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# FAX

TO: PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

FROM: JULIE WEATHERINGTON-RICE

FAX: 614) 752-8351

FAX: N/A

PHONE: (614) 486-3292

PHONE: 614-436-5248

SUBJECT: AEP OHIO SURCHARGE

DATE:

December 29, 2015

COMMENTS:

Please see letter and attached AEP Energy  
Annual Notice of Product Content.

Call if you have questions

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November 18, 2015

PUCO



Edward Rice  
298 W New England Ave  
Worthington, OH 43085-3542

T26 P3  
14383

**Annual Notice – Updated Historical Product Content Label**

Dear Edward Rice,

As a valued customer of AEP Energy who is currently on a Green-e® certified product, this letter is to inform you of AEP Energy's renewable energy fuel mix delivered to customers for the 2014 calendar year. The disclosure of this information is required under the Code of Conduct and Customer Disclosure Requirements of Green-e. In order to conserve material, the updated disclosure is listed on the back of this letter.

Thank you for your business.

Sincerely,

Customer Care Team  
AEP Energy

*AEP Energy is a certified Competitive Retail Electric Service (CRES) provider. While it is an affiliate of AEP Ohio, AEP Energy is not soliciting on behalf of and is not an agent of AEP Ohio. AEP Ohio customers do not need to purchase any competitive retail electric service from AEP Energy to receive or to continue to receive non-competitive retail electric services from AEP Ohio.*

Julie Weatherington-Rice, PhD, CPG, CPSS  
298 W. New England Ave.  
Worthington, Ohio 43085  
614-436-5248; [jweatherington.rice@gmail.com](mailto:jweatherington.rice@gmail.com)  
December 29, 2015

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio  
180 E. Broad Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
Via email

RE: AEP Ohio rate increase proposal

Dear Sirs:

I am writing to you regarding the proposed AEP Ohio rate increase that they are requesting on their distribution charges to support their aging coal-fired electrical generation plants. While I don't care if you approve such a surcharge on anyone foolish enough to buy power from those old plants, I certainly object that you would consider applying the surcharge to the distribution system customers.

Ohio is a deregulated state and has been for some time. While AEP Ohio is obligated to transport electricity to those of us living in their distribution system area, we are under absolutely no legal obligation to buy our electricity from their generation plants. Like many people in their distribution area, I do not. I continued to support Ohio's movement to alternative renewable energy sources and continued to purchase my electricity within the state while I continued to reduce my electricity demand. But that all changed when our current Ohio State Government structure decided, in collusion with Ohio's power suppliers, to freeze our movement forward. When that happened, I did what every responsible Ohioan did; I took my money out of Ohio and purchased my electricity from AEP Energy on their Green-e certified program. Ohio electricity production lost my income and it will continue to lose my income as long as I am able to purchase renewable electricity outside the state. Ohio has failed me; I don't intend to support Ohio. I have attached my annual notice that shows that my electricity for 2014 all comes from wind in Texas. I will receive a letter late next year telling me where my wind energy came from in 2015. My most recent letter of notification from AEP Energy is attached.

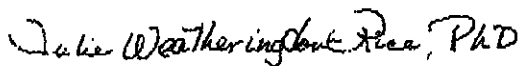
Please note: that is 100% wind from Texas, not any electricity from the old coal plants that AEP Ohio is asking you to support. So if I am not benefitting in any way shape or form from these old coal-fired power plants, not purchasing their electricity, why in God's Green Earth does the PUCO think that they can justify increasing my electric bill for a monthly surcharge on the distribution portion of my bill? You are charging me for something that I have not purchased, am under contract not to purchase and have no desire to purchase. You may very well be infringing into my contract with AEP Energy. You clearly are enforcing a rider based on a contract that I do not have with AEP Ohio.

I imagine that AEP Ohio asked for the surcharge on the distribution side of their service because so many people have chosen to purchase electricity from another source than their old coal-fired plants. So by requesting the surcharge be administered on the distribution side, they are forcing everyone to comply or lose electrical service. I switched to wind because of an ethical position. Imagine my surprise when I found out it was actually cheaper than the coal-fired electrical power I had been receiving from AEP Ohio. If the surcharge was directed only to those buying AEP Ohio's electricity, the cost differential would be even greater, even fewer people would buy from the old plants and they would have to close....something that the Federal Government expected them to do about 30 years ago under the original terms of the Federal Clean Air Act. AEP Ohio would move towards more renewable energy generation, wind and solar (not methane which is not renewable using current sources of methane). They would do this because they want to stay in business. They might do it even faster because their client base is moving away from them.

When I started buying wind power from Texas, I was not asked to pay a surcharge to maintain the old coal-fired Texas plants until new wind came on line; they were building wind because they could do it economically and they passed the savings on to me. So I have made an environmentally sound and also an economically sound decision for my family, choosing to limit our carbon footprint. Given other decisions we have made to our lifestyles and our landscaping, we have drastically reduced our carbon footprint or mitigated it during the more than 30 years we have lived in our home. You should be rewarding families like ours who will help Ohio reach our carbon reduction requirements. Make no mistake, climate change is upon us, I am fairly sure we are over the tipping point and all we can do is slow it, but slow it we must and voting with our pocketbooks to make or buy renewable electricity is one of the best actions we can take. To side with AEP Ohio in this rate case only drags us backward into the dark ages that seem to rule in Ohio's political climate. Don't make a decision that is ethically and morally a violation of the contractual choices of many AEP Ohio distribution area residents and businesses. There is some question as to if this moving of a generating surcharge to the distribution site of the bill is even legal.

If you need further information, please feel free to contact me. I work from my home most days, thereby further reducing my carbon footprint, and can be reached by phone at 614-436-5248.

Respectfully submitted,



Julie Weatherington-Rice, PhD, CPG, CPSS

CC: The Ohio Environmental Council

Attachment (1)

**2014 HISTORIC PRODUCT CONTENT LABEL**

This is a renewable energy certificate (REC) product. For every unit of renewable electricity generated, an equivalent amount of RECs is produced. The purchase of RECs supports renewable electricity generation, which helps reduce conventional electricity generation in the region where the renewable generator is located. You will continue to receive one electricity bill from your utility.

AEP Energy delivers a 100% Green-e® Energy Certified wind energy product. This product matches 100% of your estimated electricity usage with national Green-e® Energy certified RECs. This product is made up of the following renewable resources:

1. New Renewables come from generation facilities that first began commercial operation within the past 15 years.

2. Eligible hydroelectric facilities are defined in the Green-e Energy National Standard ([http://www.green-e.org/getcert\\_re\\_stan.shtml](http://www.green-e.org/getcert_re_stan.shtml)) and include facilities certified by the Low Impact Hydropower Institute (LIHI) ([www.lowimpacthydro.org](http://www.lowimpacthydro.org)); facilities that are run-of-the-river hydropower facilities with a total rated nameplate capacity equal to or less than 5 MW; and facilities comprised of a turbine in a pipeline or a turbine in an irrigation canal.

For comparison, the average (2010) mix of energy sources supplying the US includes: Coal (45%), Nuclear (20%), Oil (1%), Natural Gas (24%), Large Hydroelectric (6%), Other Fossil (<1%), and Renewables (4%). (from U.S. Department of Energy/Energy Information Administration)

The average home in the United States uses 900 kWh per month. [Source: U.S. EPA]

For specific information about this REC product, please contact AEP Energy, (866) 258-3782, [www.AEPenergy.com](http://www.AEPenergy.com).



Green-e® Energy certifies that AEP Energy meets the minimum environmental and consumer protection standards established by the non-profit Center for Resource Solutions. For more information on Green-e Energy certification requirements log on to [www.green-e.org](http://www.green-e.org).

From: Ryan, Kelly  
To: PUCO ContactThePUCO  
Subject:  
Received: 12/31/2015 9:12:27 AM  
Message: