

ORIGINAL

July 11, 2012

Arizona Corporation Commission
Steve Olea, Director, Utilities Division

Honorable Arizona Corporation Commissioners
1200 W. Washington St.

Phoenix, AZ 85007

Docket E-01933A-11-0055

Regarding Tucson Electric Power Company Application for Approval of its 2011-2012 Energy Efficiency Implementation Plan.



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Arizona Corporation Commission

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PERSONAL INTRODUCTION

My name is Russell J. Lowes, I live in Tucson and am a Tucson Electric Power customer. I am the Research Director for SafeEnergyAnalyst.org. I live at [REDACTED] in mid-town Tucson.

I have lived in Arizona for 45 of my 55 years. My wife and I bought a home here in Tucson in 1996. We are lucky to have bought before the big run-up in prices. When we moved in though, there was no insulation in the house anywhere – not in the ceiling and not in the walls.

The inefficient A/C system on the roof had been there for ages. First, though, we installed an evaporative cooler, in a piggyback system. This saves us hundreds of dollars per year.

We have been improving our energy efficiency at home, step by step. We filled our shallow attic with insulation, creating R-40 or so. We replaced our old A/C with one that uses half the energy. We planted trees on the west side of the house. We had our roof top re-foamed and covered. We had nine double-pane windows installed. We bought insulating shades for our windows.

We have run out of the options we know how to do, and now we would like to hire a company referred by TEP to audit our house to get down to fine-tuning our energy use. I had been compiling a list of companies, but then the TEP program ran out of funds.

We want TEP to get the backing of the ACC to start these energy efficiency programs up again. We want the ACC to institute decoupling to support a strong TEP.

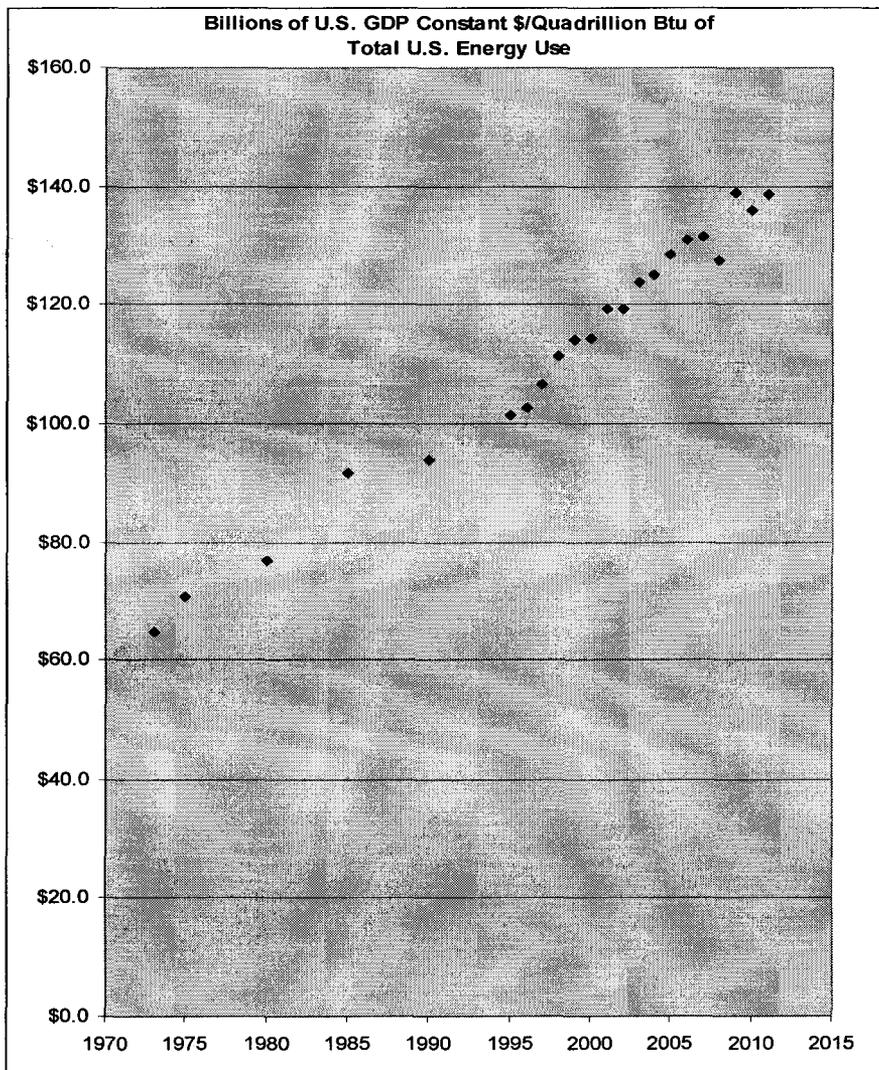
When we finish these energy efficiency improvements, we will buy solar panels, and will then truly right-size the system. It is energy efficiency first, solar second.

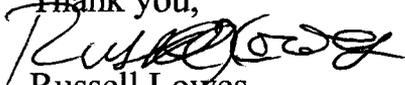
Last time I gave testimony to the ACC, I presented on how energy efficiency has improved substantially in the years since our first U.S. energy crunch, 1973. I

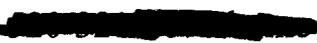
pointed out how we have improved our use of energy so much that in 2010, the energy used per dollar of economic activity was about 50% less than in 1973. In other words, if we had not made these changes, the U.S. would be using about twice the energy it is using today. That improvement is not waning.

Here is a graph that shows this.

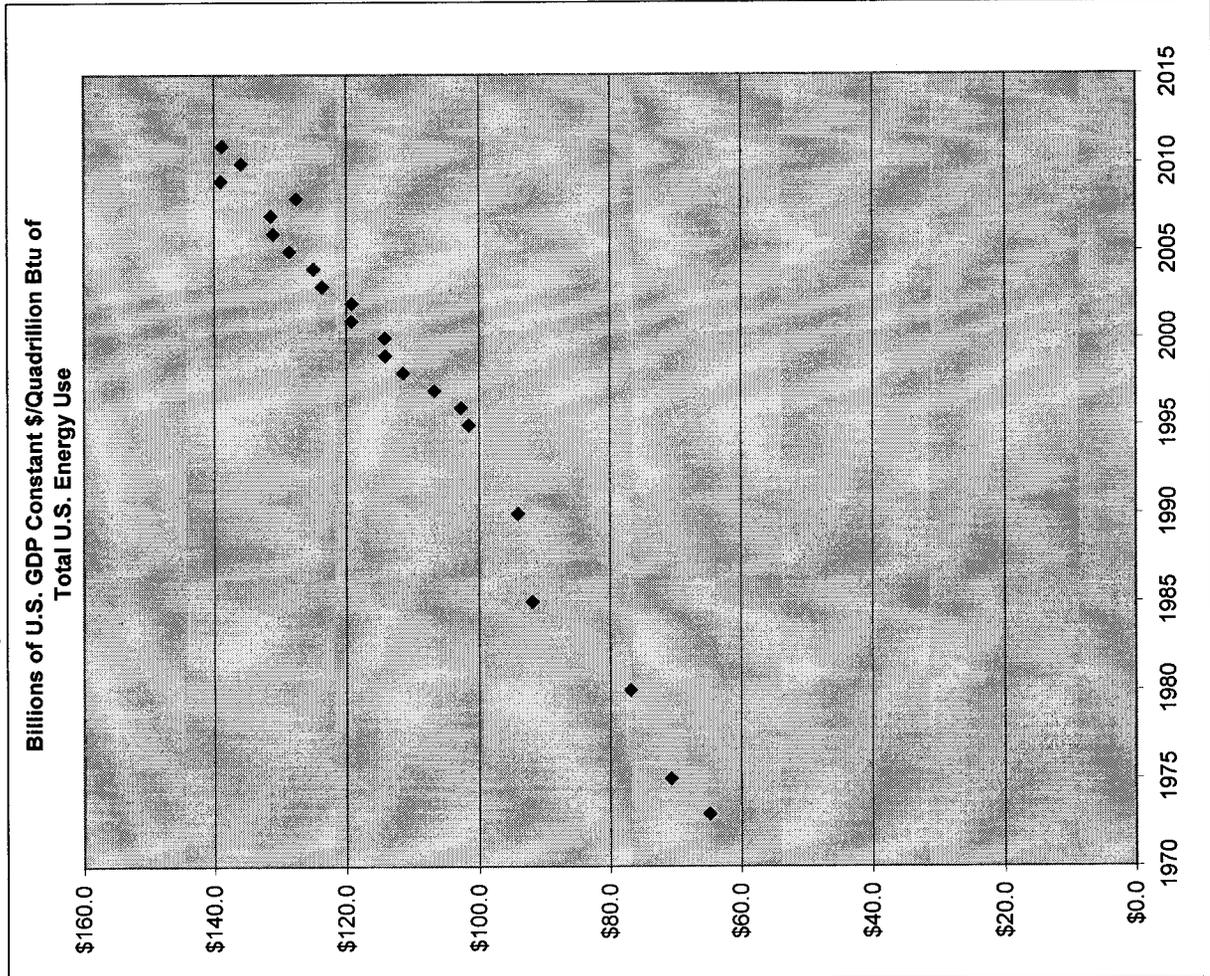
I hope the ACC knows the power of such economic momentum and adds to this momentum effectively by harnessing energy efficiency at TEP.



Thank you,

Russell Lowes
Research Director
www.SafeEnergyAnalyst.org

Tucson, Arizona 85716


Year	Total U.S. Energy Production In Quads/Billion \$	Cal. Yr. 2000 Contant 2000 \$ GDP**	Quads/Year*	Total U.S. GDP or Economic Output/Energy; Billion \$/Quad
1973	15.43	\$4,905.4	75.684	\$64.8
1974				
1975	14.15	\$5,086.3	71.965	\$70.7
1976				
1977				
1978				
1979				
1980	13.01	\$6,000.6	78.067	\$76.9
1981				
1982				
1983				
1984				
1985	10.89	\$7,016.8	76.392	\$91.9
1986				
1987				
1988				
1989				
1990	10.64	\$7,943.4	84.485	\$94.0
1991				
1992				
1993				
1994				
1995	9.85	\$9,239.3	91.029	\$101.5
1996	9.74	\$9,658.0	94.022	\$102.7
1997	9.37	\$10,094.8	94.602	\$106.7
1998	8.97	\$10,592.1	95.018	\$111.5
1999	8.76	\$11,033.6	96.652	\$114.2
2000	8.75	\$11,287.8	98.814	\$114.2
2001	8.39	\$11,467.1	96.168	\$119.2
2002	8.39	\$11,638.9	97.645	\$119.2
2003	8.09	\$12,117.9	97.978	\$123.7
2004	8.00	\$12,515.0	100.162	\$124.9
2005	7.78	\$12,896.4	100.282	\$128.6
2006	7.63	\$13,056.1	99.629	\$131.0
2007	7.61	\$13,310.5	101.296	\$131.4
2008	7.84	\$12,663.2	99.275	\$127.6
2009	7.20	\$13,139.6	94.559	\$139.0
2010	7.36	\$13,271.8	97.667	\$135.9
2011	7.21	\$13,491.4	97.219	\$138.8



* <http://www.eia.doe.gov/totalenergy/data/monthly/bdf/mer.pdf>

** http://www.data360.org/dataset.aspx?Data_Set_id=354

In 2000 Constant Dollars