

FILE

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Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

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PUCO

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To whom it may concern,

I am referencing FirstEnergy and PUCO Case 23-301.

As a senior citizen in Fulton County, Ohio, I DO NOT SUPPORT FirstEnergy's newest proposal to increase my electric bill beginning June 2024.

Now is not the time for another rate hike! Ohioans are already facing financial difficulties with higher energy prices and inflation.

As a senior citizen, I have limited income. I want my voice to be heard. I do not support FirstEnergy's newest proposal to increase my electric bill.

Signed

Carol Harmon

CAROL HARMON

My address:

313 E. ELM ST., WAUSEON, OH 43567

FirstEnergy fee gouge

FirstEnergy wants \$1.4 billion more from their customers to strengthen the electric grid against the effects of climate change. They shouldn't get a dime until the multimillionaire executives who corrupted Ohio government are stripped of some of their riches.

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio and Gov. Mike DeWine and Lt. Gov. Jon Husted need to finally put citizens before their political patron and impose stringent conditions on any FirstEnergy rate hike.

To help them see the light Greater Toledoans should turn out in force Thursday at 6 p.m. in the Lucas County Commissioners Chamber at One Government Center to tie the shameful bribery scandal orchestrated by FirstEnergy to the infrastructure rate request.

FirstEnergy paid a \$230 million fine and admitted bribing former Ohio House Speaker Larry Householder and former PUCO Chairman Sam Randazzo to pass and protect a \$1.3 billion bailout.

Mr. Randazzo denies any wrongdoing and has not been charged. But FirstEnergy's deferred prosecution agreement with the Justice Department stipulates that a \$4.3 million consulting payment to Mr. Randazzo was a bribe to assist with the bailout.

Moreover the FirstEnergy plea deal revealed \$22 million in payments from the utility to Mr. Randazzo.

Incredibly, both Mr. DeWine and Mr. Husted were aware of the link between FirstEnergy and Mr. Ran-

dazzo, made him PUCO Chairman anyway, and worked to keep the Republican Senate in support of his confirmation when the clear conflict became widely known to insiders.

FirstEnergy has identified former CEO Charles Jones and former Vice President Michael Dowling as the architects of the bribery scheme in a federal case brought by investors damaged by the decline in the company's stock because of the scandal.

Mr. Jones and Mr. Dowling also deny wrongdoing and have not been charged. Both men were fired, but the FirstEnergy Board of Directors has not sought to claw back any of the millions paid during the execution of the House Bill 6 conspiracy.

It would be a wonderful example of participatory democracy for Greater Toledo electric consumers to attend the PUCO public hearing Thursday to say FirstEnergy should get nothing extra from citizens until and unless it goes after executive pay and bonuses tied to the biggest scandal in Ohio history.

Perhaps northwest Ohioans can awaken the DeWine Administration to the ethical collapse of state government and get the governor and lieutenant governor to speak against a FirstEnergy fee gouge when executives who corrupted the capitol have been untouched financially.

No rate hike for any reason until we see some energy first devoted to recovery of ill-gotten millions from the bailout conspiracy.