

Date: 10/07/19

To: Mr. Christopher J. Ayres  
Executive Director, NC Utilities Commission  
430 N. Salisbury St., Debbs Bldg.  
5<sup>th</sup>. floor  
Raleigh, NC 27603-5918

From: Terry Huneycutt  
141 Boundary Lane  
Oakboro, NC 28129



Subject: Latest rate increases from Duke Power

Dear Mr. Ayers;

I am in receipt of a note from Duke Power stating some of the latest rate increases approved by your commission. I would like to ask serious questions regarding these increases.

First of all, Duke Power has requested and was granted a fuel surcharge fee on docket #E-7, sub 1190 and 1191. Since fuel prices at the consumer pump have steadily declined over the last year or remained very stable, why has a fuel surcharge increase been awarded? Is it because they included the innocuous but none-the-less obscure clause "fuel related charge rate increases (including regulatory fee)"?

Second, does any of this increase have to do with the removal of coal ash previously in the news or is that issue already decided and heaped onto the backs of consumers? Duke Power took a sizeable profit from the improper dumping of coal ash while doing same so now they want subscribers to pay for the actual approved removal and storage. It seems, in this case, there are no consequences to Duke Power for their previous infractions.

Thirdly, it seems that the lion's share of this current rate increase is on the backs of the residential customers, as it most always is, with the general service/lighting customers having less of an increase leaving the industrial consumer with the least of the increases. Is this because there is no effective lobby for the residential customers that gives us the short shrift of all government decisions?

It is my opinion that the NC State Utilities Commission should be a watchdog agency for consumers, not a rubber stamp agency for all manner of public utilities who have North Carolinians as a captive audience. Apparently, it makes no difference whether a state government employee is elected or appointed.

Please write me personally with a response. I care nothing for a form letter and prefer not to get one.

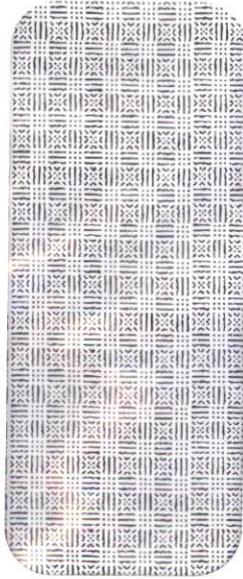
Sincerely,

From TERRY HUNEYCHIT  
141 BOUNDARY RD  
OAKBROOK, NC 28129

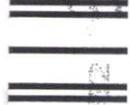
CHECK  If your address is different from  
HERE the one shown on your statement.

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