Subject: Case number 08-917-EL-SSO AEP rate case

It's hard to believe that AEP needs a 53 percent rate increase over the next 3 years.

I personally know a few of their employees. AEP gave their employees bonuses in February of 2009. Average workers go thousands of dollars. Management people got tens of thousands etc.

Why should senior citizens like me have to fund these bonuses? It sounds like Bank of America with bailout money on a smaller scale?

I read where AEP wants to reinstate the fuel clause. They pulled this same stunt in the mid seventies. They went for a rate increase and got something like 14 percent. They needed a rate increase due to inflation and they hadn't raised rates for years.

Before the increase they billed residential customers every two months. After the increase they billed monthly. When I received my first monthly bill it was almost the same as the two month bill with no increase in monthly use. I called AEP and asked why the bill was much more than the 14 percent that was advertised. I was told that they had increased the fuel clause. In other words, the bill to the customer almost doubled.

It's nice that they could do this as they owned and operated Southern Ohio Coal, Central Ohio Coal and Martinka mines. They sold themselves coal at whatever price and charged us for it.

They probably need a rate increase now as it has been years since the last one but the requested amount is just too much. The effects on people and business couldn't come at a worse time.

Thank You,

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