Dear Ms. Simmons,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your Letter of Protest/Comments to the Public Service Commission of South Carolina. Your Letter of Protest/Comments has been placed in the Protest File of the Docket listed below and on the Commission’s Website at www.psc.sc.gov.

Docket No. 2016-223-E - Petition of South Carolina Electric & Gas Company for Updates and Revisions to Schedules Related to the Construction of a Nuclear Base Load Generation Facility at Jenkinsville, South Carolina.

A Protestant is an individual objecting on the ground of private or public interest to the approval of an Application, Petition, Motion or other matters which the Commission may have under consideration. A Protestant may offer sworn testimony but cannot cross-examine witnesses offered by other parties.

According to the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure, filing a Protest does not make you a Party of Record. A Protestant desiring to become an Intervenor (i.e., a Party of Record) in a proceeding before the Commission may file a Petition for Intervention within the time prescribed by the Commission.

If we may be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Deborah Easterling
Executive Assistant
803-896-5133
The Public Service Commission needs to think about the consumers they represent when deciding whether or not to let SCE&G have yet another rate increase. Consumers are continuing to pay in advance for projects at the V C Summer plant in Jenkinsville S.C.. They are continuously behind in their timeframes for project completion. For each delay the general consumers are hit with the responsibility of the cost without the right to a voice. Our state law allows utility companies to charge consumers more for cost overruns for big projects like building a nuclear power plant. This project has cost $1.5 billion more than originally estimated and guess who is footing the bill? I and other South Carolina consumers are paying, and it does not appear SCE&G is being held accountable for the project delays. SCE&G must be held accountable for their miscalculations going forward into the future. Perhaps if they have to foot the bills, their projects might actually get completed.

This is not fair business trade in good faith. It places a huge burden on my personal finances. Why should I have to decide between paying my electric bill, buying groceries or medication or any of the other things I and my family need? Those of us on fixed income (with no annual COLA) cannot afford the 16% increase in our utility bills since 2009. I personally have not felt the benefit of these continuous increases. Why don't I get more input regarding projects that are deemed beneficial and necessary for generating and providing service that will affect my living conditions?

The PSC & ORS need to get to the bottom of this and protect consumers from increasingly high utility costs. SCE&G's residential & commercial customers already pay more than 16% of our electric bills for this project. If this new rate increase is approved, we will pay almost 19%. Will it ever end? Consumers are standing up to voice their concerns and disapproval of this projected rate increase. We want SCE&G to support its own costs. If they do not contain these rate increases, the consumers will not be able to afford to use the services these increases are used to create...When will it end?? When do consumers get relief??

Sincerely Concerned Consumer
AARP Member
Lorraine Simmons
Columbia, SC 29210