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COMMISSION

December 5, 2006

PSC  
Beth O'Donnell  
P.O. Box 615  
Frankfort, KY 40602

Case No. 2006-  
00172

Dear Ms O'Donnell:

I'm writing to voice my strong objection to the proposed rate increase announced by Duke Energy. I'm positive that my concerns are shared by thousands of small business owners across our great state.

It is understandable that costs do rise over a period of time and some increase may be warranted. An increase of approximately twenty-one percent however, is totally unacceptable. As a businessperson I know first hand that the answer to maintaining profitability is not in raising prices but in controlling costs.

Please hold this energy company accountable for their business practices just as the marketplace holds my business accountable. I guarantee that if I were to raise prices on my products and services in an attempt to increase profitability I would be out of business in a matter of weeks. Duke should have no advantages in this respect because of their semi-monopoly status. Perhaps a better place to look for a fair return for their stockholders would be to limit management salaries, cut aggressive investments, and eliminate unnecessary spending.

As my representative concerning this matter, I ask that the Public Services Commission will do everything within its' power to limit the amount of increase to less than two percent. Anything more than a slight increase will have a significant impact on my ability to remain a viable business.

Sincerely,

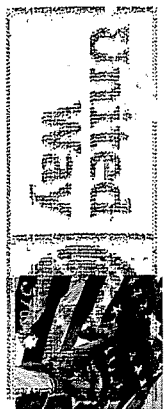
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