FILE

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Mrs. Margaret M. Gualtier
401 Bradley Road
Bay Village, OH 44140

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: Duke Energy, AEP and First Energy's bailout proposal
Case Number: 14-1297-EL-SSO

Gentlemen,

I am writing to protest the above proposal and am asking you to please deny the rate increase which would lock us consumers into buying power from the oldest and dirtiest coal plants in Ohio. I care about reducing toxic pollution and saving money on my electric bills, but cannot afford the increased costs associated with their bad judgments. Why is it that they (utility companies) always insist on raising consumer rates to obtain profits to cover their outdated and inefficient coal plants and other poor choices. They are already making great amounts of money/profits for themselves and their share holders, by strangling the rest of us, without concern.

I am a senior citizen, living on Social Security and my late husband's military retirement, both of which have NOT seen a penny's increase in the last two years. I worked for 40 years and supplied Social Security to those retired at that time, without, I might add, a choice in doing so. Now, because our government has moved Social Security monies into the general fund, a mistake only an idiot would make I might add, my retirement is in the hands of incompetent officials who are hell bent on getting every drop of blood I have. And now the government (local) is hell bent on giving us seniors and the general public a screwing again!

I am very angry about this as well as being sick and tired of government organizations pulling every trick in the book to make themselves wealthy by robbing the poor because of a lack of conscience, a lack of absolute need of the money, but only a vampire-need for the blood of money to support their extravagant lifestyles. I am also tired of bailouts which benefit utility shareholders and delay inevitable investment in efficiency and renewable energy. Whatever happened to caring and decency???

I sincerely hope you shelve this proposal. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Margaret M. Gualtier

Margaret Gualtier

Enclosure: Much anger!!

Stop the bailouts & end the freeze

Duke Energy, AEP, and First Energy teamed up to file proposals with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) to get permission to raise consumer rates and use the profits to cover the costs of their outdated and inefficient coal plants. These companies want to shift the cost of these coal plants to consumers.

Two of the four requests have been denied, including the original requests for the Kyger Creek and Clify Creek coal plants. FirstEnergy has a request pending that would add the Sammis coal plant and Davis-Besse nuclear plant. AEP has an expanded request pending that would add the Stuart, Zimmer, Conesville and Cardinal coal plants.

Ohio politicians on "Energy Mandates Study Committee" took $830,000 from dirty energy companies

Ohio Politician	Utility Industry	Coal Mining	Oil & Gas	TOTAL
Rep. Ron Amstutz	$83,100	$35,200	$90,686	$208,986
Sen. Bill Seitz	$79,125	$25,350	$20,425	$124,900
Sen. Cliff Hite	$50,085	$2,990	$64,855	$117,950
Rep. Kristina Roegner	$62,950	$2,150	$28,400	$93,500
Sen. Troy Balderson	$43,400	$2,450	$30,200	$76,050
Sen. Bob Peterson	$31,650	$3,600	$14,850	$50,100
Rep. Christina Hagan	$24,280	$2,050	$21,900	$48,230
Rep. Louis W. Blessing, III	$37,578	$1,200	$3,350	$42,128
Rep. Jack Cera	$11,000	$1,350	$9,200	$21,550
Rep. Mike Stinziano	$16,150	$0	$2,700	$18,850
Sen. Sandra Williams	$14,700	$500	$250	$15,450
Sen. Capri Cafaro	$12,200	$1,000	$0	$13,200
GRAND TOTAL	**$466,218**	**$77,840**	**$286,816**	**$830,874**

Why?

Data courtesy The National Institute on Money in State Politics - FollowTheMoney.org

In June 2014, our lawmakers signed a two-year freeze on Ohio's clean energy standards. Since 2009, these standards saves ratepayers $1.03 billion through renewable and efficiency measures and created thousands of jobs in Ohio (Source: Ohio Consumers' Counsel and OSU study.) The utilities and the legislators they influence said they needed time to "study" the issue, but in reality they just want to kill the program. This was not a moderate compromise or a simple benign "pause" in Ohio's clean energy rules. It was an assault which, left unchanged, essentially voids Ohio's policy to require utility clean energy programs.