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JUL 31 2008

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July 21, 2008

Rep. Mark DiSimone
Rep. Adam Driggs
Sen. Barbara Leff
Sen. Ken Chevront
Rep. Kyrsten Sinema
Rep. David Lujan

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JUL 31 2008
By _____

AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

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Arizona Public Service once again seeks a rate increase. This time nearly 10%. Such an increase would probably have little effect on your lifestyle of mine. However, for the great majority of people in our community, this increase in their utility bills will be devastating. Without knowledge of the increase request, they cannot express their view.

Take a look at your next APS bill. There are "surcharges," "assessments," and every other conceivable word or expression that can be used to avoid telling customers there are additional taxes in their bill. My most recent bill included the following:

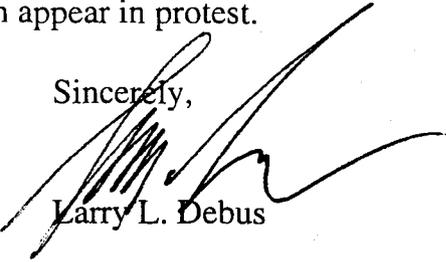
Basic service charge, Delivery service charge, Environmental benefits surcharge, Federal environmental improvement surcharge, Competition rule compliance charge, System benefits charge, Power supply adjustment, Metering, Meter reading, Billing, Transmission and ancillary services, Transmission cost adjustment, Franchise Fee.

All this apparently slips by a compliant corporation commission. All of this needs to be made public. Publishing a notice of a rate increase in what today is little-read print media doesn't get it, and no longer suffices to give adequate notice. And, how many of you know what a "systems benefit charge" is?

Only the legislature can force public utilities to fully inform the public of their ever escalating rate requests. We can no longer leave oversight exclusively to the Corporation Commission. If the public knew there would be a hue and cry. Unfortunately, they don't.

Utilities need to publish their intent to seek a rate increase in their monthly billings to their customers. And, the Corporation Commission needs to do a better job letting the public know when and where they can appear in protest.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Larry L. Debus', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Larry L. Debus

CC: Corporation Commission Members: Kristen K. Mays; William Mundell; Mike Gleason; Jeff Hatch-Miller; Gary Pierce; Rep. Manuel V. Alvarez; Rep. Jennifer J. Burns; Sen. Carolyn Allen; Sen. Jim Waring; John Allen; Rick Fowlkes; Joseph Hobbs; Marian McClure; Bob Robson; Bob Stump; Keith Swapp; Barry Wong; George Arrendondo; Kara Kelty; Sandra Kennedy; Paul Newman