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From the office of
Chairman Doug Little
Arizona Corporation Commission
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Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED
FEB 25 2016

TO: Docket Control
DATE: February 25th, 2016
FROM: Chairman Doug Little's Office
SUBJECT: UNS Electric, Inc.: E-04204A-15-0142

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Chairman Little has received this email from Steve Kozachik, Tucson City Council, Ward 6, regarding the above Docket #. The document can be viewed in docket control or online on the eDocket website.

From: Steve Kozachik <Steve.Kozachik@tucsonaz.gov>

Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 at 8:31 PM

To: Andy Tobin <ATobin@azcc.gov>, Bob Stump <bstump@azcc.gov>, Doug Little <dlittle@azcc.gov>, "rburnd@azcc.gov" <rburnd@azcc.gov>, Tom Forese <tforese@azcc.gov>

Subject: Docket # E - 04204A - 15 - 0142 TEP

Honorable Commissioners;

UNS Energy, parent company of Tucson Electric Power, is seeking your approval to double the mandatory fixed charges applied to residential customer's bills. Further, they are suggesting a new mandatory 'demand charge' on residential customers. The commodity being provided by TEP is a life essential for all, including most critically those who live on low and fixed incomes. I write in opposition to approval of the requested increase in these charges.

Imposing a new \$120 annual fixed rate increase is regressive and harms those least able to pay. Seniors and the disabled who already struggle to make ends meet are not in a position to simply absorb these new charges. Regardless of how conservation minded these customers become, they will be unable to avoid the charges. As well, the demand charges are based on periods of maximum peak demand in a given month. While sophisticated ratepayers may be able to track such usage patterns, those least able to do so will pay the new mandatory premiums.

Commissioners must legitimately consider revenue stability as one factor in weighing requests by utilities for rate changes. And yet, it is also your responsibility to consider the incidence of any rate increases. In the case of these mandatory fixed charges and demand based rates, customers who are least able to pay, and who are often those most in need of reliable provision of electricity will be most negatively impacted.

I urge you to reject this application. Utility providers' obligation is to ensure the product they provide is made available to all in our communities. These regressive charges fail that test. Point them in the direction of widely successful 'time of use' plans as a positive alternative.

Thank you for your consideration.

Steve Kozachik
Tucson City Council, Ward 6