

January 04, 2010

Jack Conway
Office of the Attorney General
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Attn: Jack Conway, Attorney General

I am writing this letter in regard to the recent power outage in my community. We were without power for one week.

90% of this power outage could have been avoided if the Kentucky Power Company had cut the trees and keep the right of way clear. I know the Kentucky Power Company states that it is very difficult to keep the right of way cut because of the rural nature of the terrain. However, they have to face the difficult problem of clearing the fallen trees from the lines of this rough terrain during the worse time of weather. So if they had faced this problem during the spring, summer and fall they would not have to call in the extra help.

Some of the workers have stated that the Official of the Kentucky Power Company said that they could pay the extra overtime and call in extra help cheaper then they could afford to keep the trees cut. I think this is a slap in the face. Are they not considering the hardship that this is causing their customers? Most of us lost all the food in our refrigerators and freezer, and had a difficult time trying to keep warm. Some had to leave home and go to shelters.

Now the power company is asking for a rate increase in our bills. I am certainly not in favor of the increase. If they would take the increase and use it to pay to keep the trees cleared and keep up the right of way, I would not mind to pay extra.

I am asking that you check into this situation and help us in our problem with the power company. I certainly would like to see the tree trimmers cutting the trees and keeping the right of way clear. At one time, years ago, the power company was doing a good job with this and we did not have very much power outages in our community.

Thank you for your help.

Robert Lee
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✓ cc: Kentucky Public Service Commission
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