

Please
Docket in
FILE
AEP
08-917 EL-550

PUCO
180 E. Broad St.
Columbus, Ohio 43215

August 14, 2008 ✓

RECEIVED

AUG 19 2008

INVESTIGATION AND AUDIT DIVISION
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

Re: AEP Rate Increase Request
Columbia Gas Delivery Charge Increase.

As a customer of both the above companies who lives on a fixed income (I am not 65) in a single income home, I can not afford their increases. Their requests in today's economy coupled with their rising profits are way out of line. They need to trim their budgets just as I have had to trim and trim mine every year!

Over the years (24 in this home), I have added insulation (attic + sidewalls), new windows, doors, efficient furnace and air conditioner, roof, power vents on roof and other efficient items. Last winter my thermostat was set @ 57° (all day) and AC @ 84° (all day) this summer (if used at all). These are uncomfortable settings. Likewise, I have way too many increases in Columbus Water & Sewer Services (which you give them), gasoline, food, medical costs, property taxes and it goes on and on. I do not have a computer at home, fancy TV's, sound systems or other hi-tech items.

(over)

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I've been laid off from my last part-time job most of the last 5 years and all of the last 2 years. There aren't any jobs available for me to supplement my retirement in this economy.

As the regulatory agency you need to be responsive to the consumers of Ohio and the reality of what the average person is facing.

Sincerely,

Paula S. Thimmes
1559 Ramblewood Ave.
Columbus, OH 43235