

ORIGINAL

Arizona Corporation Commission

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22 February 2016

RE: Docket #E-04204A-15-0142

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To Chairman Doug Little and Members of the Arizona Corporation Commission:

I am **TEP customer # 7547285447** and I am writing to **OPPOSE** the additional mandatory fees and penalties proposed by UNS.

You have heard from me before.

I cannot work. I have been medically disabled my entire life. I cannot live in subsidized housing because of my medical situation and, hence, pay for full cost rental housing the federal government calculates my disability check cannot begin to cover as well as rent on storage of possessions I cannot afford to have with me.

Do you have any understanding of what it is like to live in an airless unit where the internal temperature registers 101 degrees F -- because you cannot pay for AC or the use of a fan?

Please look at my billing statements. I don't own gadgets. I use one LED bulb for a few hours each night to read. The rest of the bill is from an old refrigerator that uses 5 times what an Energy Star appliance of similar size would. Why? Because it suits the landlord's pocketbook to get as much mileage from what exists as possible. Can't blame him. The windows rattle with the slightest breeze but we are forbidden to weatherize. There are no trees tall enough to shade my second floor east- and south-facing windows. This tiny space that is home is an oven in the summertime from 5 am on. There is no reprieve from these temperatures even when the sun goes down because nighttime is when all the heat the building has absorbed during the day, lets out. Sleep? Who can sleep when one is an oozing puddle of slime?

The proposed fees are offensive and obscene. They set a very dangerous precedent for other utility companies in Arizona to follow. Once the primrose path has been opened to the first "comer" to waltz down, what's to stop everyone else from demanding their dance cards too? And then comes the endless round of new schemes to squeeze and gouge because it worked like a charm the first time. Next, yearly petitions to raise rates further "because you did it for us before."

Flat fee schemes and "cost of doing business" surcharges aren't fair or equitable. They prop up Big Businesses' appetite for, and sense of entitlement to, easy revenue. They don't inspire the companies themselves to cut costs or examine their own wasteful ways. And they penalize the very people who are saving the system money most -- those who ration use and those who've sunk tens of thousands of their own money into solar technology to reduce costs for all.

I respectfully ask you to please put a swift halt to these rapacious strategies dreamed up by people who haven't a clue what it is like to never have enough, who live and work in perfect climate control year-round at *customer* expense. *This* customer does not know what climate control is at home.

As Kacey Ernst demonstrated last night in Lecture #4 of the UA College of Science's "Earth Transformed" series (a lecture series underwritten by TEP), I stand a good chance of dying in the next heat wave because that is what heat does to people who are sick and can't afford air conditioning. Do any of you care?

While closing the door to further demands from the utilities to tax and surcharge won't help me survive the heat, it does leave me valuable pennies for food and purified water which are necessary to sustain life.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Elsie Ermenc
150 E 16th St #8
Tucson, AZ 85701