February 26, 2010

Public Service Commission of South Carolina
Att: Docketing Dept.
P.O. Drawer 11649
Columbia, SC 29211

Docket No. 2009-489-E

Dear Office of Regulatory Staff:

During this economic recession and coldest winter in recent history, your customers cannot possibly understand any need to raise rates.

- SCE&G was approved for a 2.5 percent rate increase annually for the next decade, following a 4.4 percent rate hike in 2008.

- New rate hike will boost residential power bills for the average SCE&G customer by about $140 a year by July 2011.

- For Duke Power customers, the cost of 1,000 kilowatt hours is about $93, following its recent rate increase. For SCE&G, the same level of power costs $118. The rate boost, if granted, would put it at $130.

- SCE&G has higher rates than other investor-owned utilities, as well as publicly owned Santee-Cooper.

Based on the above facts, you do not warrant consideration for rate hikes. Please show some consideration for your financially strapped customer base and do better with what you already have.

From 36 year customers,

Mitchell & Ida Cribb

Blythewood, SC 29016

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