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Dear Commissioners and Staff:

I am writing this letter because many families in my area have talked to me about the current charges on their electric bills of Kentucky Power/AEP. One of the first issues I'd like to explain to you is there are many people that have little education and some may not read local papers due to affordability or because they can't read and many have no internet or know how to use the internet because of the cost of internet or the lack of knowledge of computers and technology so they were not made aware of these rising costs added onto their electric bills and many have questions as do I as why we are paying on a Big Sandy Retirement Rider or on an environmental surcharge when there are programs that help insure the environment is reclaimed and I am not sure what a retirement rider is or why we should have to pay this if we do not get any benefits from a retirement plan.

I want to give you some statistics about our state –there are 18.5% of people living in poverty and the last 5 years the median household income was \$43,740 with a average of 2-3 people in a home. Seven percent of these were under 65 and had no health insurance, only 22 % of Kentuckians have a Bachelor's degree or higher and our seniors and veterans hadn't had a COLA raise until recently but it was 0.3% which was like \$3 on a \$1000 month benefit but then Medicare raised from \$104 to \$122 so they lost even more than they were trying live on. (US census bureau)

Many seniors and veterans have health issues and high medical costs. Other families have work expenses or some have health issues or their kids may have special needs as autism has become a high prevalence condition in the last few years, along with cancer, heart disease, and diabetes. The news told that many families had left the state to find work and we ranked number 6 on their investigation. We can't keep putting undue hardship on our families and children with taxes and tariffs. Some families are going to end up sacrificing their medications or their children's or their food . These rates and tariffs, I don't think many families understand and quite frankly I don't myself.

I've heard them say they got extra fee for \$4.95 and now all these taxes for things that we need explanations as to what they are for and why we are paying for a retirement rider and exactly where those funds go because I thought we were promised low cost electricity for our families and these extra charges are hurting families. These are our Kentucky families, your friends, your neighbors, your kids friends, your mothers and fathers or grandparents, or your church friends, is these rates and tariffs what you really want to add onto them while our state has been facing such an economic hardship in the last couple years or we have such a high rate of families living in poverty. I ask you to please remove some of these rates or at least send letters to each family explaining what these are because the winter is just now coming and many families may be without heat this year due to inability to pay or program assistance and none of us want that. Thank you for your time and reconsideration in this matter.

Respectfully,

naomi ramey