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Public Utility Commission of Ohio 180 Broad Street Columbus, OH 43215

JAN 20 2011

ie: All Electric Home Discount
NVESTIGATION AND AUDIT DIVISION
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

Dear PUCO.

As a senior citizen in this ever changing economy, the stressful situations we have been put into, have been devastating. Many things are out of our hands, but the issue of increased electric utility rates by losing the "All Electric Home Discount" is unconscionable.

We were advised by the sales staff here at Columbia Park, a manufactured home community for 55 and older, when we bought our homes, that we will be receiving the "All Electric Home Discount". That discount has been in existence for over four decades. We can not afford to lose it. Many neighbors have had to leave Columbia Park due to uncontrollable financial circumstances.

As seniors we are not part of the greedy generation, we are only attempting to survive as we move forward in our lives since we moved to Columbia Park, sometimes referred to as "God's waiting room".

You have heard many stories over the last ten months or so about this issue. PUCO, please ... we need you to consider us in your decision and need to have this "All Electric Home Discount" permanent.

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FAST FACTS ON OUR DISCOUNT ELECTRIC RATES

WHY WE OFFER DIFFERENT RATES

You might think that all residential customers in The Illuminating Company's service area receive the same basic rate each month, no matter how much electricity they use. This is not necessarily true.

Customers can be placed on a "standard" residential rate or be placed on one of several "discount" rates depending upon:

- * How they heat and cool their home
- * How they heat the water in their home
- * How and when they use their electricity

Residential customers use about 500 kilowatthours per month. The more electric appliances you add to your home, the higher the monthly use of electricity.

Basically, customers who use electricity in a higher-than-average volume can get electricity at a less expensive kilowatthour rate. Unlike many commercial products, electricity can't be stored for later use. It is produced on demand. The excess power that we generate can be sold at a lower price. So the more electricity you use, the less your cost will be for each kilowatthour.

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio approves the rates that The Illuminating Company offers to our customers. The following is an explanation of our discount rate schedule.

YOU MAY QUALIFY FOR A DISCOUNT RATE

WATER HEATING: This discount rate applies to any home that has an electric water heater as the sole source of water heating. Customers can receive significant savings on their total monthly energy bills by using an electric water heater discount rate.

There are a few requirements to qualify for this discount. The electric water heater must be 40 gallons or higher capacity, insulated to R-10 or higher and be warranted for at least five years. This rate represents on average an 18% discount compared to the standard residential rate.

SPACE HEATING: You qualify for this discount rate when the sole heating source of your home is electric. This could be an electric furnace, heat pump, baseboard, electric boiler or radiant panels.

Again, you're saving on your total monthly energy bills because you're getting electricity at a discount rate over using fossil fuel, like gas, oil or propane to heat your home. This space heating rate is in effect between October 1 and May 31.

ALL-ELECTRIC: Customers are placed on this year-round rate when the sole source of space heating and water heating is electric. This rate combines the winter discount of the space heating rate with the summer discount of the water heating rate.

Once again, you save money since you're getting electricity at a discount rate rather than using gas, oil or propane to heat your home and water. And because of the summer discount, cooling costs are also less.

HEAT & COOL PUMP: You'll receive a significant discount on your cooling and heating when you install the Heat & Cool Pump onto a gas, oil or propane furnace. A separate electric meter records only the electricity used by the Heat & Cool Pump. This usage is then billed to you at a discount rate—in the summer for cooling; in the spring/winter and fall for heating.