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ORIGINAL ONLY MEETING AGENDA ITEM
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E-01345A-05-0827

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1/22/2008

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DEAR COMMISSIONER

A COMPARISON OF MY APS BILL OF 1-11-2008 WITH THE ONE DATED 1-11-2007, A YEAR EARLIER, SHOWS THE FOLLOWING:

BASIC SERVICE CHARGE	UP	3.1%
DELIVERY SERVICE CHARGE	UP	86.5%
METERING	UP	3.2%
METER READING	UP	4%
TRANSMISSION & ANCILLARY CHARGES	UP	72.2%

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ALL OTHER SURCHARGES, FEES, AND TAXES, WHICH ARE ALSO UP, ARE NOT INCLUDED HERE FOR SIMPLIFICATION AND ARE PRETTY MUCH OUT OF APS'S CONTROL AS WELL AS MINE.

MY ONLY CONTROL IS IN HOW MUCH ELECTRICITY I USE. IN THIS RESPECT MY USAGE RATES HAVE INCREASED AS FOLLOWS:

ON PEAK ELECTRICITY	UP	18.6%
OFF PEAK ELECTRICITY	UP	26%

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ONE FOURTH OF MY BILL IS ELECTRICITY USAGE. THREE FOURTHS ARE FEES AND TAXES. TWO CONCLUSIONS ARE THAT COSTS AND RATES ARE OUT OF CONTROL AND THAT THE ENTIRE RATE CONSTRUCTION IS SUCH THAT CONSERVATION OF ENERGY HAS BEEN GIVEN LITTLE THOUGHT.

PERHAPS THE COSTS THAT ARE UNDER APS'S CONTROL COULD BE EXAMINED MORE CLOSELY. IF, FOR EXAMPLE, APS PROVIDES FULL TRANSPORTATION COSTS [AN AUTOMOBILE AND FUEL] TO MID LEVEL EMPLOYEES THE COST OF THEIR 200 MILE ROUND TRIP TO AND FROM WORK IS SURELY REFLECTED SOMEWHERE IN MY BILL. AN APS EMPLOYEE'S EXPENSE IN GETTING TO WORK IS NOT AN EXPENSE THE APS CUSTOMER SHOULD BEAR.

PERHAPS TOO, IF WE CONSERVED ENERGY OUR DOLLAR WOULDN'T BE ON IT'S PATH OF DECREASING WORTH AND WE WOULDN'T BE SENDING AS MANY OF THEM TO THOSE WHO ARE FINANCING TERROR. BUT WHY SHOULD MY NEIGHBOR TURN OFF HIS THREE PORCH LIGHTS THAT ARE ON FROM BEFORE DUSK AND GO OFF AFTER DAWN OR MY LOCAL SCHOOL TURN OFF THEIR ENERGY GUZZLING OUTDOOR LIGHTS, TIMED AS MY NEIGHBOR'S, IN FAVOR OF MOTION SENSING LIGHTS WHEN ACTUAL USAGE IS A SMALL FRACTION OF THEIR BILL?

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THE ANSWER COULD VERY WELL BE TO LET APS RAISE RATES ENOUGH FOR THE UTILITY TO TOTALLY CONDUCT THEIR BUSINESS, TAXES, FEES, SURCHARGES AND ALL AND SEND CONSUMERS A USAGE BILL THAT'S EASY TO UNDERSTAND. APS CURRENTLY LISTS EIGHTEEN CATEGORIES OF EXPENSE TO OVERWHELM THE BILL PAYER TO WHERE THEY FEEL THEY HAVE NO CONTROL. THE ATTITUDE OF "WHAT'S THE USE--- MOST OF MY ELECTRICITY BILL IS MANDATED AND NOT CAUSED BY ANY IRRESPONSIBILITY ON MY PART" IS THE RESULT. A SIMPLE BILL THAT STATES "YOU USED XXX AMOUNT OF ELECTRICITY THEREFORE YOU OWE XXX AMOUNT OF MONEY" WOULD SEND THE CLEAR MESSAGE THAT IF YOU WANT TO SAVE MONEY YOU CONSERVE ENERGY.

I THANK YOU FOR WHATEVER TIME AND EFFORT YOU DEVOTE TO THE MATTER AND HOPE THAT INSTEAD OF JUST PASSING OFF TO A PR PERSON YOU HAVE A DISCUSSION WITH YOUR FELLOWS. I WOULD TREASURE BEING PRIVY TO YOUR THOUGHTS AS YOU READ THIS.

THANK YOU,

RICHARD D. BUGOLA

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