Public Utilities Commission

FILE

18-0622-EL-CSS

Formal Complaint Form


Utility Company Name

Customer Address

$\qquad$
sAme
Customer Service Address (if different from above)


Please describe your complaint. (Attach additional sheets if necessary)
(SEE ATTACHED)


April, 9, 2018
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
Docketing Division
180 E. Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215-3793

RE: Formal Complaint Against AEP Ohio<br>Account Name: Helena Edison (customer)<br>Account Number w/AEP Ohio 106-709-439-4-2<br>Service Address; 4451 Belvedere Park, Columbus, Ohio 43228

Dear Sir/Madam:

On February 22, 2018 I opened and received my AEP Ohio bill and it was for total amount of $\$ 750$. I immediately contacted AEP and was advised by a supervisor to read my meter and advise them of the clock reading. I did as instructed and over the course of the 51 minute conversation the supervisor admitted there was a reading error on AEP's part and my bill was adjusted to $\$ 286.24$. I called on February 25, 2018 to pay the bill in full for $\$ 286.24$ and was advised the bill had been adjusted again to read $\$ 600.00$. I disputed the $\$ 600.00$ amount and asked why the change again, she could not answer. I was transferred to the billing department for formal complaint. I was advised a meter reading would take place within a ten day period and I would be advised as to their findings. I was not advised, I had to call back in and was then told the bill was back up to $\$ 750.00$ because they had made gross errors in their "guestimating" usage over the winter months. I disputed the amount again. I was told another reader would be out to read the meter. A meter reader did come out and left a note on my door during my work hours and stated their reading is accurate and ADDED and additional amount bringing my total to $\$ 1,022.20$. I received only one telephone call from the billing office supervisor stating, yes there were errors, yes there is confusion, but "I owe the amount, make arrangements or I will be disconnected". I do have an electric pump but I used the pump minimally because I am gone 13 hours per day and live there alone. I have never received any bill for this high amount and have lived in ALL electric premises in past with a room-mate in college.
I have already filed an informal complaint with PUCO and that was of no assistance. I had to contact a supervisor after the 10 day period to have gone over the findings. As we went over the findings, it simply duplicated what I already have known, PUCO informal complaint was of no assistance, had no resolution and left me even more frustrated and confused.
The outcome I would like is my bill adjusted to the meter I provided and took pictures of \$286.24. AEP Ohio be held accountable for the confusion they caused, their gross inaccuracies and very poor customer service provided. I cannot trust a company to provide me with an accurate bill with these consistent errors.

vance for your assistance,

Helena Edison

# Ohio <br> Public Utilities Commission 

March 30, 2018

Helena Edison
4451 Belvedere Park
Columbus, OH 43228
CASE ID: 00199349
Dear Ms. Edison:
Thank you for contacting the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) and allowing me to address your concerns regarding the American Electric Power Company of Ohio, Inc. (AEP).

In your complaint, you stated that on February 22, 2018, you received a bill in the amount of $\$ 750$ from AEP. You stated you are gone 13 hours a day and the AEP monthly billings have never been more than $\$ 280$. After speaking with AEP and providing a meter reading, the company informed you the billing would be adjusted to $\$ 286.24$. However, AEP recently rebilled the account and added an additional charge of $\$ 600$, bringing the total charges due to \$1022.50.

AEP's response was that the service at this address was initiated in your name on July 3, 2017. Please find enclosed a copy of the meter reading, billing, and payment history for your account from July 3, 2017 through March 16, 2018. Please note that the history also contains the historic meter reading and usage history for the previous period from March 24, 2016 to July 3, 2017. In reviewing the enclosed history, I found that the January 17, 2018 billing of $\$ 184.89$ had been cancelled and the account rebilled in the amount of $\$ 341.08$. This amount was included on the February 19, 2018 billing, bringing the amount due for the 67 day service period December 14, 2017 to February 19, 2018 to \$750.79.

AEP's records show that on February 22, 2018, the company spoke with you regarding the $\$ 750.79$ billing. The company states that at that time, you provided a meter reading of 91659. The enclosed history shows the company cancelled the original billing of $\$ 409.71$ for the service period from January 17 to February 19, 2018, and adjusted the amount due for that period to $\$ 286.22$, for a total due of $\$ 627.30$.

On March 7, 2018, the company performed a special reading of the meter and obtained an actual reading of 94223 . As a result of this actual reading, the previous adjustment was cancelled and the account was re-billed for the original amount of $\$ 341.08$ for the January 17 to February 19, 2018 service period. And, because no payments had been received on the account, the amount still due as of March 12,2018 was $\$ 750.79$. When the account billed again on March 16,2018 , it was based on an actual meter reading of 95022 . This resulted in an additional usage charge of $\$ 271.41$ and a total amount due of $\$ 1,022.20$. If you have not already done so, you may wish to contact AEP customer service at 1-800-672-2231 to discuss available payment arrangements for the account.

AEP reports that special readings of the meter were also obtained on March 13 and March 20, 2018. The meter reading obtained on March 20, 2018 was 95349 and showed that an additional 327 kwh of usage occurred during the four day period from March 16 to 20, 2018. AEP further advised that per your request, the accuracy of the meter was tested on March 15, 2018. During this test, the meter was found to be operating at an accuracy level of $99.65 \%$ on a light load and $100 \%$ on a full load.

Companies are required to perform meter tests following the standards for meter accuracy set by the American National Standard Institute (ANSI). According to these standards, electric meters operating at plus or minus two of $100 \%$ are considered to be operating within the ANSI standards. Regulated electric companies in Ohio that are metering in compliance with Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 4901:1-10-05 (B) may bill for the actual usage recorded through the meter. A copy of OAC 4901:1-10-05 (B) can be viewed at http://codes.ohio.gov/oac/4901:1-1005 v 1.

Please note that there is no rule which requires the utility company itself to determine why a customer's usage is more or less from one billing period to the next. However, AEP stated the cause of your increased usage may be a result of how you are using your heat pump and emergency electric heating system. The company also advised that on March 13, 2018, energy saving information regarding heat pumps was left for you at the service address. Should you have any concerns regarding the efficiency of the heat pump and emergency heating system, you may wish to contact a company that specializes in these types of systems.

Should you have any additional utility-related questions, please do not hesitate to contact the PUCO Call Center at (800) 686-PUCO (7826) or visit our website at www.PUCO.ohio.gov.




## Service Address:

HELENA EDISON
4451 BELVEDERE PARK
NEWBRIDGE COMMONS BLDG 15
COLUMBUS, OH 43228-6348
Account \#106-709-439-4-2

## Line Item Charges:

| Provious Chiliges |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total Amount Due At Last Billing | \$ | 84.89 |
| Payment 01/22/18 - Thank You |  | -84.89 |
| Adjustment |  | -184.89 |
| Previous Balance Due | \$ | -184.89* |
| Gurrent A EP Ohlo charges |  |  |
| Tariff 013-Residential Service 01/17/18 Service Delivery Identifier: 00040621063187342 |  |  |
| Generation Service (Supply) | \$ | 254.39 |
| Transmission Service |  | 77.80 |
| Distribution Service |  | 166.68 |
| Customer Charge |  | 8.40 |
| Retail Stability Rider |  | 6.97 |
| Deferred Asset Phase-In Rider |  | 7.10 |
| Power Purchase Agreement Rider |  | 4.63 |
| Rebilled Charges | \$ | 525.97* |
| Tariff 013-Residential Service 02/14/18 Service Delivery Identifier: 00040521063187342 |  |  |
| Generation Service (Supply) | \$ | 196.78 |
| Transmission Service |  | 60.18 |
| Distribution Service |  | 129.74 |
| Customer Charge |  | 8.40 |
| Retail Stability Rider |  | 5.39 |
| Deferred Asset Phase-In Rider |  | 5.64 |
| Power Purchase Agreement Rider |  | 3.58 |
| Current Electric Charges | \$ | 409.71* |
| Totol Balance bue <br> "Charges make up the "Total Balance Due" | \$ | 750.79 |

## Usage Details:

\$ $\ddagger$ Values reflect changes between current month and previous month.


Total usage for the past 12 months: $9,742 \mathrm{kWh}$
Average (Avg.) monthly usage: 1.392 kWh
Meter Read Details:

| Meter \#216282671 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Previous | Type | Current | Type | Metered | Usage |
| 84734 | Actual | 89252 | Actual | 4518 | 4.518 kWn |
| Service Period $12 / 14-01 / 17$ |  |  | Muitiplior 1 |  |  |
| Meter \#216282671 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Previous | Type | Current | Type | Metered | Usage |
| 89252 | Actual | 92747 | Actual | 3195 | 3.495 kWh |
| Service Period 01/17-02/14 |  | Multiplier 1 |  |  |  |
| Next scheduled read date should be between Mar 14 and Mar 19. |  |  |  |  |  |

## Notes from AEP Ohio:

Price-to-Compare: For tariff 013, in order for you to save money off of your utility's supply charges, a supplier must offer you a price lower than AEP Ohio's price of $\$ 0.056$ per $k W h$ for the same usage that appears on this bill. To review available competitive supplier offers, visit the Public Utilities Commission of Oho's "Energy Choice Ohio" web site at www.energychoice ohio.gov.

For Informational Purposes only: The below costs are NOT NEW CHARGES and are approximate values. AEP participates in programs required by the state of Ohio to support energy conservation and to secure renewable energy resources. For more information on energy efficiency programs. please visit aepohio.com/ItsYourPower.

Renewable Programs: $\$ 7.87$
Energy Efficiency Programs: $\$ 8.62$
Peak Demand Reduction Programs: $\$ 3.28$
Thank you for being a paperless customer! Sign up for billing and outage alerts to stay informed. You can manage your account by logging in at aepohio.com.

Due date does not apply to previous balance due.
Register for online services at www.AEPOhio.com. Registration is free and easy and gives you the convenience of 24 -hour access to your account. You can sign up for paperless billing, view your bill, check your usage, update your contact information, and much more.
Make your life easier. You can write one check for multiple electric accounts!





Dumbinne

Actual: Refects that arealing was takn from your meter

Estimate: Reftect that we wero undo to romi vow moder thin menth
 Yon call choose to call us with ha actud meter prod at $1-828-297-831$.

Kilowatthour (kWh): The unit measure for fhe elcetriny you use iror
 for 10 hours.

Customer Charge: The fixodmonthy bate distibuton dharge to portially cover coses for billm, meter rading, wormothe mantmanes and equipmemi

Late Payment Charge: (If apphicable) A late chage is atdoc to the overdur amount of the reyulated portion of you bill if yo do new sey your bill by the due case:

Standard Service Offer: When customers methase yenemation though AEP Ohe sumtion procoss and mot through a sumber.

Generation Service or Supply: Charges assochatro with wh prochution of elecricity.


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## Notes from AEP Ohio:

Your total account balance includes a past due amount of $\$ 341.08$, which may include CRES provider charges. To avoid disconnection, payment of the past due amount must be received on or before April 19, 2018.

## Need help paying your bill?

Call us at 1-800-807-6789 to learn about payment arrangements and other assistance programs.

## TOTAL PAST DUE

## Methods of Payment

aepohio.com
PO Box 24418
Canton OH 44701-4418
1-800-611-0964 (\$1.85 fee)

If disconnection of service for nonpayment would be especially dangerous to the health of a household member, a medical certification program and forms are available from the Company.

Please see payment options on the last page of this notice.
Receipt of a new bill will NOT change the requirements of this notice.

Your account is scheduled for disconnection after April 19, 2018.

Mailing date is March 16, 2018

## Reconnection:

Should you get disconnected, here's a breakdown of potential charges for reconnection:

Reconnect at Meter
$\$ 53.00$
Reconnect off-shift
Reconnect on Sunday
Reconnect at Pole
Reconnect after hours non-holiday \$192.00
Reconnect on non-business day
Reconnect install locking device $\$ 73.00$
Trip charge
Please disregard if payment has been made
$\$ 98.00$
$\$ 16.00$
$\$ 119.00$
$\$ 154.00$ $\$ 221.00$

Pay on or before April 19, 2018 to avoid disconnect

Make check payable and send to: AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER PO BOX 24418 CANTON OH 44701-4418


## Service Address:

## HELENA EDISON

襎 4451 BELVEDERE PARK
NEWBRIDGE COMMONS BLDG 15
COLUMBUS, OH 43228-6348
Account \#106-709-439-4-2

## Disconnect notes from AEP Ohio:

To AVOID DISCONNECTION, you must do ONE of the following:

- Pay the entire amount due; or

ENTER INTO A PAYMENT PLAN

- Enter into an agreement requiring six equal payments plus your current bill;
- Enter into an agreement requiring nine equal monthly payments plus a budgeted payment amount;
- Enter into an agreement requiring minimum monthly payments of onerthird of your account balance (valid only Nov. 1 - April 15);
- Enter into an agreement to make monthly payments based on a percentage of income (if the total household income is equal to or less than $150 \%$ of the Federal poverty level);
- Agree to any other extended payment plan that is mutually acceptable to you and the Company.

Past due balances may include CRES provider charges.
The disconnect amount due does not include charges for nontariffed products or services, but may include charges for competitive retail electric service. Failure to pay charges for other nontariffed products or services may result in loss of those products or services.

This notice will not be cancelled by the receipt of a new bill, as the due date shown on the new bill applies to the current billing and does not apply to the amount shown as the previous balance.

If payment has been made, please accept our thanks and disregard this notice.

POBOX 24401
CANTON, OH 44701-4401

Bill mailing date is Mar 16, 2018 Account \#106-709-439-4-2

SERVICE ADDRESS: HELENA EDISON, 4451 BEL.VEDERE PARK, NEWBRIDGE COMMONS BLDG 15, COLUMBUS, OH

HELENA EDISON
4451 BELVEDERE PARK
COLUMBUS, OH 43228-6348

## Notes from AEP Ohio:

Make this the last bill sent in the mail. Gain more security and trust and go paperless to get an email notification when your bill is ready. Today is the day! AEPPaperless.com.

Usage History (kWh):


## Need to get in touch?

Customer Operations Center: 1-800-672-2231
View outage information at aepohio.com
$\qquad$

## Service Address:

HELENA EDISON
4451 BELVEDERE PARK
NEWBRIDGE COMMONS BLDG 15
COLUMBUS, OH 43228-6348
Account \#106-709-439-4-2

## Line Item Charges:

| Previous Charges |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total Amount Due At Last Billing | \$ | 750.79 |
| Previous Balance Due | \$ | 750.79* |
| Current AEP Ono Charges |  |  |
| Tariff 013-Residential Service 03/15/18 Service Delivery Identifier: 00040621063187342 |  |  |
| Generation Service (Supply) | \$ | 128.08 |
| Transmission Service |  | 39.17 |
| Distribution Service |  | 86.02 |
| Customer Charge |  | 8.40 |
| Retail Stabllity Rider |  | 3.51 |
| Deferred Asset Phase-In Rider |  | 3.90 |
| Power Purchase Agreement Rider |  | 2.33 |
| Current Electric Charges | \$ | 271.41* |
| Totel Balance Due <br> *Charges make up the "Total Balance Due" | \$ | 1,022.20 |

## Usage Details:

$\uparrow \$$ Values reflect changes between current month and previous month.


Total usage for the past 12 months: $13,237 \mathrm{kWh}$
Average (Avg.) monthly usage: $1,655 \mathrm{kWh}$
Meter Read Details:

| Meter \#216282671 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Previous | Type | Current | Type | Metered | Usage |
| 92747 | Actual | 94223 | Actual | 1476 | $1,476 \mathrm{kWh}$ |
| Service Period 02/14-03/07 |  |  |  |  | Multiplier 1 |


| Meter \#216282671 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Previous | Type | Current | Type | Metered | Usage |
| 94223 | Actual | 94700 | Actual | 477 | 477 kWh |
| Service Period 03/07 | $-03 / 13$ |  |  | Multiplier 1 |  |
| Meter \#216282671 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Previous | Type | Current | Type | Metered | Usage |
| 94700 | Actual | 95022 | Actual | 322 | 322 kWh |
| Service Period 03/13-03/15 |  |  | Multiplier 1 |  |  |
| Next scheduled read date should be between Apr 13 and Apr 18 . |  |  |  |  |  |

## Notes from AEP Ohio:

Price-to-Compare: For tariff O13, in order for you to save money off of your utility's supply charges, a supplier must offer you a price lower than AEP Ohio's price of $\mathbf{\$ 0 . 0 5 6}$ per kWh for the same usage that appears on this bill. To review available competitive supplier offers, visit the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio's "Energy Choice Ohio" web site at www.energychoice.ohio.gov.

For Informational Purposes only: The below costs are NOT NEW CHARGES and are approximate values. AEP participates in programs required by the state of Ohio to support energy conservation and to secure renewable energy resources. For more information on energy efficiency programs, please visit aepohio.com/ItsYourPower.

Renewable Programs: \$2.24
Energy Efficiency Programs: $\$ 5.62$
Peak Demand Reduction Programs: $\$ 2.13$

In Case No. 13-2385-EL-SSO, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio approved adjustments to Ohio Power Company's gridSMART Phase 2 rider. This rider allows the Company to recover costs for grid modernization projects. A residential customer will see a decrease of $\$ 0.04$ per month.

In Case No. 12-2627-EL-RDR, the PUCO approved an adjustment to increase the Distribution Investment Rider, effective with this bill. This rider, which is adjusted quarterly, recovers capital costs associated with distribution infrastructure. A residential customer using $1,000 \mathrm{kWh}$ per month will see an increase of $\$ 0.20$ per month.
Do Not Tamper - Tampering with an energized electric meter can cause serious injury or death. If you suspect a problem with your meter, call the customer service number listed on your electric bill for assistance. In addition, meter tampering is illegal and can result in fines and/or imprisonment.

Due date does not apply to previous balance due.
To avoid unnecessary delays in crediting your electric payment, please do not paper clip or staple your check to the bill payment stub.
*If you pay your electric bill in person, remember to pay only at AUTHORIZED pay stations. These locations send notice of your payment immediately to AEP Ohio which could prevent service disconnection. Pay stations may charge a fee for this service. Keep your receipt as proof of payment. For a list of authorized pay stations or other payment options, visit our website at
www.aepohio.com or call the number above.**


