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House of Representatives State of Tennessee

Nashville

June 1, 2010

Dr. Eddie Roberson, Director Tennessee Regulatory Authority 460 James Robertson Parkway

Nashville, TN 37243-0505

Dear Dr. Roberson:

Allow me to use this letter to express my deepest concerns over the T.R.A.'s latest decision to allow the Chattanooga Gas Company to move to a decoupling billing plan.

This decision will have a negative impact on every fixed income person that uses natural gas. The smoke and mirrors of education and conservation is a ludicrous and ill-conceived business plan.

Every business I know of would love to be able to bill its customers up front just for the privilege to have access to its service. Need we again share Chattanooga Gas has a monopoly in Hamilton County on natural gas?

I would like to find out what has changed since Chattanooga Gas was denied this request last year. I believe the Attorney General's office even got involved.

What a great incentive to use less and be charged more! Those customers who keep their thermostats at 68 degrees will pay more for those who have no intention to conserve. Can anyone give another answer for conservation besides using less by turning down thermostats?

I can assure you that in three years Chattanooga Gas will produce numbers and data that will confirm decoupling is a great plan. I just wonder what those numbers and data will show after five years.

MEMBER OF COMMITTEES

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I find it hard to believe there has been enough positive information on the benefits for business and home customers to change T.R.A.'s decision from last year not to allow decoupling.

The education for conservation and digital thermostats is going to cost consumers and businesses a lot of money if Chattanooga Gas is allowed to continue down the path of decoupling.

I wish to encourage the T.R.A. to reconsider its decision to place an increased financial burden on the many small businesses and consumers that can least afford it in this difficult economic time.

Respectfully,

Representative Richard Floyd

Cc: Dr. Eddie Roberson, Director 🗸

Sara Kyle, Director Mary Freeman, Director Dr. Kenneth Hill, Director