

OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEM



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October 5, 2011

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AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

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

Southwest Gas rate case - G-01551A-10-0458

Dear members of the Arizona Corporation Commission,

Energy efficiency is critical if we are to tackle the difficult issues of air pollution, sustainability and climate change. In addition, we need to find concrete methods to assist our most economically vulnerable residents to find methods for lowering their bills. I am currently unemployed, and therefore fall into this category.

I am a customer of Southwest Gas. Although I know they do offer tips to help their customers conserve gas, they do not have the financial incentive to be whole-hearted about efforts; encouraging their customers to buy less of what they sell is simply not profitable and therefore not in their best interest. Without the full participation of the utilities, conservation attempts will be weak. Decoupling will change how utilities make a profit, and will therefore give Southwest Gas the economic incentive to fully engage in conservation programs.

Thank you for your work on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Joan E. Sawyer
3239 E. Towner St.
Tucson, AZ 85716

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

OCT 6 2011

DOCKETED BY 

October 6, 2011

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

RE: Southwest Gas rate case - G-01551A-10-0458

Dear Commissioners:

I am a Southwest Gas and Tucson Electric Power customer.

I am writing regarding implementation of decoupling for rate-making purposes with Arizona Utilities. It is my understanding that the Commission has embraced the concept of decoupling and is now determining implementation strategies. The Commission has previously established a set of goals for renewable energy and a set of goals for energy efficiency implementation. These two goals dovetail with decoupling.

In addition, other small generating options will potentially benefit from decoupling.

Energy efficiency (EE) has already become the number one energy solution of the free enterprise system in America. EE has saved more energy than any other option has produced. In fact, EE has saved more than all the other options have additionally produced since 1973.

In 1973, the U.S. used a total of 77 quadrillion Btu's (quads) of energy and only increased its energy use by 27% to 98 quads of energy by 2010. At the same time the U.S. economy expanded its gross domestic product (gross economic output) by 267% in real dollars.

If the U.S. had been using energy at the same efficiency level in 2010 as it was in 1973, our nation would have produced about 200 quads. This would have cost the country at least \$2.1 trillion dollars for energy in 2010, instead of about \$1.0 trillion actually spent last year. For complete documentation on these facts, please see my analysis at:

Energy efficiency is such a beneficial economic option, that it comprises a national security component. It makes our nation stronger, and better-able to compete with other countries to be able to produce goods and services at lower costs.

Additionally, renewable energy is expanding at a faster rate than any conventional 20th Century energy option (coal, nuclear, oil, natural gas, hydro). Decoupling can be the ringmaster to bring these two solutions of renewables and EE into play, probably faster than any other method of promotion. While other methods of promotion range from commercial advertisement, to federal subsidies, to education programs, etc., I believe that decoupling can provide a concrete economic program to help make the switch to energy sources and efficiency options that will treat Arizona ratepaying companies and residents better, by lowering their bills, and treat the environment better by reducing environmental pollution.

If an optimal blend of EE and renewable energy is initiated, our energy costs can actually go down in the future. I have calculated that by blending EE and renewables at between a 70:30 ratio and a 60:40 ratio of EE kilowatt-hours saved to renewable kilowatt-hours produced, then the cost of energy to end users can actually go down. This is due to the average cost of EE being consistently under 3 cents per kilowatt-hour, and to renewable costs falling in price to average under 20 cents per kilowatt-hour.

Our utilities should be encouraged to reduce the total cost of electricity and natural gas to their ratepayers through decoupling. The ratemaking process of decoupling will assist in keeping costs of utility energy down in Arizona. We can become a leader in this process and master an energy policy innovation and implementation edge.

Thank you,

October 4, 2011

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

RE: ~~Arizona Public Service rate case - E-01345A-11-0063 &~~
Southwest Gas rate case - G-01551A-10-0458

Dear Arizona Corporation Commissioners,

I am writing in support of the concept of decoupling as a way to further energy conservation and efficiency. As we face declining, easily accessed resources and calculate the external costs of burning coal and natural gas, the necessity of energy conservation and efficiency becomes increasingly apparent. Decoupling is a viable tool to help achieve energy conservation.

As a Tucson resident for nearly 50 years, I am a customer of Southwest Gas and Tucson Electric Power. I work with representatives of both companies on the Tucson-Pima Metropolitan Energy Commission, and know there is awareness of the value of energy conservation and efficiency. As you undoubtedly know, both SW Gas and TEP offer numerous rebate and incentive program to their customers to lower energy use. Implementing a carefully-considered decoupling policy can provide the incentives for these companies to adopt additional methods for the ultimate reduction in resource consumption.

Other states have used decoupling to mutual benefit of businesses in the energy sector, to utility consumers and public health and finally to the environment, all of which brings us closer to leaving a livable planet for future generations. I want to extend my appreciation to the members of the Arizona Corporation Commissioners for taking on this complex but valuable approach that has proven successful elsewhere. Thank you for your leadership and commitment to a more resilient, better prepared Arizona.

Sincerely,

Donna Branch-Gilby
3027 N. Gaia Place
Tucson, Arizona 85745

10-6-11

Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: APS-rate case - E-01345A-11-0063

Dear Chairman Pierce and Commissioners,

Decoupling and conservation programs have already been demonstrated to save money and energy in other states.

I am writing to urge you to support energy efficiency measures and decoupling provisions relative to the proposed APS rate case in our state. As you are aware, doing so would encourage energy saving programs now and in the future and remove the disincentive for utilities to use energy instead of conserve energy.

Without action, our energy bills will likely go up in coming years and Arizonans will continue to send more money out of state, creating a weaker economy and fewer jobs in Arizona.

Yours Truly,

Kyle Horner

10443 W. Puget
Peoria, Arizona

October 2011

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

1200 W. Washington St.

PHOENIX, AZ 85007

RE: ~~ARIZONA PUBLIC SERVICE RATE CASE -~~

~~6-01345A-11-0063~~; SOUTHWEST GAS

RATE CASE - 6-01551A-10-0458

Dear members of the Arizona
Corporation Commission,

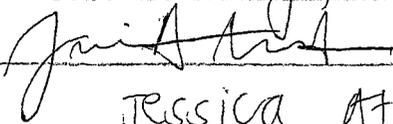
As a resident of the Downtown
Phoenix area, I am very concerned
with the city's ability to thrive, while
still being as environmentally
friendly as possible. Increasing
energy efficiency would not only
~~it~~ create more jobs in Arizona
and help the state's economy,
~~it~~ it would also benefit public
health and be better than
burning coal and natural
gas.

Because of this, I believe
that energy companies need
an incentive to use less
energy through strong
decarbonizing policies. Once
utilities start being

more energy efficient, citizens
of Arizona can lead healthier
lives, knowing that they are
making a better impact
on their surrounding environment.

Thank you for your time
and work on this issue.

Sincerely,



10/4/2011

Jessica Atwood
#2747 Taylor Place
120 E Taylor St.
Phoenix, AZ 85004

October 2011

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

RE: Arizona Public Service rate case - E-01345A-11-00e
Southwest Gas rate case - G-01551A-10-0458

Dear members of the Arizona Corporation Commission,

I am a ratepayer and have service with APS and SW Gas. Today I write to ask that in each of the upcoming rate cases you ensure these utilities have the necessary direction from you to increase energy efficiency. In particular, I request that you include a viable decoupling policy that is advantageous to consumers.

As I believe you are aware, even though rates could fluctuate under decoupling, they will not be dramatic, and, if implemented properly, could save ratepayers money. I am confident ratepayers for the utilities under your jurisdiction would welcome savings on their bills and would also welcome less expenditures from utilities for power plants that contribute to pollution and the degradation of the environment.

I realize decisions you make are rarely easy, but increasing energy efficiency with a complementary decoupling policy is a win for both ratepayers and the utilities.

With regards,
Chris Brown 208 E Oregon Ave Phoenix, AZ 85012

Docket#s: E - 013 45A - 11 - 0063 +
G - 01551A - 10 - 0458

Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85005

Chairman Pierce and Commissioners,

As a resident of Tempe, Arizona, it continues to trouble me that money and resources are continually being sent out of state. I encourage you to support decoupling and energy efficiency in the southwest and APS gas rate cases. This will help Arizonans save electricity and money.

Thomas Trope

1206 E Alameda Ave
Tempe, AZ
85258

October 5, 2011

Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: ~~APS rate case - E-01345A-11-0063~~ and Southwest Gas rate case - G-01551A-10-0458

Dear Chairman Pierce and Commissioners:

Other states have already been successfully saving money and energy by adapting the policy of decoupling. Decoupling would make sure that big electric companies have an incentive for being more energy efficient, thus lowering utility bills for customers. It is time for Arizonans to experience the benefits of decoupling and other energy efficiency programs.

Supporting decoupling will improve our impact on the health of our planet, as well as provide jobs for Arizonans. With these jobs for citizens of our state, the economy of Arizona would also improve. There is no reason not to take action. Thank you for taking the time to consider my concerns.

Derek Szukala – 4722 W. Port-Au-Prince - Glendale

Re: Docket: E-01345A-11-0063 +
G-01551A-10-0458

October 6, 2011
Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington St
Phoenix, AZ 85002

Southwest Gas rate case -
G-01551A-10-0458.

Dear Commissioners

I write you as a Southwest
and AFS customer. I
want to see energy efficiency
and decoupling practices
to incentivize energy savings.
This is vital for our public
health and to provide
some relief on bills. please
support energy efficiency
and decoupling.

Thank you,

Robert J. Danofrio

6955 Eureka Lane
Walker, AZ

October 6th, 2011.
Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

APS case 5-01345A-11-0063

Dear Commissioners,

I write to ask you to support energy efficiency and decoupling relative to the proposed rate cases for APS.

As an APS customer I want to see incentives to save energy and see some relief in our energy bills at the same time. Please support energy efficiency and decoupling.

Sincerely,

Anthony Bucca
Andrew Foster

1321 S. Judd St
Tempe, AZ 85281

10-5-11

Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: ~~APS rate case - E-01345A-11-0063~~ and SW Gas rate case - G-01551A-10-0458

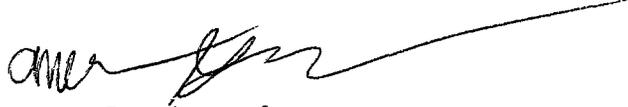
Dear Commissioners,

In order to provide a wealthier, cleaner Arizona, I very much hope that you will support decoupling and conservation programs in the Southwest Gas and Arizona Public Service rate cases.

Currently, Arizonans send a lot of money out of state for energy. In addition to this, energy companies make more money when as much electricity as possible is used. Decoupling would ensure that these companies have incentives for focusing on being energy efficient, thus lowering utility bills in the long run.

Please promote energy efficiency and decoupling, as these programs can be trusted to aid in creating jobs for Arizonans, as well as making sure we have a good impact on the environment.

Thank you for your time and consideration.


Andrew Britan
2277 E. Chapala St
Gilbert, AZ 85234

October 2011

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

RE: ~~Arizona Public Service rate case - E-01045A-11-006M~~ &
Southwest GAS rate case - G-01551A-10-0458

Dear members of the Arizona Corporation Commission,
As a downtown Phoenix resident, I think energy efficiency is very important in my community. Increasing energy efficiency measures would save money and create jobs thus improving economic development. This increase would also benefit public health by minimizing the use of burning coal and natural gas.

I would like to see utilities have an incentive to use less energy through strong efficiency and decoupling policies. I thank the commissioners for their work on this important issue. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Nicole Barrett

2282 Taylor Place
120 E. Taylor St.
Phoenix, AZ 85004

October 4, 2011

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

Re: ~~APS rate case - E-01345A-11-0063~~ and Southwest Gas
rate case - G-01551A-10-0458

Dear Chairman Pierce and Commissioners:

As a resident of Arizona, I am deeply concerned with the fact that Arizonans are continuing to send more money out of state for electricity. This creates fewer jobs and a weaker economy for Arizona.

Because of this, I hope that you will strongly support decoupling and energy efficiency in the APS and Southwest Gas rate cases. Supporting energy efficiency will pay for itself, as costs will be more than offset by savings. Not only will this be more cost-effective in the long run, but supporting conservation programs and decoupling will also create more jobs for Arizonans and help the health of our environment.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lidia Irene Mezzio
657 E. Palmcroft
Phoenix, AZ 85097

October 4, 2011

Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: SW Gas rate case - G-01551A-10-0458;
~~APS rate case - E-01345A-11-0063~~

Dear Chairman Pierce and Commissioners,

As a resident of Arizona, conserving energy and lowering utility bills is a key goal. In order to accomplish this, I very much hope that you consider supporting decoupling and conservation programs in the Southwest Gas and the Arizona Public Service rate cases.

Supporting decoupling would ensure that electric companies have a reason to become more efficient, instead of being paid more just by providing more electricity. Encouraging policies such as decoupling would also improve the economy of Arizona by providing more jobs for Arizonans.

Action is needed on this important issue in order to provide a more efficient, environmentally friendly Arizona. Thank you so much for your time and support.

Nicole Ny

*1865 E. Broadway Rd
Apt. 509*

480-512-1620

Phoenix, AZ

85040

October 4, 2011

Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: ~~APS rate case - E-01345A-11-0063~~ and Southwest Gas rate case - G-01551A-10-0458

Dear Chairman Pierce and Commissioners:

The way the electricity business currently works is expensive and unhealthy for the environment. As a citizen of Arizona, I strongly hope that you consider supporting both energy efficiency and decoupling in the APS and Southwest Gas rate cases.

Promoting energy efficiency is not only helpful to the environment, but to the economy as well. This would create for jobs for Arizonans, thus improving the economy of this great state.

Decoupling and other conservation programs have already been shown to save money in other states, and can be trusted to provide Arizona with a cleaner, more efficient future. Thank you for your time on this very important issue.

Christina Corrie
Go Green

445. S. Dobson Rd

Mesa, AZ

85202

Arizona Corporation Commission

1200 W. Washington Street

Phoenix, Arizona 85007

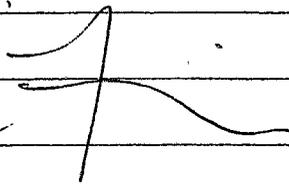
E-01345A-11-0063

6-01551A-10-0458

Dear Chairman Pierce and Commissioners,

I am a resident of Arizona and am concerned that Arizonas are sending more money out of state for electricity. I hope you strongly support decoupling and energy efficiency. This will be more effective in the long run. This is an important issue and I know you can make this happen. Its your time.

Thank you.

Kelly 

72 W. 10th Drive Mesa, Arizona, 85210

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

~~APS rate case - E-01345A-11-0063~~
SW Gas rate case - G-01551A-10-0458

Dear Commissioners,

I deeply urge you to support
the energy efficient measures
and decoupling provisions
proposed for APS and SW Gas.

As a homeowner who has
both APS and SW Gas, I want
to see more energy efficiency
and want our leaders in
Arizona to ensure they make
an incentive for utility companies
to have customers save energy.

Sincerely,
Linda Donofrio

11219 N. 44th Ct, PHX, AZ 85028