48963 East Letart Road

Racine, Ohio 45771

August 27, 2020

**Ohio Public Utilities Commission** 

**180 East Broad Street** 

Columbus, Ohio 43215

To Whom It May Concern:

I am enclosing an article from yesterday's Daily Sentinel in which a request by AEP Ohio is asking for an increase in rates. The Case No. 20-585-EL-AIR; Case # 20-586-EL-ATA; and Case # 20-587-ELAAM are the Cases, which I would like to voice my concern.

My husband and I live on a fixed income, it seems as though everyone wants to raise prices, but our income raises very little. I know this is also true for many other households on fixed incomes. You may say apply for assistance with the bill, which in itself sounds like a good idea, but our income is just a few dollars over what is allowed to receive any kind of help and it is also a matter of pride. I have worked all my life and am glad to say always been able to pay my bills but as time goes on the income is shrinking and the bills are growing. I know this also affects many other households on fixed incomes.

At this time, I am asking you, The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio to deny this request for an increase.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sharon Roush

cc: Jay Edwards

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO OF OHIO POWER COMPANY FOR AN INCREASE IN ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION RATES

## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 4909.19 of the Ohio Revised Code, Ohio Power Company (AEP Ohio) hereby gives notice that on June 1, 2020, it filed with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (Commission) an application for approval of an increase in its electric distribution rates to be effective in 2021 in Case No. 20-585-EL-AIR, In the Matter of the Application of Ohio Power Company for an Increase in Electric Distribution Rates. AEP Ohio has also requested approval to amend its tariffs and obtain accounting approval in connection with the proposed rate increase, which have been assigned Case No. 20-586-EL-ATA, In the Matter of the Application of Ohio Power Company for Tariff Approval and Case No. 20-587-ELAAM, In the Matter of the Application of Ohio Power Company for Approval to Change Accounting Methods. In reviewing AEP Ohio's application, the Commission will consider AEP Ohio's cost to provide electric distribution service from December 1, 2019, to November 30, 2020.

It has been nearly a decade since AEP Ohio filed a base distribution rate case. Since 2011, when AEP Ohio filed its last distribution rate case, AEP Ohio has improved reliability, made significant investments in upgrading equipment, and has made the electric grid smarter and cleaner. This filing seeks to continue these efforts and to recognize in rates AEP Ohio's investments needed to ensure that the electric grid continues to safely and reliably meet customers' demands into the future. AEP Ohio has also asked the Commission to allow it to continue to offer technology that gives customers more control over their energy usage and programs that help customers reduce their energy use, including by proposing a Demand Side Management (DSM) Plan. AEP Ohio further requests approval to continue its Distribution Investment Rider (DIR) and Enhanced Service Reliability Rider (ESRR), which enable AEP Ohio to maintain and improve distribution safety and reliability. AEP Ohio additionally proposes changes to its tariff, including the elimination of residential fees associated with bill payment by credit or debit card and new street and area lighting and municipal underground tariffs.

AEP Ohio requests the following percentage increases in distribution service operating revenue, net of changes in distribution-related riders, on a class of service basis.

Residential 4.93% Commercial and Industrial 2.26% Lighting -21.09% Total 2.96%

These percentages do not reflect the total bill increase associated with AEP Ohio's proposals, which will be approximately 1.8% for a residential customer using 1,000 kWh of electricity per month.

AEP Ohio's proposals are subject to changes, including changes as to amount and form, by the Commission. Recommendations that differ from the application may be made by the Staff of the Commission or by intervening parties and may be adopted by the Commission.

Any person, firm, corporation, or association may file, pursuant to Section 4909.19 of the Ohio Revised Code, an objection to AEP Ohio's proposals by alleging that such proposals are unjust and discriminatory or unreasonable.

A copy of AEP Ohio's application is available for inspection at AEP Ohio's offices located at 700 Morrison Road, Gahanna, Ohio 43230. A copy of AEP Ohio's application and supporting documents may also be viewed on the Commission's web page at http://dis.puc.state.oh.us and inputting 20-585 in the case lookup box, and selecting the application filed on June 8, 2020.

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

**Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on** 

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Case No(s). 20-0585-EL-AIR, 20-0586-EL-ATA, 20-0587-EL-AAM

Summary: Public Comment of Sharon Roush, via website electronically filed by Docketing Staff on behalf of Docketing