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Tammy Russ

~~OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEM~~ **ORIGINAL**

From: mphillips [MarkPhillips@ccbg-arch.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 14, 2007 8:26 AM
To: Mayes-WebEmail; Mundell-Web; Gleason-WebEmail; Hatch-WebEmail; Pierce-Web
Subject: APS rate hikes
Importance: High

Mr. Chairman and Commissioners,

I was very disappointed to hear yesterday that you had approved an 8% rate hike for APS and further dismayed that they had requested and that you are considering another 12% on top of that! As an APS customer and registered voter, I strongly urge you to deny their request for the additional 12% rate hike. Our electrical utility companies in Phoenix truly have no competition (please don't try to convince me that people would actually avoid or move to a neighborhood purely based on whether APS or SRP is there) – real competition is giving each homeowner the choice, regardless of where they live, who will power their home. So long as this is not the case, we rely solely on you to be the market force that keeps these companies in check. After a couple large rate hikes in the past couple years, and then again with this one, it certainly smells a lot like the rich getting richer, with no leverage being held by the consumer – please represent us with equal weight!

I must also add that these rate hikes are especially hard to swallow when I have had 4-5 power outages (one of them about 18 hours) in the past year. Should I be paying more for APS to fix poorly maintained systems or should they bear the burden of properly maintaining their systems? I would argue the latter.

Thank you very much for your time and attention in this matter.

Mark Phillips

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