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Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services
Douglas E. Lumpkin, Director

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV

2008 SEP 11 AM 9:48

PUCO

September 9, 2008

Public Utilities Commission
180 E. Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
Reference: #08-723-AU-ORD

To Whom It May Concern:

Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services (FCDJFS) is excited about the opportunity that the proposed Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) language revisions present. Having an electronic means of acquiring utility disconnection information will aid FCDJFS in ensuring the possession of necessary resources to assure quality of life for Franklin County residents. The revisions contained in proposed OAC 4901:1-18-06(A)(3)(c) will prevent interruption of utility services for FCDJFS customers with an emergent need.

We believe the language changes provide a benefit to the utility companies, county departments of job and family services, as well as Ohioans. Many county departments of job and family services provide utility payment assistance. This new language promotes the county department of job and family services providing timely service to customers in need.


Below you will find our recommendation of how the language should read. Please note that this language does not technically differ from the current proposed language. The changes denoted below we believe provide a better alignment with the current OAC language.

Thank you for consideration to our request.

Sincerely,

Douglas E. Lumpkin
Director

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Proposed Language: OAC 4901:1-18-06(A)(3)(c)

In compliance with division (E) of section 4933.12 and division (D) of section 4933.121 of the Revised Code, if the company plans to disconnect the residential utility service of a customer for the nonpayment of his/her bill, and that customer resides in an Ohio county in which the county department of job and family services has provided the company with a written request for ongoing notification of residential service disconnection prior to the disconnection, then the company shall provide, on an on-going basis, the appropriate county department of job and family services with an electronic means for acquiring information on those customers whose service will be disconnected for nonpayment. This information will include at a minimum, the customer's first name, middle initial, last name, account number, service address, county of residence, account status, current balance, amount past due, total account balance, as well as the amount to be paid to prevent disconnection or to restore service. The information shall be made available to the county department of job and family services simultaneous with the generation of disconnection notices being distributed to customers. The county department of job and family services may use this information to assist customers in the payment of the delinquent utility bills in an effort to avoid disconnection of service.