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08-918-EL-SSO

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PUCO

We receive our electricity from American Electric Power. I do not see how consumers on fixed incomes or low incomes can afford the 15% rate hike for the next three years. Maybe the CEO's, president and other upper level personnel take a pay discount if the company is not making enough money. Maybe those people should start using their brains. If they are capable of managing a company of this size they should be intelligent enough to realize people can not absorb this pay hike. In the area I live another power company has put in all new poles etc when there was nothing wrong with the present ones. They hired an outside company to do this. That had to be a huge expense that probably was not that necessary.

In reading the media this rate hike comes about in response to consumers

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cutting back on electric usage.

I would say if people are cutting back on usage there is an underlying reason for this.

Hopefully this hike in rates is not allowed.

I have a lot of contact with senior citizens - many low fixed income households - and I do not see how they can do this.

Marlene Stader
Bucyrus, Oh.