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Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

DEC-20 1996

GEORGE J. WUERTZ SR.  
3331 S. CHAMPLAIN AVE  
TUCSON, ARIZ  
85730



Dear

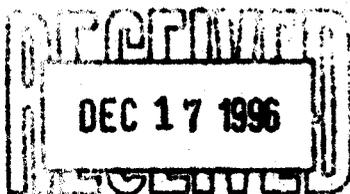
Representing utility Labor, we have attended two ACC workshops dealing with deregulation in our State. With a sense of urgency we must respond to the latest workshop on August 18, 1996.

Without full recovery of stranded investment, the utility workers, their families, their communities of our State will suffer great hardship. Many power plants were built in small rural communities with the promise of a secure future. We as Labor established a highly skilled, safe and reliable system for the generation, transmission and distribution of electric power services. We are intelligent, hard working individuals who take great pride in the services we provide. We are paid a fair days wage for a fair days work. These monies are immediately reinvested in our local communities. We have mortgages, buy groceries, entertain ourselves and contribute to the basic tax base which keep our communities alive. If Investor-Owned Utilities cannot recoup the investment made in these plants/communities, the first line of cost saving measure is jobs on the low end, Labor. This in turn has 'trickle up' economics. The loss of 15-20 jobs in a small community has a decimating affect on the community, including the county and the state as a whole.

When we as Labor sit and listen to individuals and companies from out of state discuss the very fabric of our industry (safe, reliable power) as if it is an incidental occurrence to the success of deregulation, we must take exception. These outsiders have true financial benefits to be gained. We do not disagree with the concept of deregulation as long as the workers of our state do not bear the brunt of this transition. The Corporation Commission as policy makers must protect the people of Arizona that do not have the funds nor resources to lobby the Commission for their piece of this economic pie. The Commission has a responsibility to all people of Arizona not just the business community. We caution against full speed ahead. Pension funds, college educations, the success of small communities and our dwindling middle class are all depending on the commission's ability to make decisions that benefit all of our citizens.

Sincerely,

George J. Wurtz Sr.  
3331 S. CHAMPLAIN AVE  
TUCSON, ARIZ  
85730



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