Ernie Fletcher Governor

Teresa J. Hill, Secretary Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet

Timothy J. LeDonne Commissioner Department of Public Protection



Commonwealth of Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. P.O. Box 615 Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0615 Telephone: (502) 564-3940 Fax: (502) 564-3460 psc.ky.gov

February 22, 2007

Perry Smith 3235 Tucker SchoolHouse Road Hanson, Kentucky 42413

RE: Case No. 2006-00464 Atmos Energy

Dear Mr. Smith:

This letter is in response to your letter received on January 11, 2007 regarding your concerns in the case referenced above. Your letter is being treated as an official protest and will be placed in the case file of this proceeding. The Commission will take your concerns into consideration in its review and decision in this matter.

Please be advised that the Attorney General is authorized by statute to intervene in Public Service Commission proceedings on behalf of utility ratepayers. If you wish the Attorney General's assistance in this matter, you should contact Mr. Dennis Howard, Office of Rate Intervention, at (502) 696-5453.

You may view all documents filed in this case on the Commission's website at <u>http://psc.ky.gov</u>.

Thank you for your letter of interest and concern in this matter.

Sincerely,

Beth O'Donnell Executive Director

BOD/tw

cc: Parties of Record



John W. Clay Commissioner

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## Perry Smith

3235 Tucker Schoolhouse Rd. Hanson, Ky. 42413

9006-464 D 245-

January 8, 2007

211 Sower Blvd. PO Box 615 Frankfort, Ky. 40602

Dear Public Service Commission:

This letter is a request for intervention in granting the rate increase requested by Atmos Energy, Kentucky proposed to take effect February 1, 2007.

I am a customer of Atmos energy and I take particular issue with the 73.3% increase in the residential service monthly base charge. This appears to me to be a greedy way to insure that the company stays profitable even if gas usage decreases. Myself, and I am sure many other gas users, only utilize gas for three to four months per year during the heating season. This huge increase in the monthly base rate will add \$50.00 per year to my bill with absolutely no increase in service. This amounts to a huge windfall to the gas company without any additional expenses on their part. I suppose it will make a nice big bonus for the company top management.

I have turned the thermostat down and frozen, cut wood to assist heating with a fire place, and done without things just to provide affordable heat for my family, and these people want to just jack up the base rates with no additional services. It must be nice.

I know these people can move money from one account to another to make it look like they need increases in base rates, but the truth is they charge for connection fees and these old services could not cost them much to maintain.

You are the only people who can stop this from occurring. Some one in this country needs to take a stand to stop corporate greed from running the poor people in the ground. This increase will undoubtedly cause hardships for many people.

I respectfully request that you grant no increase to the residential base monthly rate to protect the consumers in Kentucky.

Sincerely,

Perry Smith

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