Public Service Commission P.O. Box 615 Frankfort, KY 40602-0615

January 26, 2010

## RECEIVED

JAN 292010 PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing in regard to a letter I received today from the Kentucky Power Company regarding their intention to raise their rates (Case # 2009-00459). If they are able to increase residential rates as per their proposal this will cause serious hardship for many of their customers. With the economy as bad as it is, this is absolutely the wrong time to do this.

I understand that KY Power incurred a lot of expense during the vast power outage in December. They had spent the better portion of 2009 having Ashplund cut trees near the power lines. Nearly all the power outages were due to lines knocked down by tree limbs. This sounds like a problem they need to take up with Ashplund,

With warmer weather coming how many people on fixed incomes will be forced to not run their air conditioning because they can't afford it? Those of us who can afford it will most likely cut back anyway. We have decided to shut off our electric heat pump and heat with natural gas. We will replace our water heater and cook stove with gas ones this spring. There are many ways to cut down on electric usage but, why should we have to? The power company raises it's rates at least twice a year as it is. The cost of coal is at the lowest point it has been in years. This proposed increase is too much.

I respectfully request that you deny this proposal on behalf of your fellow citizens. Don't make us pay for Kentucky Power's botched line maintenance.

inda Stewart Thank-you,

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