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**Memorandum**

From the office of

2016 MAR 1 AM 8:42

**Chairman Doug Little**

**Arizona Corporation Commission**

1200 W. WASHINGTON

PHOENIX, ARIZONA

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Arizona Corporation Commission

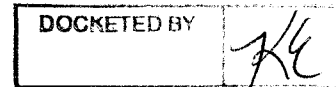
**DOCKETED**

**MAR 0 1 2016**

TO: Docket Control

DATE: February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016

FROM: Chairman Doug Little's Office



SUBJECT: UNS Electric, Inc.: E-04204A-15-0142

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Chairman Little has reviewed the attached email from Senator Andrea Dalessandro, regarding the above referenced Docket number and replied accordingly. The email and reply documents can be viewed in Docket control or on the eDocket website.

## **Andrea Gaston**

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**From:** Doug Little  
**Sent:** Monday, February 29, 2016 3:34 PM  
**To:** Andrea Dalessandro  
**Cc:** Andrea Gaston; Matthew J. Rowell  
**Subject:** Re: Docket number E-04204A-15-0142 from Legislative District 2 Senator Andrea Dalessandro

Representative Dalessandro,

Thank you for your email regarding the pending UNS rate case. I appreciate that you took the time to outline your concerns to me.

To ensure that any cases that come before the Commission are given a fair and impartial hearing, Arizona law prevents me from substantively discussing this issue unless all involved parties are present. These ex parte rules ensure that decisions by the Commission are not influenced by impermissible off-the-record communications.

As you probably know, the ex parte rule is in effect once a hearing on the matter has been set and continues until 30 days following a new decision or a denied petition for rehearing. Ex parte is definitely in effect on this case and has been for several months.

Please be assured that your input on this docket is valuable and that your comments will be considered as part of the decision making process. To insure that your comments are properly considered not only by myself but by other Commissioners, they will be added to the public record on this docket.

One of my primary considerations in any rate case is what effect it will have on ratepayers, particularly elderly people on fixed incomes, low income and other disadvantaged ratepayers. I am also going to be looking carefully at the question of rate design. This case is exploring some new territory in rate design and I can assure you that I will be engaging in a comprehensive review of any proposed changes to insure that they are fair and just across the board.

Again, I appreciate your efforts on behalf of your constituents.

Best regards,

Doug

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**Doug Little**  
**Chairman**

**Arizona Corporation Commission**  
**1200 W. Washington St.**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85007**  
**(602) 542-0656**

<http://www.azcc.gov>

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**From:** Andrea Dalessandro <[adalessandro@azleg.gov](mailto:adalessandro@azleg.gov)>

**Date:** Monday, February 29, 2016 at 12:38 PM

**To:** Doug Little <[dlittle@azcc.gov](mailto:dlittle@azcc.gov)>

**Subject:** Docket number E-04204A-15-0142 from Legislative District 2 Senator Andrea Dalessandro

Dear Commissioner Little,

The purpose of this letter is to strongly voice my opposition to the items proposed on the above named Docket.

My plea is that you act in a **fair and just** way to my constituents and small businesses. Your primary responsibility, as an Arizona Corporation Commissioner is to be **fair and just** to them, not to the utility.

I am the Legislative District 2 Senator. LD 2 includes parts of southern Pima County and all of Santa Cruz County. Most of LD 2 is in the UNS/TEP service area.

Within Legislative District 2 live many senior citizens, most of them are on fixed incomes. Please be concerned about not only about increased bills they will face but the uncertainty of the size of bills, which if the proposal was approved, would surely have uncertain fluctuations. Many have fragile health and they may face hard choices which may lead to dire unintended consequences. Doubling the Basic Service Charge might not be a big deal to you but for those on Social Security, which had no increase this year, it would have a big impact to already tight budgets.

Please refer to the AARP piece which appeared recently in the Nogales International. [http://www.nogalesinternational.com/opinion/guest\\_opinion/mandatory-surcharges-make-reducing-electric-costs-difficult/article\\_4b7d941a-d43b-11e5-b9eb-c7a680a73d25.html](http://www.nogalesinternational.com/opinion/guest_opinion/mandatory-surcharges-make-reducing-electric-costs-difficult/article_4b7d941a-d43b-11e5-b9eb-c7a680a73d25.html).

As Commissioners Tobin and Forese already know, my past experience includes being Certified Public Accountant and university accounting professor. I have reviewed the application and as a UNS/TEP customer with solar panels, I would frame the discussion concerning covering FIXED COSTS in a different manner. My rooftop solar installation requires UNS/TEP to incur **less fixed costs moving into the future**.

Demand charges are bad on so many levels. First they have had a severe impact on SRP with a 96% decrease in solar applications. For a lot of my constituents, they have neither the time nor energy to manage the complicated aspects of demand charges. If approved, they would face unexpectedly high utility bills and have little idea of why that happened.

Lastly, please think of the children in Legislative District 2 because 33% already live in poverty and increased utility costs would have dire impacts on their already stressed family budgets.

Arizona energy needs are certain to grow in the future and we should be encouraging both solar and conservation.

I wish that I could be there in person to testify.

*Andrea Dalessandro*

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