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PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

July 7, 2009

Public Service Commission
Commonwealth Of Kentucky
P.O. Box 615
211 Sower Boulevard
Frankfor, Kentucky 40602-0615

Dear Commission Members:

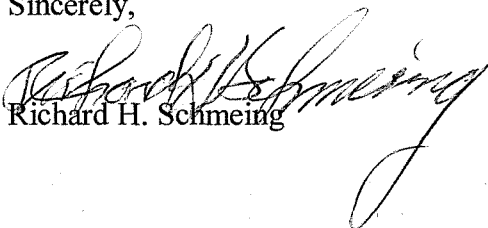
In today's Cincinnati Enquirer a **legal notice** was published at the request of Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc. which seeks your approval for a gas charge increase effective July 1, 2009.

Their proposed rates seek an increase of 150% in the residential monthly customer charge from \$ 12.00 to \$30.00 per month. This is in addition to their request to add additional calculations to the Gas Cost Recovery charges each month, (i.e. carrying costs for gas stored underground, and others). Their request estimates that the residential service will increase by 16.2% overall.

We are retired and on fixed incomes. Our income has fallen significantly during the last year, as well as the working families of this state. Social Security will not increase in the next two years, if not longer, due to the downturn in the economy. Interest on investments have dropped more that 60% during this downturn also. How are we to make ends meet if you approve such an increase?

When you make your decision regarding this request, please consider the impact it will have not only on retirees on fixed incomes, but the growing number of unemployed in the state and numerous citizens who just cannot afford any increases with the level of their already sustained losses.

Sincerely,


Richard H. Schmeing