

FILE

In Re: 08-917-EL-SSO

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the :
Application of Columbus :
Southern Power Company for :
Approval of its Electric :
Security Plan; an : Case No. 08-917-EL-SSO
Amendment to its Corporate :
Separation Plan; and the :
Sale or Transfer of :
Certain Generating Assets. :

In the Matter of the :
Application of Ohio Power :
Company for Approval of :
its Electric Security : Case No. 08-918-EL-SSO
Plan; and an Amendment to :
its Corporate Separation :
Plan. :

PUBLIC HEARING

before Ms. Greta See and Ms. Kimberly Bojko, Hearing
Examiners, at the Park of Roses Shelter House, 3901
North High Street, Columbus, Ohio, called at 6:00
p.m. on Monday, October 27, 2008.

11-17-08 Transcript docketed electronically

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PUCO

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October 27, 2008

PUCO

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

RE: AEP's ESP application

To PUCO:

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on American Electric Power's (AEP) Electric Security Plan (ESP). Electricity impacts every Ohioan in some form or another. As a rate payer of AEPs I use electricity to get my news, keep the lights on, and stay cool during the hot summer months. I try to do my part by reducing my electric foot print by using compact florescent light bulbs, purchasing only Energy Star appliances, unplugging appliances when not in use, and keep the lights off when I do not need them. My electric bill rarely breaks the \$20 mark because of these efforts. By keeping my bill low, I am able to spend more money in the local economy supporting local, independent businesses.

My concern with AEP's proposal is that it goes too fast too quickly and will hurt rate payers-no matter what steps they take to reduce their energy consumption. A 45% increase over three years is excessive. I don't know any business that can raise their prices by that much and survive-unless that business has a monopoly. The reason AEP needs to increase their rates according to PUCO's website is "AEP proposes investment in capital improvements for the company's energy delivery system, energy efficiency initiatives, economic development, green energy and job retention programs." Furthermore, AEP's plan would "recovery of costs for fuel used in generate electricity, electricity purchased wholesale, emission allowances and federally mandated carbon taxes."

I am troubled and puzzled by many parts of this plan. First, AEP wants to increase its energy efficiency. I applaud this goal. The more the utilities can reduce there carbon foot print is a good thing. Ohio's utilities have pumped hundreds of millions of tons of greenhouse gases into the air every year which heavily contribute to climate change. What I am puzzled about is energy efficiency usually means you save money either in the short, medium, or long run. Why does AEP need money to save money? Are they on hard economic times?

Second. AEP mentions a federally mandated carbon tax. This tax is not in place. How do they know what it is going to be? Are they supportive of a reasonable tax supported by environmentalists? Why cannot they use the money they save with being more energy efficient towards this tax? In addition, if they reduce their emissions, they could have allowances they could sell for profit to other utilities that went over their allowances.

Third. Green jobs and energy generation is a thing of the present and future. The old, dirty paradigm of burning coal is transitioning out. In order to get with the times, AEP has to invest in green jobs and energy generation.

Has AEP performed a study to see how this rate increase will impact low-income individuals and families? If not, why not and when can it be done? If so, what were the results? How will this increase affect small business? Has AEP done a study to find out? Again, if not, why not? If so, what was revealed? Is AEP green jobs going to focus on training low income individuals in retrofitting old buildings to be energy efficient?

I understand why there will be a bump up in how much I pay for electricity, but it seems AEP is using this opportunity to take advantage of its customers. Customers such as myself who have no other option but to get their electricity from AEP. So, I ask the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio to deny AEP's request for a 45% increase in what it charges over the next three years.

However, if the Commission approves this plan, it needs to be responsible. The world's leading scientists

say we need to cut our greenhouse gas emissions by 80% from 1990 levels by 2050. If this rate increase is approved, AEP must guarantee that it can cut its emissions by this level or more. If they can't they are just blowing smoke in our face and fouling the planet.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David R. Celebrezze". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

David R. Celebrezze
1459 West Lane Ave
Apt. A
Columbus, OH 43221
614-668-1530

Eugene Parkison

Chairman Schriber
Members Of the Commission

My name is Eugene Parkison and I am the Mayor of the Village Of Lexington. Lexington Is a small village just south of Mansfield or about 60 miles north along I 71. I have been Mayor for over 25 years so I believe I can speak from some experience.

In years past we have felt like we were at the end of the AEP lines and received little attention to our problems. Sure they would respond to power outages but that would be the extent.

The village and I started on a program to work on economic development drawing some new businesses and ask AEP to be involved. We had been experiencing power outages that seemed like once a week or more and some were extensive. We held several local meetings, which they attended, we wrote several letters including one to the PUCO.

Conclusion was without good clean power our hopes and theirs for development were slim and none. We were destined to be this little village south of Mansfield. Fortunately, that is not our destiny. Several businesses decided to locate here and one large business expanded.

Through cooperation AEP has assisted us with economic grants and upgrade adding an additional substation which greatly reduced any power outages and they have established a strong "good neighbor" policy with our business and residents.

We will always have the tornadoes, ice storms and wind storms similar to what we experienced recently. But through our association with AEP they will get to us promptly serve our residents and most of all, our businesses, expeditiously, professionally and timely.

I am convinced this partnership which includes progressive upkeep continual upgrades to plant and equipment and right of way, forces them to come before you to ask for this rate increase. This is where my experience kicks in You can not continue to provide increase services without rates to support them. We all know what is happening to our cost of operations. Please consider their role in the DEVELOPMENT of Ohio as we consider them in the Development of Lexington.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sustainable Energy Solutions

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PUCO Hearing
AEP Case Number 08-0917-EL-SSO
Monday, October 27, 2008
Whetstone Park of Roses Shelter House
3901 N. High Street
Columbus, OH 43214

Verbal Testimony

Good evening. My name is Russ Meeker. My partner Mary Cunnyngnam and I are both residents of the Columbus area AEP and business owners. Our company, Renewable Concepts & Design, promotes renewable energy and energy efficiency. We are here this evening to address two aspects of the current AEP rate case: the distribution and use of AEP's \$75 million shareholder set-aside for energy efficiency and renewable energy, and stream-lined customer access to net-metering.

In 1934, AEP President George Tidd said, "We are citizens of each community we serve and take an active part in its affairs. Like any other citizen, we want our neighbors to think well of us. Besides, it makes good business sense. We prosper only as the community prospers; so we help it thrive in every way we can."

We would like to acknowledge and thank American Electric Power of Ohio for their continued commitment to the community and environment as demonstrated by:

- 2000 Outstanding Environmental Education Program Award from the Environmental Education Council of Ohio
- 2003, 2004, 2005 Advocacy Excellence Award from the Edison Electric Institute
- 2005 EPA Climate Protection Award
- 2006 community service award from the American Council of the Blind of Ohio
- And, most recently, their support of the 2008 Hilltop Green Summit this month.

These are just a few examples of the recognitions that AEP has received over the years from various organizations.

AEP also has shown strong support of energy awareness in education, demonstrated by the development and implementation of *Learning from Light!* and *Learning from Wind!* environmental education programs. Their support is also shown by its support of "Watts on Schools" and "Ohio Schools Going Solar." Through these programs AEP partners with learning institutions to install 1 kW solar photovoltaic systems.

We at Renewable Concepts & Design commend you for your community, environmental and educational efforts. Again, as Tidd said, "Besides, it makes good business sense. We (AEP) prosper only as the community prospers; so we help it thrive in every way we (AEP) can."

We request that American Electric Power continue its leadership role in advancing renewable energy sources to help meet our energy needs, both within their service areas and in the whole state of Ohio. This leadership would mean good green jobs and economic growth.

In response to Ohio House Bill 221, AEP is seeking to purchase up to 300 megawatts of renewable energy by 2010 and would also provide \$75 million in shareholder funds over three years to support programs for low-income customers, economic development, energy efficiency, and the installation of renewable energy systems.

Renewable Concepts & Design proposes that AEP commits to providing a portion of this set-aside to install renewable energy systems. **At this point the primary barrier to the installation of renewable energy systems is the up-front cost.** We suggest AEP allocate a portion of these \$75 million for customer assistance in the amount of 25% of their down payment cost for a lease-to-own, rent-to-own or rental system. This investment would provide a tremendous boost to customers and the implementation of renewable energy. In addition, this initiative would increase AEP's renewable energy contribution towards Ohio's Advanced Energy Standard.

In keeping with the spirit of Ohio Senate Bill 3, Renewable Concepts & Design is seeking AEP's assistance to eliminate the legal and regulatory barriers to advancing renewable energy. On the AEP website (aep.org), under *Corporate Citizenship*, the following statement is made: "Small to mid-size renewable energy sources are relatively easy to tie into a customer's facility or the distribution system."

We call on AEP to provide stream-lined opportunities for equal access to the promise of the emerging green economy as Ohio reinvents itself. Let's take advantage of and utilize Ohio's strengths in manufacturing, innovation, and research facilities to advance renewable energy for good green jobs and economic growth throughout Ohio – in both urban and rural markets.

Thank you for the opportunity to add this testimony tonight regarding American Electric Power's electric security plan.

Sincerely,

Russ Meeker, Principal
Mary Cunnyngnam, Principal
Renewable Concepts & Design, LLC
Your Energy Star Partner
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Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

Memorandum

TO: Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

FROM: Erin Miller, Director of the Center for Energy & Environment at the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

DATE: October 27, 2008

SUBJECT: Testimony to the PUCO about AEP's Electric Security Plan

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The Mid Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) and the Center for Energy & Environment at MORPC support the rules as presented for implementation of Senate Bill 221 Advanced Energy & Energy Efficiency Provisions. These provisions directly support a major goal of MORPC's Public Policy Agenda, shaped by members of the Central Ohio Regional Policy Roundtable, which is a group of diverse interests and representation from the 12 county region. The adopted goal is to promote energy efficiency and conservation, as well as renewable and alternative energy. The implementation of energy efficiency measures are an important strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to achieve air quality attainment in central Ohio.

AEP's proposal includes energy efficiency measures and programs that will help consumers lower our bills in the long run. They plan to:

- Launch a highly visible energy efficiency program including deployment of advanced technologies such as smart meters to help Ohio families save money.
- Establish Energy Efficiency Collaborative (EEC) involving diverse stakeholders to assist AEP Ohio in the speedy development and deployment of efficiency programs.

We look forward to supporting the efforts of all involved and assisting AEP in the development of their Energy Efficiency – Demand Side Management (DSM) program. Recently, we served on the DSM Stakeholder Group for Columbia Gas of Ohio. We have worked with Columbia Gas of Ohio to implement their Warm Choice program for over 20 years, providing a wide range of energy efficiency services to qualifying clientele throughout Franklin County. Our collaboration with other agencies, local governments, private sector, and non-profits, has ensured the best use of the resources available.

In the interest of complete coverage of the target population, and eliminating redundant or overlapping actions, MORPC strongly believes it is imperative that all electric & gas utilities collaborate and be a partner in DSM programs. We stand ready to assist with this process.

Lastly, as a nonprofit and a government entity, MORPC understands the ramifications of AEP's proposed rate increase. However, a note worth addressing is that it's realistic and prudent for our energy rates to begin to increase. The worldwide demand for increased energy affects us even here in Ohio. It's a tough pill to swallow given these hard economic times, but I think we need to acknowledge that the era of cheap energy is likely over. But if we tie energy efficiency to these rate changes, it will be beneficial to us all in the long run.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment this evening.

Milking the money cow

- Ohio accounts for 32% of AEP's gross revenues
- Ohio has the largest population density in their service network
- AEP's lowest projected capital cost for the next three years will be in Ohio
- Ohio is the largest unregulated portion of their corporate network
- Who can say that the rate increase will not subsidize lower rates in neighboring states?
- Where will their new found wealth go? Not in Ohio.
- The CEO makes 16 times more in one year than I will in my lifetime

Create jobs in the infrastructure

- Three major, widespread blackouts in the past five years
 1. Niagara Falls in the Summer of 2003
 2. Ice storm in 2004
 3. Wind storm in Autumn 2008
- Burying power lines can create jobs, and strengthen the infrastructure
- Instead of 75 million (in a undefined timeline) for public assistance, what about jobs being created
- AEP has been charitable in the past , but Ohioans do not want to become charity cases

Deregulation that is not working

- Ohioans have no choice under the 2000 AEP tariffs , there is no competition of electric suppliers
- Rates have increased more than 100% since the year 2000,yet industry and demand has decreased in Ohio
- It will difficult to keep and attract industry in Ohio , compared to our regulated neighboring states with cheaper rates, i.e. new Honda plant in Indiana

Small business (my story)

- If the rate increases take effect , my electric costs would equal my rent in the winter months, throwing a retail business plan out of budget
- Losing power for days equals losing business, if AEP could offer a secured infrastructure , this point would be moot
- We pay a higher rate because of our peak demand charge
- There is no assistance for small business to pay their utility bills

In conclusion, since Ohio has currently the highest rates in the AEP network ,with the lowest projected capital cost . The current proposal will be another poison pill for the Ohio economy , since the 2000 AEP tariffs .

Division	3yr End Expense forc	Rate per kwh	Density per sq mile	Retail dollar percentage
SouthCen	-42%	0.085	234	16%
Ohio Power	-46%	0.0754	138	16%
	-44%	0.0802	186	32%
	(current 18% more than this region)			
		0.118		
	(on the table 45% more over 3 yr)			
Appalachia	-15%	0.0589	110	18%
Kentucky	42%	0.0694	69	4%
Indiana/Michigar	46%	0.0696	205	12%
	24%	0.0659	128	34%
	(18% less than Ohio)			
Oklahoma	54%	0.0736	47	14%
SouthWest	-5%	0.0664	79	11%
TexasTCC	-5%		57	5%
TexasNorth	20%		8	1%
	5.50%	0.07	47.75	31%
	(13% less than Ohio)			

Source: AEP Fall 2007 Report

**Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) Presentation
On behalf of American Electric Power**

Good afternoon. My name is Jeff Wolf, President of the Ohio Foundation of Independent Colleges, and I am here to recognize the corporate citizenship of American Electric Power.

The Ohio Foundation of Independent Colleges or OFIC is a non-profit organization representing 34 of Ohio's independent liberal arts colleges and universities. In Franklin County, those member colleges with main campuses include Capital University, Franklin University, Ohio Dominican University, and Otterbein College.

OFIC is one of the largest providers of need-based scholarships for Ohioans attending our member institutions thanks to the generosity of companies such as AEP. For the past 56 years, AEP has been generously supporting our mission to assist Ohio citizens in attaining a college education. Few issues are more critical than the education of our youth. Out of every 10 students who start high school in Ohio, fewer than 3 will earn a post-secondary degree within 10 years.

In addition to its financial support, AEP has also provided our organization with strong volunteer leadership. This includes the involvement of AEP executives on our board of trustees as well as the involvement of AEP employees in our annual campaign.

However, AEP's corporate citizenship goes well beyond our organization. AEP and its employees have been major supporters of United Way, Operation Feed, and the Salvation Army in addition to numerous other non-profit organizations focused on issues such as the environment, the arts, housing, safety, and basic health and human service needs.

AEP's corporate citizenship is being publicly recognized by the Association of Fundraising Professionals in November as part of National Philanthropy Day. At this event, AEP will receive the Outstanding Large Corporation award for its "commitment, leadership, and philanthropy to the central Ohio community and State of Ohio."

In closing, central Ohio and the state of Ohio are indeed fortunate to have a corporate citizen as generous and community-minded as AEP.

Thank you.

James Sisto
Value Recovery Partners
Asset Manager for the Central Ohio Community Improvement Corporation
Voice: 614.324.5959 Fax: 614.324.5950
email: jsisto@valueredcovery.com www.valueredcovery.com

AEP Ohio Awards \$500,000 grant for Central Park of Gahanna project

Columbus, Ohio - The Central Ohio Community Improvement Corp (COCIC) received a \$500,000 RSP grant from AEP Ohio to help upgrade utilities infrastructure at the Central Park of Gahanna plus finalize some of the work related to the methane recovery system at the former Bedford II Landfill. The check was formally awarded January 09, 2008 at the Gahanna City Hall. The grant is part of AEP Ohio's Rate Stabilization Plan and provides financial assistance to new and existing industries for expansion projects that create new jobs, retain existing jobs and generate new investment in the AEP Ohio service territory.

The AEP Ohio Economic Development RSP grant helped to cover the costs associated with electric infrastructure on the site and methane-gas extraction system. These grant dollars were essential for the redevelopment of the property which is to include a recreational area and business park. The Bedford Landfill was a public eye sore as well as a health and environmental hazard, consequently the majority of property adjacent to this abandoned landfill never developed. The COCIC and VRG II, with the help of this AEP Ohio RSP funding, will create a 192-acre business park that will comfortably host the business park in an upscale campus setting. When fully built out, the business park will eventually employ more than 4,000 employees.

The recreational area will include a golf facility that will be incorporated into the landfill "cap" that is required as part of the OEPA certified closure plan. The facility will be the initial tenant for the development, which will enhance, the business park development that will then occur around the course.

The Central Ohio Community Improvement Corp (COCIC) is a statutory quasi-public non-profit corporation established under section 1724 of the Ohio Revised Code. The COCIC was formed in 2006 under the guidance of Richard Cordray, then Franklin County's Treasurer, with the support of the Franklin County Commissioners. The COCIC operates through its Board consisting primarily of public officials with appointments by the Franklin County Commissioners, the Columbus Mayor, the Columbus City Council, the Township Trustees Association and the Franklin County Treasurer. Value Recovery Partners (VRP), a subsidiary of Value Recovery Group has been hired by the COCIC as its asset manager.

Value Recover Partners (VRP) is a multidisciplinary asset management company specializing in the pre-development stages of restoring value to distressed real estate. The Company tackles the complex issues of brownfield remediation management, economic development and government relations and real estate portfolio management.

My thanks to the P U C^O_Λ for the opportunity to respond to the AEP's rate increase request.

Others have spoken correctly tonight and at last week's meeting about the hardships this increase would cause.

What I would like to introduce^{is} information that ^{expands on the} ~~differs from anything else presented~~
~~commodity cost~~ ^{CHANGES A COUPLE OF OTHERS FOLKS}
~~thus far tonight, and, based on the Dispatch's story about last week's meeting, from~~
^{HAVE MENTIONED TONIGHT}
~~anything presented then.~~

After the commission examines this information, I believe it will rightly conclude that it must turn down AEP's request.

I think it is fair to say that AEP's primary justification for the request^{WAS} ~~is~~ their expectation that they face greatly increased costs for the fuel used in their power plants. My concluding this is based on what AEP stated in their formal filing document, the letter their Ohio president submitted with that filing and their news release announcing the filing.

For example, quoting from Mr. Hamrock's letter, he stated "fuel and other commodity prices have more than doubled in very recent time."

AEP filed its request in July. It is perhaps ironic that this was the very same time that the commodity price bubble burst.

I expect everyone here knows the price of a barrel of crude oil has collapsed. From a high of \$147, it has plunged nearly 60% to today's \$63. That has translated to a welcome dramatic decline in the cost we pay to fuel our motor vehicles.

What is pertinent to the reason we are here tonight is that the prices for the fuels AEP uses have also collapsed.

Based on near-month futures contracts on the New York Mercantile Exchange, in just three months the price of Central Appalachian Coal has fallen nearly 45%, from a tad above \$141 per ton to slightly above \$80 as of Friday.

The price of natural gas has declined at an even greater rate, by more than 50%, from above \$13 per million BTU's to less than \$6.25, also on Friday.

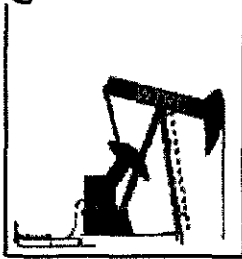
Mr. Hamrock's statement concerning the doubling of fuel prices was valid when he made it in July. Now, however, prices have fallen back to approximately where they were before that doubling.

I think this negates AEP's primary reason for the rate increase. Given that, as I said earlier, I believe the commission will rightly conclude that it must turn down AEP's request.

I have copies of graphs showing the fuel futures prices that I cited, and will be happy to give them to you if you would like to have them.

Thank you again for this opportunity.

Pressler & Attachment 1



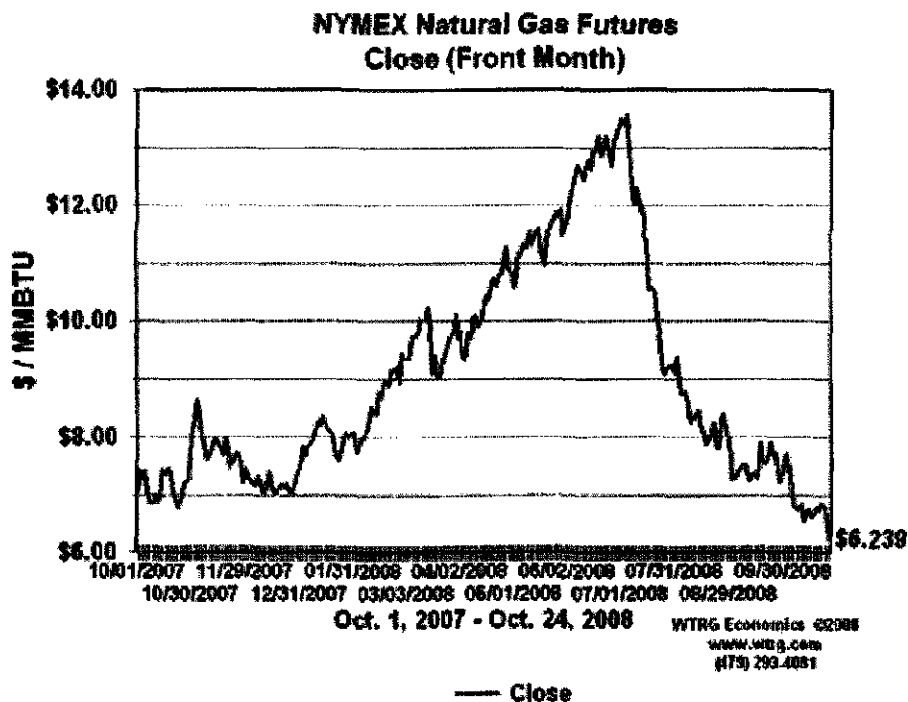
Natural Gas Futures Prices - NYMEX

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 Friday, October 24, 2008: NYMEX Natural Gas Futures for November delivery closed down \$0.180 at \$6.239 per MMBtu.

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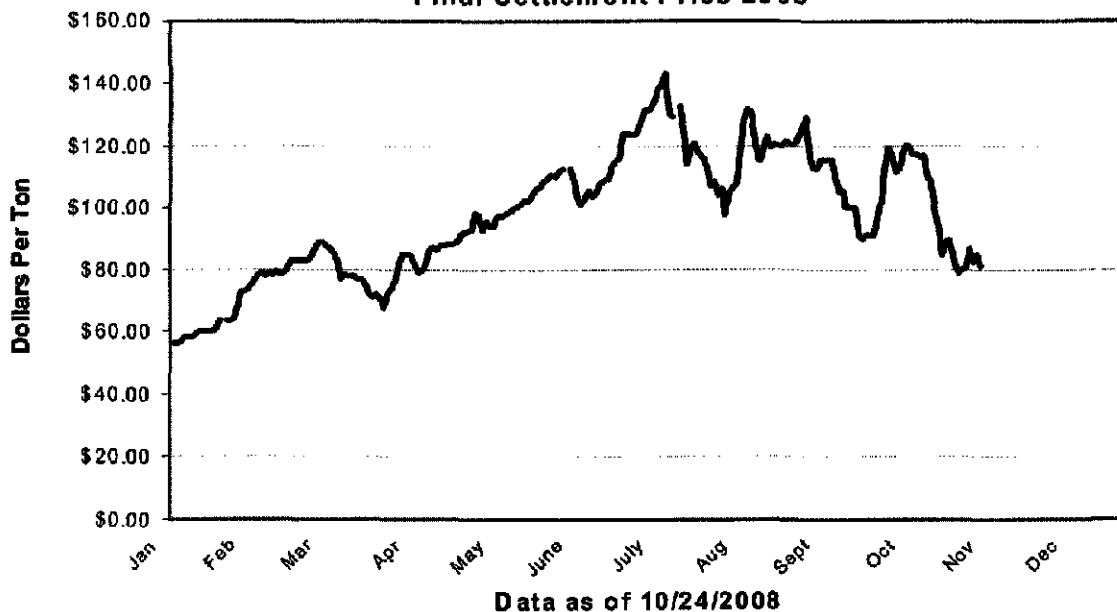


Click on graph for larger image.

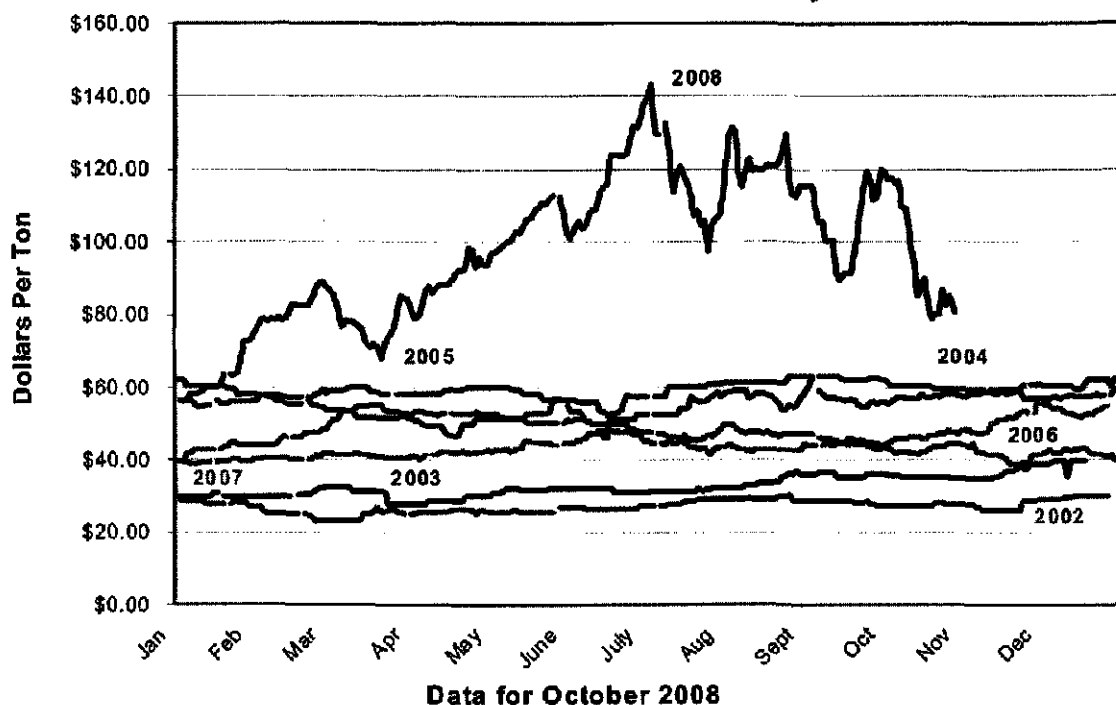
Central Appalachian Coal Futures



**NYMEX Central Appalachian Coal Futures Near-Month Contract
 Final Settlement Price 2008**



**NYMEX Central Appalachian Coal Futures Near-Month Contract
 Final Settlement Price History**



Source: New York Mercantile Exchange

Contact: Paulette Young Email: paulette.young@eia.doe.gov Phone: 202-586-1719

Commissioners:

This is in reference to the recent AEP filing, case #08-0917-EL-SSO.

PUCO should explicitly include the environmental costs of carbon-based generation when evaluating the cost of compliance with the renewable energy requirements of SB 221. This is the only way to truly determine the cost of compliance. If the environmental costs are not included in compliance cost evaluations, the public is essentially subsidizing carbon-based generation (much to the detriment of our environment and health, as well as to the detriment of renewable energy development).

Until a better mechanism is devised, the environmental costs of carbon-based generation can best be calculated using a market-based approach: via pricing of carbon credits.

If PUCO does not adopt such an approach, they will effectively gut the renewable energy provisions of SB 221 -- the electric utilities will be able to claim that the costs of complying with the renewable energy requirements exceeds the (effectively subsidized) costs of traditional carbon-based generation.

Disclosure: I am a shareholder of AEP; I am an AEP customer and ratepayer; I own minor interest (via mutual funds, exchange-traded funds, and other vehicles) in companies developing renewable energy in Ohio.

Jeffri H Frontz
310 Walhalla Rd
Columbus, OH 43202
+1 614 262 0213

PUCO Local Public Hearing
American Electric Power Electric Security Plan
Case NO. 08-917-EL-SSO

My name is Jerome Leard. I live at 2287 Indiana Ave. Columbus Ohio.

I would like the AEP.OHIO Elec. Sec. Plan to include Financial Incentives for Green Energy Production in the form of Renewable Energy Credits. The Renewable Energy Credits would be produced by Generating Electricity from Solar, Wind or Biomass Hardware on the AEP.OHIO Customers' Property.

AEP.OHIO could Purchase the Renewable Energy Credits or Aggregate and Sell the accumulated Renewable Energy Credits Produced by AEP.OHIO Customers.

Thank you,
Jerome Leard

AEP is proposing 15% increase to be absorbed by their 1.5 million Ohio customers, leading to an overall increase of 45%, resulting in nearly \$100 million dollars in 3 years.

According to AEP, this additional money is to finance the rising costs of coal and the requirements of a new state energy law signed by Gov. Strickland.

Yet, even the Governor has stated, "although he has not determined it's validity, it does not meet the stable and predictable standard rate increases he had envisioned and it does not seem like an appropriate or acceptable course of action." (Cbus Dispatch)

AEP's Electric Security Plan has many great initiatives above and beyond the state requirements. There are lots of great ideas outlined in the plan, however, these ideas come at a cost higher than Ohioans can afford at this time.

Ohioans have one of the highest foreclosure rates in the nation; the bankruptcy rate is 10th highest in US, and September's unemployment rate was 7.2%.

We simply cannot afford this excessive increase in this relatively short amount of time.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. A. Pene". The signature is stylized with a large, looped initial "J" and a cursive "Pene".

As I gathered information for this meeting, I visited the AEP website and noticed it's a great place to work. As an employee of AEP, workers are entitled to work/life programs such as:

- Subsidized health club memberships
- Pet insurance
- Holiday parties, sporting events, performances, picnics and more
- Service awards such as jewelry, artwork and electronics
- And many more

According to Business First, AEP's CEO, Michael Morris made 19.7 million dollars in total compensation for 2007, making him the highest paid executive with a public company in central Ohio.

USA Today also reported Mr. Morris as one of the "heaviest users" of the company plane perks for family and weekend travel, getting nearly \$300,000 worth of travel subsidized by shareholders.

And I think it's important to note the day AEP filed this plan, they also reported 2nd quarter earnings were up 56% to \$281 million, compared with \$180 million for the second-quarter 2007.

Perhaps there are some benefits within the company that can be temporarily removed to provide additional funding for the proposed plan's initiatives. And it appears they are still managing to increase revenue despite this economy, so there may be funds currently available within to support their plan.

Ohio families are cutting back, as nearly the cost of everything has gone up. Inflation is here, and the markets show no end in sight. I understand a rate increase is necessary, as both Duke Energy and First Energy also filed applications with the PUCO. However, their proposed rate increases are significantly lower than AEP's proposal. I ask the PUCO to deny the current electric security plan proposed by AEP. And I ask AEP executives to prioritize the initiatives and revise the plan to correlate with the times we are in.

If the 45% rate is passed, it will affect consumers at home as well as Ohio tax payers... schools, hospitals, grocery stores, municipalities and more all need to keep the lights on... they will have no choice but to increase costs and taxes to absorb this excessive amount.