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July 26, 2010

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

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Ref: All Electric Homes utility Rates

Dear Mr. Schriber:

I live in Lakefield Manor Condominium Association (192 unit, all electric development)located in Huron, Ohio.

Recently I attended a forum sponsored by Serving Our Seniors titled "From the consumer's perspective: Fair Electric Rates for All-Electric Home Owners. Over 300 electric home individuals attended from Erie, Huron, and Ottawa Counties. Also, attending were our State elected officials, and representatives of the Ohio Consumers Council, and First Energy. Regrettably, notably absent, although invited, was a representative of the PUCO.

Since a representative of the PUCO elected not to attend, I would like to make the following points and pose a few questions:

- ➤ I find it inconceivable that the PUCO would approve First Energy electric rate increases of 30 to 70% to all electric home owners. Furthermore, it was stated that these increases only impact all electric homeowners in the Northwestern portion of Ohio as First Energy is the only entity (a monopoly) that generates electricity in this area. Other areas of the state we were informed were not impacted by the removal of electric rate incentives as they have other entities that offer electric generation. How can the PUCO view this as fair?
- ➤ First Energy (Ohio Edison) sales representatives in selling the benefits of all electric homes have warranted to builders and homeowners alike the electric rate incentives are guaranteed. We find out now that incentives and rates can not be guaranteed by State Law. However, it is difficult to believe that managers at OE or FE were not aware of this sales tactic to sell energy to a broader base of customers. Morally, I find this ethically wrong. Should FE be allowed to reap income from individuals who were duped buy their sales representatives into electing to buy or build all electric?
- It was stated that there are roughly 1800 all electric homes in the State of Ohio. The FE representative could not tell us how many all electric homes exist in Northwest Ohio that are affected by the withdrawal of the incentives. However, in the scheme of things I would suspect that the overall increase in revenues is rather small as a percentage of aggregate revenues. Therefore, should a small segment of all electric homeowners be burdened with rate increases that only affect FE's bottom line marginally?
- Why has FE changed their billing structure to eliminate electric load regulators and water heater controls? Doesn't this allow consumers to control the amount of energy being used? Isn't this counter productive to the State trying to save on energy consumption?
- > If you survey homeowners in our area you will find that our current all electric energy costs are comparable to individual homeowners using natural gas and electricity. From a logical perspective doesn't this seem to indicate that our current all electric rates are in the ballpark?
- Why does the PUCO hold open public meetings on this issue? What harm could come from honest dialogue from all interested parties?

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> We as captive consumers are concerned about are ability to pay these rates overtime, the impact on the salability of our property, the affect on the value on our property, and ultimately will this drive some all electric homeowners into foreclosure?

I'm sure many others can make more eloquent arguments for this issue to be reviewed and hopefully some will.

Please take this matter seriously, because your final decision is affecting the lives consumers that live in all electric homes in Northwest Ohio. It has little impact on First Energy and the revenues they say they need to operate.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and I look forward to hearing from you or your representative.

Very Truly Yours,

Donald J. Mazza

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