

March 29 2009

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Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington St.
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Re: Docket Numbers E-01345A-08-0172

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to you in support of increased energy efficiency requirements as part of the APS rate case and as part of the Commission workshops on energy efficiency. Energy efficiency is the cleanest and cheapest energy source we have. We should maximize efficiency measures and require the utilities to offer programs to assist customers to increase their energy efficiency.

I realize that energy efficiency programs require some up front funding that can result in slightly higher electricity rates. I also know that investing in efficiency measures will help to lower overall electric bills – weatherization, new energy efficient lighting and appliances, and mitigating the heat island effect can all reduce energy consumption. I am willing to pay higher rates to fund programs that will help me to lower my energy use and my electric bills.

As part of the APS rate case and the Commission's workshops, I encourage you to require that APS invest in programs to provide rebates and technical assistance to electric utility customers who purchase energy efficient lighting, air conditioners, and other equipment, or invest in measures in their home, office or other buildings that result in reductions in energy use. I also would like to see programs to help reduce the urban heat island effect through shading, cool roofs, and cool pavements. As an APS customer, these are programs that will benefit me by helping to lower my electric bills.

I also support measures to provide technical assistance and financial incentives for businesses and schools that increase their energy efficiency, as well as design assistance and incentives for builders who construct efficient homes and buildings. Any efficiency program should include grants for weatherizing low-income housing – rental and owner-occupied.

Thank you for considering my comments as you deliberate over increasing energy efficiency in Arizona.

Sincerely,

Mara DeFilippis
CEO, Phoenix Green Chamber of Commerce
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Arizona Corporation Commission

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