

**FILE****Hunter, Donielle**

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**From:** ContactThePUCO@puc.state.oh.us  
**Sent:** Friday, December 19, 2008 11:51 AM  
**To:** Docketing  
**Subject:** Docketing  
**Attachments:** KSCH1219080M 3825523.pdf

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio  
Investigation and Audit Division

Memorandum

Date: 12/19/2008

Re: Kirk Schuring

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV  
2008 DEC 19 AM 11:59  
PUCO

Docketing Case No.:

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

Notes:

Please docket the attached in the case number above.

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12/19/2008



Kirk Schuring  
State Senator  
29th District

Ohio Senate  
Statehouse  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
614-466-0626  
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Committees:  
References, Ohio  
Highways & Transportation, Vice-Chair  
Agriculture  
Judiciary - Criminal Justice  
Rules  
State & Local Government and  
Veterans' Affairs

Special Committees:  
BMV Citizens Advisory Committee, Chair  
Ohio Children's Trust Fund Board  
Ohio Retirement Study Council

December 18, 2008

Chairman Alan R. Schriber  
The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio  
180 East Broad Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Chairman Schriber:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) adopting an interim rate increase for American Electric Power (AEP) before a final determination can be made regarding AEP's rate filing.

In my opinion, an interim rate approval violates the spirit of Senate Bill 221 and denies the full due process of those who are opposed to AEP's proposed rate increase.

Notwithstanding the aforementioned interim rate increase, I also have fundamental issues with the rate filing in general because I believe these exorbitant rate hikes will unfairly burden residential consumers and senior citizens at a time when our economy is struggling and is forecast to get worse in 2009. Additionally, it will create severe harm to Ohio's employers at a time when they are trying to cut costs and minimize job losses.

Moreover, given the fact that AEP's return on equity would be approximately 15% annually, it is highly inappropriate for a rate increase of this magnitude.

For all the above reasons, I respectfully request that you do not grant an interim rate increase and proceed with due caution as you deliberate the merits of AEP's proposed rate increase.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and please feel free to contact my office if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Kirk Schuring  
State Senator  
29th Senate District

29th Senate District: Stark (part) County