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Westerville  
Community  
United Church of Christ

Sharing the Ever-Widening  
Circle of Christ's Love

Rev. Harold B. Steindam, Sr. Minister  
Rev. Dr. Sigrid Rother, Assoc. Minister

January 7, 2008

PUCO  
Attention: Marketing Division  
180 East Broad Street  
Columbus, OH 43215

CC: Honorable Ted Strickland, Governor  
CC: James Welch, HRAA President

Dear Friends:

I am writing with concern about the latest proposed rate hike (31.86%) by the Ohio American Water Company for the Huber Ridge Westerville area (Case Number 07-1112-WS-AIR).

My family has lived in Huber Ridge for over 17 years. (My home address is 3672 Managua Drive, 43081.) It is an excellent place to live, and is made up of people of great diversity. Overall, however, the economic make-up is working class, and such an increase would create a serious hardship for a large percentage of these families.

Through the years we have lived in Huber Ridge our water company has made several increases. Overall we have been pleased with the service and also appreciate improvements made in the quality of the water through the years. However, there have been several other previous rate increases, and in comparing with people of other communities I find that we are already paying a larger amount than most. Another increase—especially of this size—would be taking advantage of people from a position as a monopoly.

I consider this a justice issue, and appreciate your concern and response to it from that basis as well as others.

Thank you for the important work you are doing.

Sincerely,



Rev. Harold Steindam

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