

East Point, Ky
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Kentucky Public Service Commission
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Frankfort, Ky 40602-0615

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PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

Commission Members:

I am adding my voice to the many who are already voicing their opinions on the rate increases being considered by the utilities. Why would they need an increase? They already have an automatic boost when they get to charge for all their increases, i.e. fuel. There are several things on my bill that go up and down whenever they think it's necessary.

I retired from BellSouth, which is now AT&T and I know first hand about maintaining lines. No one cuts their right of ways. Trees that should have already been cut cause 90% of outages during snow & ice storms. They, I think, have insurance to cover their losses. I know when I was working as a maintenance supervisor with BellSouth we had a policy with a million dollar deductible. I'm just not sure if that was for the entire state or our Winchester District. I surely hope you take into account their previous disregard for public safety and hardships caused by these trees falling on their lines, when you decide on their request for rate increases. It's just not acceptable. You should make them take a decrease until they clean up their right of ways. All of the county officials are angry over this.

Of course Letcher County was taking them before a Grand Jury. Our Floyd County Judge Exec. Told me what it cost the County during this last Snow storm. It was a good sum of money.

I do hope you decide against any rate increase. Make them show proof that they have increased the Supervisors of maintenance Budgets so they can cut trees. The Power Companies, Telephone & Cable Companies in most cases share routes. Make them share the expenses of keeping these joint use routes clear. Pay particular attention to a pine tree. They are good for one thing only, and that is to fall. Most people have experienced outages at one time or another. But think about the Elderly and people on Oxygen who can't do without for long. Make them become good community members and shape up.

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