From: <u>ContactThePUCO@puc.state.oh.us</u>

To: Puco Docketing
Subject: Docketing

Date: Wednesday, September 07, 2016 11:20:07 AM

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio Investigation and Audit Division

Memorandum

Date: 9/7/2016

Re: Matt Doyle 4388 E Island Pines Port Clinton, OH 43452

Docketing Case No.:

14-1297-EL-SSO

Notes:

COMMENT DESCRIPTION:

PUCO, I have been following the First Energy rate cases since they were first discussed in the summer of 2014. It has now been 2 years. I wonder how many times does First Energy have to file rate cases before they get what they want. I have a financial incentive to see First Energy stay solvent because I earned a pension from them for the 10 years that I worked as an operator of the Davis Besse Nuclear Power Plant. Despite this financial incentive, I do not want to see First Energy receive any additional money from the rate payers of Ohio. First Energy advocated for the changes to a deregulated system and they profited from it for many years. They argued that it would save money for Ohio and allow for the market forces to dictate power prices. It took a while but they were right in the end to their financial detriment. They now want to get out of this deregulation model because they are losing money. Many years ago around 2008 - 2009, the prices of natural gas plummeted. First Energy should have been aware of this. Instead of adapting to the evolving markets, they doubled down on the bad investment of coal by buying Allegheny Energy, a company heavily invested in coal, in 2011. First Energy did not have the money to make this purchase. They instead went to the credit markets and borrowed large sums of money to pay for this merger. I do not think any rate payer subsidies should be allowed to go to First Energy. There are many court cases that have backed this belief. FERC Order 745 was upheld by the United States Supreme Court. The court also ruled in the Hughes vs. Talen Energy case that FERC has the regulatory authority to regulate interstate electric markets. State regulatory bodies like PUCO do not have the authority to approve power purchase agreements because Ohio participates in the Federal electric markets. It is not right that my family will be charged extra money for my electric service and funneled to a private utility. This is not the free market system that Ohio decided to move towards many years ago. These subsidies are expected to cost the average family an additional \$29 to \$252 a year. I would rather see First Energy adapt or go bankrupt. The

financial consequences of their bad decisions should be paid for by the shareholders of the company and not the innocent public. -Matt Doyle

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in

Case No(s). 14-1297-EL-SSO

Summary: Public Comment in opposition filed on behalf of concerned consumer, Matt Doyle electronically filed by Ms. Donielle M Hunter on behalf of PUCO Staff