RECEIVED-DOCKETING TIV

2008 OCT 20 PM 12: 30

PUCO

October 8, 2008

PUCO Attn: Docketing Division 180 E. Broad Street Columbus, OH 43215

To Whom it May Concern:

This letter is in reference to the recent AEP proposal to increase its rates, case #08-0917-EL-SSO. I feel compelled to point out several issues that need addressed in this proposal.

First and foremost, AEP has, for many years, acknowledged that the power infrastructure is badly in need of repair and upgrades. This is no secret, one need only drive down the local streets to see leaning power poles, over-wired and fragile transformers, or sit it one's own home and experience periodic breaks in power such as what occurs in my neighborhood. The fact that they have chosen now to propose this rate hike to upgrade the systems, only after a once-in-25-years windstorm, is preposterous.

Second, I feel PUCO should examine the executive compensation structure at AEP, especially in the upper echelon. While I will not reveal how I know this, I am quite aware that enormous bonuses are handed out on a fairly regular basis to executives, and would suppose that this could more than pay for their dire need for upgrades. If we're going to start asking for money, let's start with AEP's own Board Room.

In this era of "passing the buck" as financial institutions have to the American taxpayers, I urge PUCO to look beyond the request AEP is making to the reasons behind why they have fallen so far behind in terms of infrastructure support, why they have taken this long and used an act of God to justify this rate hike, and why their executives continue to receive bonus compensation that in some cases exceeds the yearly salary of a majority of its customers.

This is a once-in-a-blue moon opportunity to call AEP to the table and I urge PUCO to reject the AEP rate hike based on the reasons outlined above.