

FILE

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Please Docket
e-mail in case
13-2385-EL-SSO

From: Cathy Cowan Becker
To: PUCO ContactThePUCO
Subject: 13-2385-EL-SSO, AEP ESP filing
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Message:

I am writing in response to [REDACTED] filing, which is a proposal from AEP that the utility be allowed to raise rates for consumers to bail out two of its old, inefficient plants - Kyger Creek in Cheshire, Ohio, and Clifty Creek in Madison, Indiana.

Rather than decommissioning these plants or upgrading their capacity to use efficient, clean forms of energy, AEP has asked the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio for permission to charge consumers an estimated \$117 million to keep these dirty, expensive coal plants in operation.

I am opposed to AEP's request for a bailout. Kyger Creek is one of the top 50 most polluting plants in the country, spewing over 1.1 million pounds of sulphuric acid and over 1.5 million pounds of hydrochloric acid into the air each year. Its pollution was linked in a 2011 study to 305 asthma attacks, 29 heart attacks, and 19 deaths per year.

It is highly ironic that the same utilities which led the way to gutting Ohio's clean energy standards by claiming solar and wind should not be subsidized are now asking consumers to subsidize their own noncompetitive coal plants. Residential customers are already paying an average of \$108 more per year due to freezing of the state's clean energy standards.

The PUCO should reject this latest proposal from AEP to raise consumer rates yet again, and demand that these utilities clean up their act. Thank you for allowing consumers to comment on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Cathy Cowan Becker
4275 White Spruce Lane
Grove City, Ohio. 43123

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