

FILE

Hunter, Donielle

From: ContactThePUCO@puc.state.oh.us
Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2010 9:12 AM
To: Docketing
Subject: 10-0176-EL-ATA

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
Investigation and Audit Division

Memorandum

Date: 3/10/2010

Re: Thomas Brill
11100 Carriage Hill Dr
Chagrin Falls, OH 44023

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV
MAR 10 PM 3:55
PUCO

Docketing Case No.:

NOTES:

I took possession of this all electric house as a new purchase a month ago. NO one is living there so only heat is being used at a low temperature. No showers, almost no lights, etc... I get the first bill from the Illuminating Company (First Energy) and it's \$462.16 and it's an actual reading for 3,456 KWH used. This is almost 70% of my mortgage payment. I can barely breathe as I type this as I am so upset. I can't afford this. I need to have the full discount restored to this property to afford it. Help me please. The current house I am transitioning from is the same square footage and uses gas for heating. Both the electricity and gas only equaled a little over \$200 and that includes showers everyday, using hot water, heat, computer usage, etc... We were told that the all electrical house would be cost effective given the discount for those who choose to go all electric. I think a few percentage points a year increase in rates make sense, but not this from First Energy. I can't pay this bill. A budget plan won't help because the rates are just way too high for an all electric house. I need relief please.

I spoke with John at your office today March 4, 2010 at 8:20 a.m. He has informed me that the rate relief the PUCO has asked First Energy to restore only applies to grandfathered rates so if you bought your house after Jan 1, 2007 then you are out of luck and must pay the existing rates. The rates are clearly not reasonable and people can't afford it and is why this process has taken place as the Governor seems to understand and has helped facilitate this process. Regardless if you bought your house in 1940, 1990, 2006, 2007, or 2010, the existing rates for all electric customers are not affordable. I don't think an arbitrary date of January 1, 2007 makes sense because regardless of that date, the Governor recognizes the existing rates are not acceptable without regard to when you bought your house. On February 28, 2010 I sent a complaint to the PUCO regarding an electric bill for \$462.16 (for 28 days) for an all electric house I bought in January 2010. We are not living there. There are no lights on; refrigerator is off, no showers, etc. The house was built in 1990 and is pretty efficient. So that leaves the water heater and heating the house which was at 59 degrees for the full 28 days that we were billed. I have since turned it down to 54 degrees. I don't have any idea how much more my bill go up once we start living there (taking showers, using the oven, the refrigerator, etc). What I do know is that I expect it will be much higher and probably more than what I am paying each month for my mortgage given what I am charged right now. I also can't keep my temperature at 54 degrees with a young child in the house. I am requesting that the grandfathered rates for those who bought a house before Jan 1, 2007 apply to customers

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from then until at least the March 3, 2010, the PUCO ruling date. Unacceptable rates that people can't pay are just that, unaffordable, and we need relief. I don't know how we can pay these bills. Payment plans won't help if the rates are just too high, we'll never keep our heads above water. Please respond promptly so I can determine the next steps of communication and with whom that will be with.

Please docket the attached in the case number above.