

✓ Allen Lake
sent 8/27/08

✓ To A.V.

✓ To Comm.
 ? H

Idaho Public Utilities Commission
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho

RECEIVED

August 25, 2008

2008 AUG 26 AM 8:11

Re: Case No. ATL-E-008-02

IDAHO PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Members of the PUC;

My name is Allen Lake and I am a full-time resident of Atlanta, residing at 80 E. Alturas Drive.

Since becoming a full-time resident of Atlanta over two years ago, my electrical rate from Atlanta Power Company has included the \$81 base rate, which I have always understood paid for the first 500 kWh I used each month. In the initial filing documents from Atlanta Power Company to the PUC, making their case for this rate increase, it suggested that, as a full-time resident, I receive the first 500 kWh each month free.

However, as an example, for the past seven months the \$81 base rate has meant that the cost of my electricity has ranged from a low of 16.2 cents per kWh to a high of 31cents per kWh. My average cost during these past 7 months has been just over 25 cents per kWh used. The following chart shows my usage and the cost per kWh during this seven month period.

<u>Month</u>	<u>KWH USED</u>	<u>Price per KWH</u>
January 2008	Est. 500 kWh	\$.162
February 2008	278 kWh	\$.291
March 2008	360 kWh	\$.225
April 2008	328 kWh	\$.246
May 2008	261 kWh	\$.31
June 2008	312 kWh	\$.259
July 2008	313 kWh	\$.258
AVERAGE	336 kWh	\$.25 per kWh

When compared to charges for electricity anywhere in the nation, 25 cents per kWh would be considered to be extremely high for any American consumer. This is the current cost to me even without including the new 33.6% surcharge that the PUC has recently allowed Atlanta Power to charge its customers.

I believe the \$81 base rate is entirely too high, let alone the \$112 base rate which is being requested by the APC. As an individual consumer, I would much prefer to pay for each and every kWh I use each month rather than to pay a so-called "base rate" and receive a pre-established allotment of kWh's. This type of rate structure, paying only for what one uses, would allow me and all APC customers to be responsible consumers of electricity. Just don't

ask me to pay a high rate for electricity in addition to paying an emergency surcharge and an unreasonably high base rate.

Asking for a rate increase at this time, following immediately upon the imposition of the 33.6% emergency surcharge, is an unfair request to make of the customer base in Atlanta. Already we are paying a high premium for our electrical power. If the PUC and APC really expect my support for even a modest increase in rates, that increase can only occur after the new emergency surcharge has been retired or after a significant reduction in the high base rate.

The quality of electrical service which we as users in Atlanta receive is modest, at best. To my knowledge, there are no modern regulators or capacitors on the distribution lines. Therefore, there are tremendous fluctuations in the voltage and in the cycling of the electricity which is delivered to my home. This creates a significant problem in the proper operation and maintenance of my household appliances and my electrical motors and tools. Without any promise of improvement in the quality of the electrical product we are provided, we are now being asked to pay even more extravagant rates to access it.

Maintenance of the current electrical plant, facilities and equipment is also a major concern to Atlanta residents. When we see that the equipment that we are paying for with our electrical bills is not being taken care of, we feel that our interests as customers are not being well served. One of the most visible examples of this lack of maintenance is the town's electrical generator that has been left out in the weather for the past year without even a simple tarp to protect it from the elements. We believe that this is just one example of the symptomatic lack of serious maintenance to the entire APC operation.

I understand that the rules which govern public utilities allow for the owners/operators to make a modest profit from their enterprise. However, the PUC is also charged with representing the consumer's interests. In this particular case, at this particular time, I ask the PUC to delay any action on the APC's request for a rate increase until the company submits 1.) its plans to improve the quality of the electrical service, 2.) its plans to properly maintain its facilities and equipment, and 3.) a more reasonable schedule of electrical rates.

Thank you for your concern and support of the power customers in Atlanta.

Submitted by,



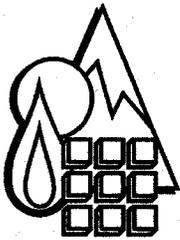
Allen Lake

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✓ Dan Acke
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✓ To AV.

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IDAHO
PUBLIC UTILITIES
COMMISSION

Public Workshop

Atlanta, Idaho

Case No. ATL-E-08-02

August 23, 2008

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2008 AUG 25 AM 7:54

IDAHO PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

If you want your opinion noted in the record, please use the space below to write your comments. Add extra sheets as needed. You may either hand this sheet to a commission staff member or mail it to:

IPUC, PO Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0074.

You may also post comments on our Web site.

www.puc.idaho.gov

Click "comments & questions."

My opinion is as follows

I was the first signature when the
petition was distributed

I am of the opinion that solar
heating & power is the way to go
for power and heating. I am going
to take that route. I realize it
will be expensive, but in the long run
it will pay off, insofar as Atlanta Power
Company is concerned, I think the position
is outlandish and ridiculous.
and with that, I rest my case.

Print Name Dan Fernham Sign Name Dan Fernham

Mailing Address 26 E. Alpine Drive Phone Number

City and State Atlanta Idaho Zip Code 83601