May 20, 2010

Sandra Burley
324 Spring Hill Lane
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464

Public Service Commission
101 Executive Center Dr.
Suite 100
Columbia, SC 29210

Re: Docket 2009-489-E - Application of South Carolina Electric & Gas Company for Increases and Adjustments in Electric Rate Schedules and Tariffs

To the Members of the Public Service Commission:

I spoke at the public hearing on the above docket at the April 27 hearing in Charleston. At that time, I mentioned that I had a petition I wished to submit to the committee, bearing signatures of SCE&G customers who opposed the rate hike. I was told I could continue to collect signatures and present it to the commission later, as long as it reached the commission prior to its final hearing date. The petition is presented in two formats; signatures collected via the petition presented on the Internet and via signatures presented in ‘hard copy.’ Due to technical difficulties beyond my control there are a few (very few) duplicated signatures on the electronic version, but I believe at least 1200 signatures have been collected. I will be e-mailing these materials as well as sending everything by hard copy.

Although the rate hike has been reduced since SCE&G made its original request, the signers of this petition all request that no rate hike be given to SCE&G, in light of the public protest, current economic conditions, and SCE&G’s failure to provide a need for the increase beyond and increase in dividends for its stockholders.

Sincerely,

Sandra Burley

Cc: Shannon Bowyer Hudson
Office of Regulatory Staff
1401 Main Street, Suite 900
Columbia, SC 29201
w/o Enclosures
We, the undersigned, ask the South Carolina Regulatory Commission to **DENY** SCE&G's rate hike of nearly 10%. It is not sufficient that the hike be reduced - it must be denied entirely. The signers of this petition protest this rate hike and request that it be denied.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lila Wells</td>
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<td>Sarah Frickstein</td>
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<td>Danielle Helms</td>
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<td>Camilla S. Henry</td>
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<td>Trudy B. Barron</td>
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<td>E. B. McMillon</td>
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<td>Betty M. Heggie</td>
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<td>John E. Rouse</td>
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<td>Justin Myers</td>
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<td>Robert Spalding</td>
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<td>Lee Smith</td>
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<td>Will Richardson</td>
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<td>North Charleston Park Circle</td>
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The signers of this petition protest SCE&G’s rate hike of nearly 10% and ask the South Carolina Regulatory Commission to DENY this increase. We just can’t afford another one!

Name [SCE&G Customer]
Joanne Silvestri
Glenda Johnson
Linda Glynn
B. Ashley Zon
Sarah Sanders
Rosemary Miller
Alana C.
Jim Gay
Judy S.
James

Name [SCE&G Customer]
Mark Zeman
Terry Cavender
ReneeรมKay
Carolyn May
Fred H. Rabinus
Michael Solocs
Sara Mary
Lida S.
Bob Allen
Macy McCullough
Matt Koltz
Mike White
Kris M. Buescher
Elizabeth Mathew
Kathy Swank
Kara A. L. Clark
Dwight W. Webb
SAY NO TO SCEG’S RATE HIKE!

PETITION REGARDING RATE HIKE FOR SCE&G

The signers of this petition protest SCE&G’s rate hike of nearly 10% and ask the South Carolina Regulatory Commission to DENY this increase. We just can’t afford another one!

Name [SCE&G Customer]

Jo Powell
Sue Schwartz
Hofus Harvey
Shelley Snider

Name [SCE&G Customer]
We, the undersigned, ask the South Carolina Regulatory Commission to **DENY** SCE&G's rate hike of nearly 10%. It is not sufficient that the hike be reduced - it must be denied entirely. The signers of this petition protest this rate hike and request that it be denied.

Name

[Signatures]

[Signatures]
It is pretty arrogant of them to ask their customers for a 10% increase during these difficult economic times we are facing when many families are struggling. Enough is enough!

REQUESTING THE RATE INCREASE BE DERRIVED

REMEMBER, THE RATE INCREASE IS ABOUT OUR

WE SUGGEST THAT YOU NOT IMPLEMENT THIS INCREASE

IN OUR OPINION, YOU ARE CHARGING TOO MUCH FOR YOUR SERVICES, AND WE SUGGEST THAT YOU REDUCE YOUR RATES.

ALL THE PEOPLE WHO WORK HERE ARE OUR CUSTOMERS, AND WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO CONSIDER THE IMPACT THAT THIS INCREASE WILL HAVE ON OUR BUSINESS.

HOPEFULLY, WE CAN FIND A WAY TO WORK TOGETHER TO FIND A SOLUTION THAT MEETS BOTH OUR NEEDS.
In comparison to the coops around the state, SCE&G provides little to their customers, including good customer service. As other power companies have lowered rates SCE&G, despite their profits, have not lowered their rates. This request must be denied.
This must be denied. Scrg rates are already high and consumers have no choice when it comes to another power company. Please consider the thousands of people who are already spending thousands of dollars a year on power bills.

They just had a recent rate hike in November! My electric bill was over $500 in January!!

Please don't increase, I am on ss barely paying now, am behind. I have leukemia and hard to pay all my bills.

Thanks for the opportunity to contribute to the stopping of this nonsense. Stop we are getting killed with the costs.

I totally agree! Let us have our rights! Can I take the president, why can't we chose our utility company??

NOT the time for a significant rate increase when other utilities are keeping it stable.

Waste economy.

You are doing more to fat your pockets than increase efficiency.

I hear your thoughts on stopping the increase of our rates.

The electric bills are too high already. No Way.

I need this letter to submit for a grant Do not agree with any rate increases at this economically troubled time.

We already pay enough.
We are strongly opposed to another rate increase. While residents, we were never subjected to such increases in the 35 years of service. We do not see where another increase is warranted.

Enough is enough.

No rate increase
I do not agree with the rate increase. During this recession a rate hike should not be imposed at this time.

I completely endorse this petition

Please stop this in the time of economic upheaval

OUTAGE is too much to make money at a time when our community is vulnerable from the downward economy. The last hike nearly bankrupted me. A new hike would ruin me.

I do not support the rate increase.

We are in a recession and are struggling to make ends meet and a 10% raise is too much.

Meeting the environmental requirements should have been part of the original construction at the expense of the stockholders.

10% percent is too big of an increase at one time.

The rates are already the highest in the area. Please because this community paid and we just raise your rates.
We don't need further taxation.
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Where did SCE&G reduce profits to share in the increased cost to customers?

A 10% increase is it warranted when other utility companies are able to maintain or have a smaller increase? Wouldn't it be nice to have a choice as to which utility company you need? Competition surely keep the prices down to a manageable level. No rate increase — tighten belt first!!

I would like to know what I am paying for this 10% increase. I am against any increase in rates.

Reorganize upper management for savings.

Against rate hike, as people are just beginning to get back on their feet with this recession. This rate increase is outrageous and should be stopped.

I strongly disagree with the current proposal to raise rates.

WE CANNOT TAKE THIS ANYMORE!!
MY WHOLE FAMILY OPPOSES THE RATE INCREASE!!

No more rate increase!
No more Tax increases!!!

I totally disagree with this rate hike

No inflation = no increase

If SCOPA would not hear and change my problem then the customers should be given the opportunity to switch their rates immediately and the directors and shareholders.

Please don't do this......no increase.

We pay enough for the gas and power, and get the economy the way it is, is robbery.

We need to keep our houses and use energy efficiently, like putting in solar panels and using LED and CFL bulbs wherever possible.

Please do not increase the gas and power bills any high enough as they are.
Really? Another increase? No thank you!

WE ARE PAYING OUR BILL BUT OUR CHILDREN CAN BARLEY AFFORD TO KEEP ELECTRICITY ON IN THEIR HOME!

The consumer needs some relief also!

I vote no increase SCE & G

This is insane!

I agree with every point in this petition!

In today's economy this is absolutely insane

I would not the 2008 to have a 10% increase. The power is already high enough as it is. Thank you.

when a monopoly is in effect the thieves always have their hands in your pocket.

There is no apparent reason for an increase other than to get one because they think they can get away with it. It should be denied.

But independent just like the rest of businesses in CA (like mine).

Let’s get through this economy before any more rate hikes. Let’s start with a 2% hike at that time.
353 Cynthia Peeples  
354 Becky Blakeney  
355 Jack Peeples  
356 Faith N Armstrong  
357 Norman & Cynthia McNair  
358 Regina Ryan  
359 Sandy Perry  
360 Donna Hollars  

361 Bill Donovan  
362 Robin Gillies  
363 Robert Russell  
364 Dee Scanlon  
365 Margaret Galas  
366 Laura Shell  

I am opposed to the increase.  
Rates are high enough thank you!  
I oppose the tax increase.  

no more rate increases please  

Please do not raise our rates. Hard to afford the current rate. Thank you.

367 Lisa McKellar  
368 Walter Guerin  
369 Robert Shroad  
370 Rita Copeland  

371 Lorna Ouble  

372 Jon H. Kaske  
373 Michelle Howard Zito  
374 Kaysey Hale  
375 Thomas L. Wilson  

376 Warren DeDios  
377 Scott N. Fink  
378 Anna Parkinson  
379 Dana Heath  
380 Margie Decani  

381 David Heath  
382 David LaMarca  
383 Linda A. Goodman  
384 Russ & Carol Nazzaro  
385 John Hudapp  
386 Lynn Hudapp  
387 Jane M. Keefe  
388 Charles Phillips  

389 Bert Lowson  
390 Brian Winn  
391 Gregory W. Button  
392 Angela Becich-Druckner  
393 Michael Cox  
394 Yu Zhang  
395 Frank McCurr  
396 Mona Knight  
397 Angela G. Blulock  

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This rate is absolutely ridiculous as Sanlee Cooper in Berkeley County actually lowered their rates. With residents not getting standard of living raises and the way the economy is this is ludicrous.  

An absurd increase request of any amount  

Cut more salaries at the top before you start adding to the bottom to get more funds.  
NO RATE HIKES! Please do not make it more difficult for those of us struggling just to keep up already.  

Use the earnings from the two new nuclear plants to pay for the increase!  

Seniors on fixed income are already SUFFERING from the cost of an autumn winter of energy usage.  
Please have a heart!!!!!!  

In this economy you are wrong to do this!

This is not the time to raise rates. Too many families are struggling and this is an additional expense we cannot afford.
We don't need any more rate hikes from SCE&G—the rates are high enough already. utterly ridiculous!

SCE&G has a monopoly and this is what happens when competition is not present. They will find all kinds of poor excuses as to why they need more money. Tell them NO and make them revise their budget on income and expenses. Everyone dies.

My electric bill in 02' averaged 92/month, now in 2010 they average 273/month for a family of 3. It is already ridiculous.

I am opposed to SCE&G's requested rate increase.

A 10 percent increase is gouging. Get Real.

Why can Berkley cut rates when you are wanting to raise them?

no!

No fee increase, please!!!

Enough is enough now we're paying the last of us have to do! If we could, we would switch our power company in a second—unfortunately, we don't have that choice.

In this time of layoffs, bank sales, real estate slump, we must deny any increase in the power bills at this time. This is insane in times like these. DENY!
NO RATE HIKE....SO UNFAIR....We are all struggling

I agree fully with this petition to deny said rate hike. Please count my vote as a long time consumer of power from SCEG. Why do we always pay more?

SCE&G hasn't read the news. It already posts some of the highest utility rates in the nation. It is raising rates to expand facilities and prime its pumps to build its new proposed nuclear plant in Jenkinsville, FYI.

I LIVE ON SOCIAL SECURITY AND CAN HARDLY AFFORD MY BILL NOW.

10% is a sharp increase for persons on a fixed income. I know this is not news to you, but it is a reality for many.

No to a rate hike, especially with the economy the way it is.

This is ridiculous! I am already paying over $200 a month for a small 2 bedroom apartment. I think an increase at this time is highway robbery!

Absolutely not! SCE&G does not need to up their current prices. It's absolutely ridiculous. What are they thinking? This is NOT the right time to request a rate hike when your customers are all fighting in the absurd economy.

"We contend that for a nation try to tax itself into prosperity is like a man standing in a bucket and trying to lift himself up by the handle" — Winston Churchill

I'm retired and rate increases is too much for all!!
Before you raise my rates by 10% let me see the EXrcutives take a 5% pay cut
Please DON'T raise our rates now!

With the economy and our citizens in such dire financial states noe WE (YOU) can't afford a rate increase like this. Please reconsider!

Electric is over priced at present. We pay a higher rate than neighboring communities. THE RATES ARE CAUSING FINANCIAL HARDSHIP.

NO INCREASE.

Corporate greed raises its ugly head yet again. Please, please stop it now.

We have suffered enough. This rate hike may cause me to lose my house. SCE&G will have forced another family to the street.
Utilities have the HIGHEST industry wage rates by far. They also have one highest benefit costs, and you guessed, lowest employee turnover rates. One would have to be crazy to quite one of these jobs. Annual average weekly rate- 2008, $1358. Yikes that is the average of ALL workers! Food service is around $276/week. Source (BLS QCEW). There are three main reasons for a rate hike. One, transfer payments from businesses to homeowners since typically business subsidize homeowners, (this can be legitimate but usually not) as a result of a change in industry mix-textile mills shutting down. Two, financial structural payment adjustments, i.e build a new plant (Cayce), purchases, buy-outs, bosses golden parachute, etc) which then costs more to finance- so the need to pass on finance expense. Note: financial institutions are one of the top three partners (silent vendor) of utilities. Third, increase rates as a result of increased costs, likely a result of poor cost control. Remember most raw material costs have decreased over this time period, therefore there is no reasonable explanation for an increase.

SCE&G recently gave pay raises to its managers. If they can do this in these days of economic uncertainty, they do not need a rate hike.

Stop the madness!!!!

I agree 100% with this petition.
We can hardly afford our utility bills as they are now.

Any rate increase by SCANA/SCE&G would be usurious given the company's history and profit margin. Stop letting these corporations abuse their customers.

while I do not totally agree with all the statements above, I agree that excessive salaries and lavish spending is not necessary from a public facility. Where is the competition?

I strongly oppose this proposed rate increase.

I would like to see the rate increased STOPPED...

Because of economy, I haven't received an increase in pay for 2 years.

Please deny the raise in rates hike for SCE&G.

Greed is a terrible thing.

The above says it all.

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SCE&G IS GARBAGE!

It's expensive enough already.

No rate increase.

Can we join another electric company. Some people can not afford this. SCE&G get more greedy and we need to Put a stop to it.

NO NO No!!! not fair to hike it!!!!

If SCE&G did not pay for lunches for their linemen, buy SOOOOOOO many cars for their employees, not to mention the gas to operate these cars, may be we would not need a rate increase.

Disagree with any type of rate hike at this time!
Thei rate hike is unreasonable.
Deny the rate increase.

With SCE&G giving large bonuses to shareholders, and with the state of the economy and high unemployment, I feel a rate increase is not justified at this time.

NO MORE RATE HIKES FOR NOTHING.
This proposed rate hike is ludicrous!!! We are in the middle of a recession. Please do not grant this awful rate hike!
Please deny the rate increase.

With consideration of the above, enough is enough. Please stop the increase.

Rediculous...

I am against SCE&G’s proposed rate increase! I feel the rate increase is excessive. We already pay enough for electric. At this rate, I am definitely going to look more into solar energy.

There can be no justification for this size of an increase, especially now when the economy is so bad.

Too many past rate hikes.

SCE&G is a monopoly. It is unfair because we have NO choice.

Retired veteran, fixed income additional expense not welcomed. Need I say more. Deny this rate increase.

This increase is totally out of line... particularly so as we, the poor benighted customer, have little or no recourse to this callous abuse of our dependence upon you... SCANA.

Corporate profits are a sign of a healthy economy: Corporate greed never is anything but that! I protest this rate increase not because the service is bad but because my husband and I are on a fixed income. I wonder when they were proposing this increase if they considered the seniors.
I understand the cost of doing business, but the economy is recovering and I do not believe a 10% rate hike is needed. A 10% rate hike is EXCESSIVE!!!!

Why is there a 17% swing between Berkeley Electric Coop and SCE&G? There appears to be serious mismanagement at SCANA.

I feel that the SCE&G rates should stay the same.

NO MORE RATE INCREASES, ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

A moderate rate hike during this difficult economic period is difficult enough. Ten percent is excessive! Our bills average over $325 a month already.

I am retired and I can't afford this additional increased rate. Please stop their constant increases.

My bills are high enough, please do not raise them more. Don't raise the rates!

I can't afford any more rate hikes. Enough is enough. There will be a choice someday and SCANA's actions today will lose thousands of customers tomorrow. Where does it stop?

This rate increase is ridiculous.

The sound of generators becomes music to my ears!

I protest any and all rate hikes. strongly oppose this rate hike this is outrageous.
I oppose the rate hikes, enough is enough. Cut the usage. This increase is eorbitant in these difficult economic times. Please stop this madness. In this time of unemployment and economic woes this is the last thing we need.

Outrageous.

Enough is enough!

Greed should not be rewarded.

This is a terrible time to consider a rate increase! I oppose the rate hikes, enough is enough. Cut the dividends if you have to, but this should have been planned for, it’s been obvious that new requirements were coming.

Power costs are already way too high. My power bill currently is 30% higher than a year ago for the same usage. Enough is enough. Stop passing the cost on to the customers when your executives are making oodles of bucks.
We don't have a choice of which company provides our electricity, but what happens when none of us can afford to pay on time? Ridiculous.

No rate hike for SCE&G!

I volunteer at ECCO and know that after the cold winter a lot of families are already struggling with utility bills. To raise rates now would be irresponsible and oppressive.

I totally disagree with a rate increase. Too many are feeling the effects of our economy and can't afford their home or buying food. This is just another way the rich get rich and the poor get poorer.

As a retiree on fixed income any rate increase lessens my quality of life.

Let's try to figure a way for SCE&G to SAVE money instead of WASTING money. It can be done... Berkeley Electric Co-op has proven this with a rate decrease.

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I am opposed to any rate hikes for SCE&G at this time due to the economic downturn and lack of increases in pay to cover all the fees, taxes and other increases that keep coming down the pike.

SCE&G is always telling us to conserve energy. When we do, they request a rate increase to cover the lost revenue on our reduced usage. This rate request should be DENIED!!!!!!

I protest this rate hike and demand that it be denied. In this economy and no jobs...I cannot afford a rate hike.

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We already pay enough.

Enough is enough! No more hikes!!

This is ridiculous! Give us another choice for electric service providers. No more monopoly!!!
It is time to stop passing on the cost of doing business to the customers. The customers are being squeezed from every direction. It is time for this entity to take responsibility itself and not just pass on the cost.

In this time of economic turmoil it is not the time to gouge the customer. You are a monopoly and have a moral and ethical obligation to practice self restraint.

My electric bill is already very difficult to manage, and we are quite conservative with our heating and cooling needs. I can't imagine how an increase of this size is necessary to this company.

Amy Perryman
Summerville, SC

The above facts reflect the truth—can you afford not to sign? No, you cannot.

Unnecessary and inappropriate at this time.

I oppose the rate hike especially in LIGHT of subsidized customers.

Enough of the rate hikes!!! We can barely afford the bills now...

Enough is enough...time for the people to get control of the business we fund...NOBODY should get a 200,000 dollar bonus when the economy is like it is that is plain theftery and NOTHING ELSE!
In an economy where most South Carolinians are seeing pay decreases and layoffs, I struggle to understand why SCE&G should not share our plight. Do more with less, just like the rest of us....
I say no to an increase.

I am in agreement that the rate hike should be denied.

I cant afford this!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

they raised it after cash for clunkers on appliances they gave us a little to take a lot
we all spent our money on efficient appliances now that they got us to spend to save they take the save an some

I oppose the current request to increase SCE&G rates 10%. Don't pass the cost of doing business onto customers, take it out of profits.