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The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

August 12, 2011

RE: Duke Energy Proposed Plan on Distribution Charge Change

Dear Commission Members,

Duke Energy has proposed a plan whereby they shift some of the distribution charges from the generation charges (variable) to a base monthly charge. This is similar to the method being used by Duke for the billing of gas charges.

I am opposed to this for two main reasons:

1. It is detrimental to customers who wish to conserve energy. Conserving energy is Duke's stated goal.
2. It is detrimental to lower income customers who tend to have smaller homes or apartments.

Below is a chart of examples:

Customer #1 uses 100 units or $\$100 + \$30 \text{ base} = \$130$ or $\$1.30$ per unit

Customer #2 uses 150 units or $\$150 + \$30 \text{ base} = \$180$ or $\$1.20$ per unit

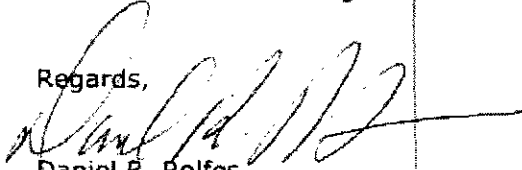
Customer #3 uses 50 units or $\$50 + \$30 \text{ base} = \$80$ or $\$1.60$ per unit

As you can see, customer #3 (the person who conserves energy or the lower income customer) pays 33% more per unit ($\$1.60 \div \$1.20 = 1.33$ or 33% more)

This is not intended to make a comment on whether or not a distribution hike is justified or not, only a comment on how they are charged, being variable or fixed.

We, as a society should try to keep conservation and affordability to lower income customers as the main goal.

Regards,


Daniel R. Rolfes
President
Holiday Homes, Inc.

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