

FILE

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PUCO refer to #10-388-EL-SS
Sunday, April 25, 2010

PUCO

PUCO,

I like many on fixed incomes am struggling to pay my bills each month. After our outrageous electric bill in Jan of this year we turned our thermostat lower yet again. This time from 67 degrees to 64 degrees, hoping to help offset the new rate increases that were more noticeable with the cost of trying to keep warm in an all electric home(which is near impossible) We invested in the new heatpumps and furnaces last year, so much for energy star. I guess it won't show us any savings as long as the rate increases for First Energy are approved over and over again by the PUCO. Because we cannot afford these outrageous bills, we suffered all winter long. We wore extra clothing to help keep us warm, but without gloves on, your hands and nose and toes remain non functioning.

I don't understand how a company can keep raising prices so quickly and so extremely without anyone noticing how it would affect the average homeowner. I did check into the programs first energy has for low income folk. It is laughable. If you do own a home, there is much to consider that a homeowner must do to maintain his home. It costs more to keep up your home then if you rent. None of this seems to be taken into consideration with FE plans to help lower income families. I am receiving charity just to help me pay for my medications that cost about \$24,000 per year. There is no help from FE though to help the lower average homeowner keep us warm and in our own homes.

First Energy got some of the stimulus \$ from all of us folks a few months ago, but here we go again in wanting more money from us to upgrade and update and put in the latest in lines, switches, equipment, etc. To keep up with the newest technology. Just when does the price of doing business, making profits for their shareholders and the big bonus CEO's get, come out of their own income?. No, you just seem to be able to pass all costs onto the consumer. We don't get the help from the government, no bonuses, no allowance so we can take care of our own homes or businesses..

I would like to wholeheartedly suggest to FE and any other business that goes through the PUCO, Start planning on taking care of your own companies costs to do business. Stop telling us that you are losing \$because there is less demand for your product and therefore you don't make as much therefore you must increase our rates so you can make

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as much money as you would like to. We all take care of our own households without bonuses, without buying other companies (when we don't make a good profit), without always asking others to take care of our costs to make money.

Gee, there is a new idea. Build a company, handle all your inner costs, pass along bonuses when the company does well.

And when you don't make as much, you don't give out bonuses, don't buy other companies, don't give raises. If you don't think you make enough, find a new job or company.

You must realize the average person is really hurting right now. We do without when we don't bring in as much as we want to. As the government keeps implementing all these new green regulations we are all going to be living a different life.

We conserve our natural resources and get penalized so the big boys can make as much as they want to and pass the cost along to the consumer. We get penalized for conserving. Maybe these companies that are noticing their profit shrink due to the newer rules, should call their representatives. Maybe they could get a new job that pays more, like the average citizen does.

As you can see, I am totally against giving yet another OK for FE to raise their prices. Please tell them no with their latest request to again pass along their costs to we the people. Thank you

Katherine Daniels
13282 Olympus Way
Strongsville, Ohio

44149

#440-238-7742

7742 Sunday,



Sorry for the format - my computer printer is making this difficult to read.