September 10, 2008

Pamela J. Clegg 3614 Makassar Drive Westerville, OH 43081-4027 RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV

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PUCO

PUCO Case #: 07-1112-WS-AIR Attention: Docketing Division 180 E. Broad Street Columbus, OH 43215-3793

Dear Sirs/Madams:

Please deny the requested rate increases set forth in the stipulation and agreement dated September 4, 2008, for rate case 07-1112-WS-AIR by the PUCO "Staff," Ohio American Water Company, the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel, Dragoo Management Company, and other Parties. To say that the proposal "benefits ratepayers and the public interest by, among other things, addressing service quality and rate issues" is preposterous. The proposed increases are unjustified, unreasonable, and simply put, would gouge ratepayers even more.

Additionally, the stipulation does not adequately address some of the issues communicated at the PUCO public forum held August 20, 2008, at Faith Covenant Church, 3607 Dempsey Rd. One in particular on page 9, states that OAW will provide frequent communication with the customer via inserts and/or quarterly newsletters. There is no mention of including education and notification of summer/winter rates and months on the list. There was also no mention of discounts to qualifying seniors or low income families - no surprise.

Regarding the rates proposed, how is it that OAW asked for 26.22 percent water, 36.80 sewer, and somehow the "Staff," the OCC (our advocate?), and other Parties find that OAW "needs" 30.37 percent for water and 36.94 percent for sewer? How oppressive is that?

What we asked for was no increase or a much smaller increase, but instead, we now get to "make bricks without straw" if this stipulation that proposes a larger increase than the originally requested (large) increase gets your approval. Approving these increases, even the originally proposed increases will, in effect, undermine our community and is an injustice to the consumer. Is this a giant corporation trying to jump on the bandwagon of driving up prices for everyone?

Our family budget is about to be greatly affected in a negative way. There is no benefit in this rate increase for us. You are the regulators. This is not a "fair" price. Please deny the rate increases. 

Sincerely, *Pamela J. Clegg* Pamela J. Clegg

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