. Jeff Jones

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