February 17, 2008
Ronald A. and Pamela J. Clegg
3614 Makassar Drive
Westerville, Ohio 43081-4027

## RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV

## 2008 FEB 20 PM 12: 4.5

 PUCKThe ILonorable Ted Strickland, Governor of Ohio Governor's Office, Life Center, $30^{\text {th }}$ Floor
77 South High Street
Columbus, OH 43215-6108

## Re: Ohio American Water Company rate increase PUCO Case\#: 07-1112-WS-AIR

Dear Governor Strickland:

This is to request that you please stop the PUCO from approving yet another rate increase requested by Ohio American Water. OAW obtained approval for a rate increase that was effective in March, 2007. Asking for a rate increase so soon seems excessive. Asking for $26 \%$ water and $36 \%$ sewer for a combined $32 \%$ overall rate increase is excessive, unjust, and gouging.

Our I Huber Ridge neighborhood has suffered because of the frequent and excessive rate increases. People move out and cite the water company as one of their main reasons for moving. Residents believe that fighting the water company by petitioning the PUCO is a losing battle. Many feel that OAW (the monopoly) always gets the approval of the government entity (PUCO) that is supposed to represent the consumer as well. When the PUCO does not consider the disparity in rates among companies and keeps nodding to the OAW's rate increases, who can win such a battle? The people who stay feel stuck and gouged by this company. OAW and their predecessor have historically charged nearly three times what surrounding companies (ie., Columbus and Westerville) charge for the same utilities and services. If any rate increase is approved, especially because it is on the heels of the 2007 rate increase, it will further undermine our neighborhood.

This rate increase request is unfair because rates are already excessive. It is unfair because many residents still have water quality issues. It is unfair because there is such a disparity in rates compared to Westerville and Columbus. It is unfair because we have no choice in our supplier. Will you please stop the PUCO from approving this rate increase, stop the gouging by OAW, end the monopoly, and stop the disparity in rates? Thank you, for your consideration.

Sincerely,

enc. Petitions from the Huber Ridge area
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accurate and comphem roprobution of a case that
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PETITION FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF HUBER RIDGE, BLENDON TOWNSHIP, WESTERVILLE, OHIO 43081
Prepared tor: PUCO - Case \#: 07-1112-WS-AIR Attention: Docketing Division
180 E. Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215
We, the undersigned, object so the proposed Ohis American Water Rate Increase (PUCO Case \#: 07-\} 112-WS-AlR)

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1 PHONE 1 SIGNATUKE
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Prepared tor: PUCO - Case \#: 07-1112-WS-AiR Attention: Docketing Division
180 E. Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215
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WESTERVILLE, OHIO 43081
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Attention: Docketing Division
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PHONE 1 SIGNATURE
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1 ADDRESS 1 PHONE 1 SIGNATURE



