

FILE



Kimberly A. Zurz
Assistant Minority Leader
State Senator
28th District

Committees:
Reference, Ranking Member
Ways & Means & Economic Development, Ranking Member
Energy & Public Utilities
Judiciary Committee on Criminal Justice
Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review
Joint Legislative Ethics Commission
Legislative Service Commission
Rules

November 1, 2006

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PUCO

Alan R. Schriber, Chairman
The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 E. Broad St.
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Chairman Schriber,

It is my understanding that your office has received a request from Ohio American Water Company that they would like to increase water rates for Portage County consumers 21.5%. I am opposed to that rate increase.

As you are aware, Ohio American Water Company currently has several fire hydrants out of service in Brimfield Township. Additionally, there are other maintenance issues that have not been adequately addressed in their Portage County service area. With that being said, I don't believe that Ohio American has provided service to Portage County customers at a level that warrants such a substantial rate increase.

I would like to take this opportunity to voice my desire that the 21.5% rate increase be rejected. I would also like to reiterate my concern that the system maintenance issues in Brimfield Township be resolved in a satisfactory manner. I know your staff has been continuing to work on this issue and I would like to encourage that progress to continue.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any assistance with this matter. I appreciate all of your diligence on this issue.

Sincerely,

Kimberly A. Zurz
State Senator, 28th District

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CC: Beth Trombold; Brimfield Township Trustees; Steven Cheline; David Hardman