



Prairie Township Board of Trustees

23 Maple Dr.
Columbus, Ohio 43228

Telephone (614) 878-3317

Fax (614) 878-0566

Steve Kennedy
Nicole Schlosser
Doug Stormont
Trustees

Tracy Hatmaker
Administrator

Lori Montag
Fiscal Officer

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
Attention: Docketing Division
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215
RE: Case#, 07-1112-WS-AIR

January 17, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to request that the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) reject the above cited rate increase proposal by Ohio American Water Company (OAW) on the grounds that OAW is not maintaining the stipulations of their last rate increase of March 7, 2007. Paragraph 13 E. of the March 7th approval states that, in the event that after May 1, 2007 the company fails to meet at least 95% of the reported test results for finished water softness of a daily average of between 120 mg/l and 150 mg/l, the company will provide an aggregate credit of \$1000 per month to be spread among the Lake Darby customers within two billing cycles.

Under the current stipulation for hardness testing the company doesn't have much of a problem meeting the hardness standards. The company does their own hardness test using their own employees at the plant they operate and then send a second sample to one of their own labs to verify the first sample. Then they average the two samples to come up with a daily average that is turned in to PUCO. By using this procedure the company has never been out of the required range more than the 95% allowed. October 1, through December 31, the company tested 92 times and was only out of range one day.

On October 17, 2007, random testing was started at the firehouse on Hubbard Road to verify that OAW was meeting the stipulated hardness requirements. October 17, 2007 through December 31, 2007, there were 35 random hardness samples taken at the firehouse on Hubbard Road. OAW was out of the stipulated range 26 times with readings from 68mg/l to 239 mg/l or out of range 74% under random testing. Under the stipulations to which all parties agreed, the company should have been fined \$1,000.00 each for the months of October, November and December. To date no fine has been issued.

On December 3, 2007, the random hardness reading was 188 mg/l and on December 31, 2007 the reading was 171 mg/l. Both of these readings were verified to be over the stipulated range by the Ohio Department of Agriculture's lab in Reynoldsburg and all these test results were shared with PUCO, OEPA, OAW, and OCC. Still, no fines have been issued. The test results are enclosed.

Just as OAW has a right to make a fair profit off there investment, our OAW customers have a right to clean quality water at a reasonable price. Asking for a 34% rate increase while not meeting all the stipulations of the last rate increase is just plain wrong. The PUCO, and OEPA need to step in and deny this rate increase until all issues have been resolved and OAW starts asking for a reasonable increase.

Sincerely,

Steve Kennedy
Prairie Township Trustee

cc: Honorable Ted Stickland