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January 30, 2008

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Attn: Docketing Division 180 East Broad Street Columbus, OH 43215

Re: Case #07-1112-WS-AIR

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter is in regards to the proposed rate increase by Ohio American Water (OAW).

I'm not sure what rationales they are providing for this increase, but our water service with OAW has easily been the most expensive water service that I've ever had. When we first moved here (in 1993), the service seemed expensive and the quality of the water was not that good (all in comparison to our previous service within the city of Columbus). Later, they added the reverse osmosis to improve the quality, which also came with a further rate increase.

I don't know how OAW compares state-wide in terms of quality or price, but I suspect that they do not compare favorably to similar utilities serving similar markets already. To hear that they're proposing a further increase in their rates is truly surprising.

Nobody wants their rates to go up, of course. In the final analysis, though, it is already unfortunate how much of a burden the cost of water is on our small family of three. I hope it does not get worse.

And as a side note: the text above was cut and paste from my letter regarding their *last* proposed rate increase – which was just last year! Now another large rate increase is being proposed?? It's starting to seem like they'll just keep asking for more and more until they get it – perhaps assuming that the people opposing them will not be able to keep up the fight. I hope we don't let that happen.

Sincerely,

John \$avolaine

Cc: Gov. Strickland Riffe Center, 30<sup>th</sup> Floor 77 South High St

Columbus, OH 43215-6108