

9/18/14

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Duke Energy has filed an Electronic Security Plan (ESP) requesting a Price Stabilization Rider to hedge benefits of the costs associated with Duke Energy's contractual obligation to the Ohio Valley Electric Corporation (OVEC). Duke proposes to sell its portion of energy and associated services into the competitive market to maintain the integrity of the fully competitive auction process. This rider is a new charge to benefit certain power plants. Ohio law states that utilities charge customers for power plants ~~is~~ to be competitively determined by the electricity market and not guaranteed by PUCO, the government regulator.

*not abandoned*  
The Kyger Creek Power Plant in Cheshire Ohio, is part of the OVEC and uses dirty coal to generate electricity then produces ~~dirty~~ water and filthy air that violates the Federal Clean Air and Water laws. *Since* the Kyger Creek Power Plant ~~does~~ *not* meet Federal Clean Air and Water laws, like any company, it must be shutdown till the owner either improves (at its own cost, NOT paid by the customers) so it operates within the law or decommissions it (also paid by the company not the customers).

Any power plant (as well as facilities & citizens) must operate within the law and be able to sell its energy on the open market with no rider that only benefits certain plants. Anything else is power plant welfare and is a bailout for dirty power plants that violate the law.

I was an Air Force Program Manager for 20 years, planning, developing, budgeting, fielding and decommissioning military systems and bases from before birth till after death. Those life cycle costs included operating, decommissioning and environmental remediation costs to insure those systems did not violate Federal laws.

The same standards apply to Duke Energy to operate within the law.

The ESP also requests a Distribution Storm Rider to balance storm recovery costs already incorporated in customers distribution rates. The ESP states that the rider is also for actual costs associated with unforeseen significant weather events. Please provide the customers a list of the actual weather events, dates, locations, repairs and bills (over \$500).

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Public Utility Commission of Ohio Case Nos. 14-841-EL-SSO and 14-842-EL-ATA

Hearing--Cincinnati City Hall Council Chambers, 9/18/2014

Testimony of Jim Rogers, Cincinnati resident

- 1) Hi, I'm Jim Rogers and I testify today as a Duke Power residential customer and person of faith working with several faith-based organizations concerned with energy usage, the state of the human habitat and the rest of God's creation. These include The Cincinnati (Catholic) Archdiocese Task Force on Climate Change and Ohio Interfaith Power and Light. Working with these groups, I've done a variety of study on the condition of the earth, and wish to share some of my discoveries.
- 2) By human habitat I mean the availability of safe air, food, water, and shelter to adequately meet humanity's needs. I don't refer to "environment" to accommodate those who feel humans deserve more focus than the environment. Focusing on humans may indeed be appropriate because humans depend on the environment not the other way around. For example we are very dependent on plants. In God's plan, plants were created before humans and animals because they are needed in sufficient numbers for humans to have enough oxygen (from photosynthesis) and b) food--plants are the foundation of our food chain.<sup>i</sup> Without them neither animals nor humans can survive. A "Save the Human" campaign is well in order.
- 3) I ask the Commission today to look beyond the financial concerns of Duke Power or their customers to consider how this case will affect the health and well-being of Ohio citizens. A favorable decision on Duke Power's petition will incentivize burning more coal, a fossil fuel, which is simply not in the public interest. Here's why.
- 4) My study tells me that our world habitat is headed toward collapse with fossil fuels leading the way. I'm no Al Gore front man. I've just spent time doing research, helped by my colleagues in my volunteer activity. The conclusions I've reached are ones that probably anyone would reach after looking at all the evidence.
- 5) Some signs of collapse are temperatures, shifting seasons, rising seas that are displacing islanders<sup>ii</sup>, water increasing in scarcity, world fisheries headed for collapse, desertification and dust storms increasing—each year 12 million hectare or about 30 million acres of cultivatable land are lost.<sup>iii</sup> These are just a few of the frightening statistics concerning the state of our habitat.
- 6) Some may think this is hogwash. But there are three major trends affecting our world about which they may not be aware of They are:
  - a. Population explosion
  - b. consuming & waste explosion, and
  - c. reckless use of resources
- 7) Population: We know population has been increasing, but maybe not the full extent of its recent explosion. Modern humans have existed for 30,000 years<sup>iv</sup> and only by 1927 did we reach 2 billion in number. Then, less than a century later (84 years), that figure more than tripled to over 7 billion in 2011.<sup>v</sup> This has produced a number of countries with populations that cannot be adequately managed or served. We in the U.S. worry about what an influx of immigrants is doing to our infrastructure. Ironically our situation is a cakewalk compared to what most other countries contend with—higher population densities and fewer natural resources.<sup>vi</sup> Pakistan, for example, our sometime ally in the "war on terrorism" has a population density of 236 people per square kilometer compared to our 35. If we had their density we'd have 2.2 billion people.

Pakistan is described as being stripped of vegetation and having a median income of \$485 a month<sup>vii</sup>. Nigeria, approximately the size of Texas has 5X its population (148 million)<sup>viii</sup>. Between 2000 and 2005 Nigeria lost 55% of its primary forests<sup>ix</sup>. The median wage in Nigeria is between \$500 and \$1,000 annually.<sup>x</sup>

- 8) Consuming/waste With huge population growth, you'd expect consuming per person to go down since more people are competing for finite resources. In fact, in a number of areas consuming has outstripped population growth by a large margin. Examples: From 1960 to 2010 meat consumption grew 560%<sup>xi</sup>, twice the rate of population growth; from 1980 to 2006 nuclear power grew 318%<sup>xii</sup>, almost 6X population; and from 1950 to 2012 car production grew 840%<sup>xiii</sup>, 3X population growth. Driving this growth, among other things, is waste and a desire to live on a grand scale which is felt throughout the world. From 1950 to 2000 the size of the new U.S. single family home grew from 1000 square feet to 2200. Yet, at the same time, the average number of occupants actually decreased (from 3.37 people to 2.62).<sup>xiv</sup> Up to half of the food that is bought in Europe and the US is thrown away and from 2002 to 2012 worldwide municipal waste per person grew an estimated 87%.<sup>xv</sup> Currently an estimated 58% of energy in America is wasted due to inefficiencies.<sup>xvi</sup>
- 9) Reckless exploitation of resources The way we exploit the world's resources typically entails damage, often extreme, to either to the resource itself or to other resources or our health. Consider the passenger pigeon. Though it sounds like a bird used in aviation, it was a popular eating bird and once 5 billion in number in North America. We killed so many of them that they were gone by the early 20<sup>th</sup> century<sup>xvii</sup> (last one in Cincinnati zoo!) A different example of negligent use: our heavy reliance on commercial fertilizers. Fertilizer use grew 1200% between 1950 and the present<sup>xix</sup>. That has certainly boosted our agricultural output, but it comes at a price. The large quantity of fertilizers bleeds into our streams and rivers, providing food for algae, which then grow in abundance, decreasing the amount of available oxygen for marine life, creating a marine "dead zone". We now have well over 400 marine life "dead zones" around the world, including two in Lake Erie where the walleye catch has dropped from about 5 million to 1 million a year.<sup>xx</sup> These are but two of many examples of many.
- 10) So here's what we have: a lot more people, consuming a whole lot more and devastating our resources with negligent use. This is a recipe for disaster. Example: each year we lose enough forest to cover Panama<sup>xxi</sup>. Between 1990 and 2005 Honduras lost 37% of its forest Nigeria 36% Philippines 32% and Benin 31%<sup>xxii</sup>
- 11) So how do fossil fuels fit in? They are the leading cause of global warming—57%<sup>xxiii</sup> the leading cause of air pollution<sup>xxiv</sup> and leading cause of acid rain...<sup>xxv</sup> in effect, the "Mr. Big" of practices destroying our habitat. With regard to Ohio, they help make us the 2<sup>nd</sup> most air polluted state in the nation and the Cincinnati-Middletown-Wilmington area the 10<sup>th</sup> most polluted air in country<sup>1</sup>. Our local area has almost 216,000 cases of asthma.
- 12) Their effect on climate change is the most serious challenge because fossil fuels inject the most heat-trapping gas (CO<sup>2</sup>) of any source into our atmosphere. God designed our atmosphere to provide us air to breathe and warmth to live. He provided warmth through heat-trapping gases

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.marketwatch.com/story/the-10-most-polluted-cities-in-the-us-2013-05-16?page=1>

which are a minute percentage of our atmosphere but catch heat reflected off the earth's surface.<sup>xxvi</sup> CO<sup>2</sup> is the leading heat-trapping gas and historically has made up around 275 parts per million of the atmosphere. However, since the beginning of the industrial revolution, that figure has increased due to human activities. The figure is now around 400 ppm, and we're adding 2 ppm each year. There is general scientific agreement that this is propelling us toward the most apocalyptic impacts of climate change— plagues, hurricanes, severe droughts, the swamping of coastal areas, fires, heatwaves and so on<sup>xxvii</sup>. There is also scientific agreement that we must get that percentage back below 350 ppm.<sup>xxviii</sup>

- 13) Thus, we must cut back on fossil fuels immediately, and of any country, America should lead this way. We have contributed 29% of the human-induced greenhouse gases now in the atmosphere.
- 14) Fortunately cutting back on fossil fuels is doable. We have a wealth of untapped renewable energies, such as wind and solar, to meet our energy needs many times over. It has been said that 1/5 of the earth's available wind energy could provide up to seven times our energy needs. **Throughout the world, wind energy increased 16 fold from 1997 to 2008. The solar global potential is almost 3,000,000 TWh/y—compared to current world electricity consumption of 18,000 TWh/y. Solar market grew 1500% from 2000-2008**
- 15) If anyone listening today doubts the need to cut back on fossil fuels dramatically and avoid a future full of calamities for our children and grandchildren they should be made aware that this scenario is supported by all prestigious scientific bodies around the world, including our National Academy of Sciences and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, by NASA and The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, by the World's major religions, and by the Reinsurance Industry which is the business of insuring insurance companies. The Vatican, by the way, is advised by its own Pontifical Academy of Sciences and gets power from solar panels.
- 16) I have asked the Commission to look beyond the interests of Duke Power and its customers to consider Ohio at large. From a faith perspective, I will now ask you to look farther and examine your potential impact on the rest of the world. People of Christian faith are obligated<sup>xxix</sup> to follow the golden rule—"do unto others what you would have them do to you."<sup>xxx</sup> They are also governed by 1 Corinthians 12, verses 13 through 26, which say that we are all part of the body of Christ and should care for one another. Thus we should see ourselves as linked to the peoples around the world, like brothers and sisters, and look after them (and they should reciprocate, of course). Unfortunately, this scriptural guidance is observed most by omission, but nothing prevents us from starting this practice and for infusing our businesses with altruism.
- 17) Other scripture tells us we are obligated to be good stewards of God's creation. We are accountable to God for our use of His land and resources.<sup>xxxi</sup> And no less an authority than Billy Graham supports this view<sup>xxxii</sup>. When we see the pollution in the world, the eradication of our forests, the elimination of species, and many other injuries done to our planet, how will we account to our Creator?
- 18) Please understand that I say all this without condemning Duke Power, the fossil fuel industries of this Commission. Not only does the Bible counsel against judging others, but I come here as a penitent. I have used or depended on fossil fuels all my life and thank the fossil fuel industries for always meeting my energy needs. But in the process I have also contributed to global

warming. I am apologetic to our Creator, and I'm doing my best to change how I live. I'm looking into buying a hybrid car, I avoid unnecessary trips, use public transportation where possible, take the bus over a plane, compost, recycle and hope to buy an electric car (which could be served by green electricity).

19) I invite this Commission and Duke Energy to take similar action and join a worldwide movement to save the planet, aka our habitat, through sensible energy use among other initiatives. As a member of Cincinnati's Green Umbrella, I know Duke understands the challenges of our time, and I applaud them for seeking ways to promote renewable energy and help consumers become efficient. The condition of the world, however, requires that we all do a lot more. Also, there is not one silver bullet to all the problems we face. We must work together to develop the best, creative and lasting solutions. I urge Duke Energy to transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy as soon as possible, but I also encourage you to unleash the great talents of your staff to work with the community to blaze a trail towards the solutions we need.

20) In God's eyes, we are all brothers and sisters. The Light within me respects the Light within you. I stand ready to work with you, my kin folk to build a future pleasing to our Creator.

Respectfully submitted

Jim Rogers

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<sup>i</sup> <http://photosynthesisforkids.com>

<sup>ii</sup> <http://www.businessweek.com/articles/2013-11-21/kiribati-climate-change-destroys-pacific-island-nation>

<sup>iii</sup> [www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/urgentissues/global-warming-climate-change/threats-impacts](http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/urgentissues/global-warming-climate-change/threats-impacts)

<http://www.un.org/en/events/desertificationday/background.shtml>

<http://ocean.nationalgeographic.com/ocean/critical-issues-overfishing/>

<sup>iv</sup> [http://anthro.palomar.edu/homo2/mod\\_homo\\_4.htm](http://anthro.palomar.edu/homo2/mod_homo_4.htm)

<sup>v</sup> <http://geography.about.com/od/obtainpopulationdata/a/worldpopulation.htm>

<sup>vi</sup> [http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EN.POP.DNST?order=wbapi\\_data\\_value](http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EN.POP.DNST?order=wbapi_data_value)

2013+wbapi\_data\_value+wbapi\_data\_value-last&sort=asc

<sup>vii</sup> [www.salaryexplorer.com/salary-survey.php?loc=164&loctype=1](http://www.salaryexplorer.com/salary-survey.php?loc=164&loctype=1)

<sup>viii</sup> density of 191 per square kilometer

<sup>ix</sup> <http://www.illegal-logging.info/content/nigeria-has-worst-deforestation-rate-fao-revises-figures>

<sup>x</sup> <http://businessworldng.com/web/articles/2304/1/Most-Nigerians-are-Unhappily-Employed/Page1.html>

<sup>xi</sup> Lester R. Brown Full Planet, Empty Plates, p.25

<sup>xii</sup> <http://www.indexmundi.com/energy.aspx?product=nuclear&graph=production>

<sup>xiii</sup> [http://people.hofstra.edu/geotrans/eng/ch2en/conc2en/carprod\\_evolution.html](http://people.hofstra.edu/geotrans/eng/ch2en/conc2en/carprod_evolution.html) Population from 2.6 billion to 7 billion 269% [http://www.prb.org/pdf12/2012-population-data-sheet\\_eng.pdf](http://www.prb.org/pdf12/2012-population-data-sheet_eng.pdf)

<sup>xiv</sup> <http://www.census.gov/const/C25Ann/sfttotalmedavgsqft.pdf# census>

<sup>xv</sup> <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2053231/Worlds-expensive-house-Antilia-Mumbai-lies-abandoned.html> 2011 Home for family of 4 in India--"The Antilla" is 27 floors, has 3 helipads, 6 floors parking, floating gardens. Cost: \$1 Billion.

<sup>xvi</sup> <http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/EXTURBANDEVELOPMENT/0,>

contentMDK:23172887~pagePK:210058~piPK:210062~theSitePK:337178,00.html from .64kg per person to 1.2 kg



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xvii [http://phys.org/news/2011-04-energy\\_1.html](http://phys.org/news/2011-04-energy_1.html) <http://cleantechnica.com/2013/08/26/us-wastes-61-86-of-its-energy/>

xviii <http://www.wbu.com/chipperwoods/photos/passpigeon.htm>

xix Lester Brown "Full Planet, Empty Plates" p. 77

xx <http://www.nytimes.com/2013/03/15/science/earth/algae-blooms-threaten-lake-erie.html?pagewanted=all>  
<http://www.toledoblade.com/frontpage/2005/07/19/Newest-Lake-Erie-dead-zone-brings-horror-story-for-fish-near-Sandusky.html>

xxi <http://environment.nationalgeographic.com/environment/global-warming/deforestation-overview/>

xxii <http://www.treehugger.com/corporate-responsibility/10-countries-with-the-highest-deforestation-rates-in-the-world.html>

xxiii <http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/ghgemissions/global.html>

xxiv <http://www.universetoday.com/81977/causes-of-air-pollution/>

xxv <http://environment.nationalgeographic.com/environment/global-warming/acid-rain-overview/>

xxvi <http://350.org/about/science/>

xxvii <http://scribol.com/science/20-deadliest-effects-of-global-warming/1>

xxviii <http://co2now.org/>

xxix James 1: 22-25 22 "Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. 23 Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror 24 and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like."

xxx Matthew 7:12 "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law the Prophets."

xxxi Psalms 24:1 "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof" Lev. 25:23-24. "The land is mine and you are but aliens and my tenants." "A righteous man cares for the needs of his animal" (Proverbs 12:10).

xxxii "In fact, of all people, Christians should be the most concerned for the environment. Why is this? The reason is because Christians know God created the world, and we are only its stewards or trustees. The very first verse of the Bible says, "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1). When we see the world as a gift from God, we will do our best to take care of it and use it wisely, instead of poisoning or destroying it" I will find this reference and submit it if requested.

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Summary: Comments Typewritten comments submitted at September 18, 2014 hearing held in Cincinnati, Ohio electronically filed by Ms. Katrina Dearborn on behalf of Dearborn Reporting Services