

6/29/2010 BCS#: 2705806

R-2010-2101575

Toni Paparone
70 Sutphin Pines
Yardley, PA 19067
June 24, 2010

Dear Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission,

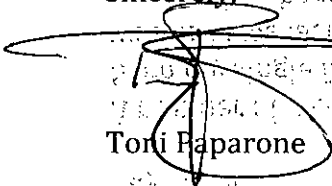
My name is Toni Paparone and I live in Bucks County Pennsylvania. I am writing to you in response to a notification from Peco Electric concerning a rate increase.

It seems so odd to me that in these times when many of us are losing our jobs and taking pay freezes that we are still being faced with additional burdens of rate hikes. I am a teacher in New Jersey and we have been asked by Governor Christy to take pay freeze; furthermore, we may be facing a *reduction* in our pay and additional monies taken out of our pay to cover more of the cost of our healthcare. I am a fifty six year old single woman making \$47,000.00 a year after eight years of teaching, and six years of schooling. I have to work an additional part time job just to keep my head above water. It has become increasingly hard to maintain a decent lifestyle. The cost of food, gasoline, bridge tolls, taxes and such are all increasing and yet, my pay is not.

A number of years ago after my children all were away at college I decided to move from my single family home to a townhome in the area to try to cut costs. Last winter I was facing electric bills of \$575.00 to \$600.00 per month just to try to stay warm. Now here we are in June and with using very little electric in my opinion my bills are still climbing into the high \$200.00's. I should mention that I live alone, and so I don't do much cooking, only wash two loads of wash a week and take a daily shower. I do turn my central air on when I retire to bed in the evenings, but shut it off during the day. I should also mention that my take home pay is approximately \$600:00 per week.

I put in a propane gas fireplace to try to heat my living room in hopes I could keep the thermostat lower, but found I couldn't afford the cost of the propane! I'm pleading with you not to allow this increase. I'm afraid that if my utility bills go any higher especially in the winter that I will be forced to sell my home because I just can't afford any more. I know that I am not the only one facing this problem. There are many people worse off than I. It is unfair to me the middleclass worker and public servant and extremely unfair to our elderly and those on fixed incomes. Many of us rely on electric to keep warm and with energy bills as high as they are already an additional increase in electric could have devastating consequences.

Sincerely,



Toni Paparone

215-408-4797

T.Paparone@comcast.net

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70 Sutphin Pines
Yardley, PA 19067

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Post Office Box 3265

Harrisburg PA 17105-3265

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