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To: lamie Hogue <jhogue@azleg.state.az.us>
"krozen@cc.state.az.us" <krozen@cc.state.az.us>
Date: 4/5/04 3:10PM
Subject: FW: Urgent message regarding possible APS electric rate increase

Ken,

Thought you all might want to be aware of this:

Arizona Public Service (APS) is requesting a significant electric rate increase from the Arizona Corporation Commission. The average rate of the requested increase is 9.8%, but for many school districts the impact could be an increase of 15% or more. With the current freeze and future elimination of excess utilities, this proposed rate increase, if approved by the Corporation Commission, would have a negative impact on the budgetary amount in school districts purchasing electric power from APS.

In the past, school districts have not been involved when utility companies requested rate increases. We were concerned about their impact on educating our students, but with excess utilities we could adjust our budgets to mitigate the utility rate increases. However, those days are now gone.

What can you do to fight this APS rate increase request? You can join AASBO in testifying before the Corporation Commission regarding the negative impact that an approved increase will have on your district.

The Arizona Corporation Commission has scheduled a public meeting to receive input on the proposed APS rate increase. This hearing is scheduled for the following date:

Date: Wednesday, April 7
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Purpose: Public Hearing on APS Rate Increase Request
Location: Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona

If your district buys electric power from APS, please be at this meeting and sign up to testify. Please send an e-mail to cessigs@aesbo.org if you plan to be at this meeting.

If you cannot attend the meeting but support our efforts on this issue, please send an e-mail to cessigs@aesbo.org to say that AASBO is fighting the rate increase request on behalf of your district.

It is critical that districts receiving some or all of their electric power from APS be heard on this issue. We cannot afford to sit back and let this rate increase be approved. We are all working diligently to put more dollars

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into instructional programs at our schools. This rate increase would be a step back in our efforts.

This is a fight that we need to take on for our students, employees and our community.

P.S.

Attendance by representatives from districts served by SRP will be beneficial as well. It is reasonable to expect that if the APS request is approved, SRP may eventually move in the same direction. All districts could be impacted by the testimony at this hearing. However, only districts served by APS should sign up to testify.

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