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November 26, 2009

COPY

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

Posted: lod

Dept: S.A./ORS

Date: 12/2/09

Time: 2:35

2009-226-E

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to express concern and opposition to the Duke Energy request for an almost ten percent rate increase to residential customers.

I am extremely disappointed, that in consideration of the current difficult economic times on all families that Duke Energy would even think about a rate increase. Unemployment is hovering over nine percent nationwide, people are struggling to keep their homes and pay their bills. A lot of people fortunate enough to have jobs are not getting pay increases, instead, some are facing furloughs days to keep their jobs.

I understand that Duke Energy has to have proper balance between manufacturing, commercial and business rates. But they do not have to make it up all at one time. **I would encourage the members of the Public Service Commission to deny any rate increase request at this time.**

If the Commission thinks an increase is warranted...I implore you to moderate the increase to a maximum of a two percent increase.

We appreciate the difficult job the Public Service Commission has to achieve an equitable stance between the utility providers in the state and the public they represent. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

William W. Stewart
120 Howard Drive
Simpsonville, South Carolina 29681
(864) 967-2096

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