

March 16, 2010

Rita Ostwalt-Whitfield
3164 N. Hwy 393
LaGrange, KY 40031

Kentucky Public Service Commission
Attn: Executive Director Jeff DeRouen
P.O. Box 615
Frankfort, KY 40602

RECEIVED

MAR 18 2010

PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

Reference: Case Number 2009-00549

Dear Director DeRouen,

I want to express my dismay at rate increases being proposed by LG&E. With the establishment of a flat rate, regardless of natural gas usage, we consumers are being given the message that conservation is less important than LG&E's profits. I find it hard to believe that the proposed increases can be justified by last year's storms. I would have expected that LG&E rates would take storms into account when setting rates since everyone knows we live in an unpredictable weather valley.

I think LG&E needs growth in their rates to keep up with inflation and I certainly want them to have enough profit to maintain viability. However, the size of the proposed rates goes counter to what we in the workforce are experiencing – no growth in pay with increases in major areas of fiscal responsibility, such as health care, gas, etc. And, it is also a slap in the faces of the unemployed, many of whom have had to severely cut back on usage just to make ends meet. And, now LG&E wants to levy increases that are almost obscene.

I don't know what is reasonable but I think there are oversight people who do. When it takes 3-4 pages in a newspaper, such as the Oldham Era, to describe the increases, then something is amiss and I believe our Kentucky government needs to step in and take a closer look.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my complaint. Release us from this hostile takeover by LG&E!

Sincerely,

