

Butler Senior Center
10 Austin Avenue - Suite B - Lyndora, PA 16045

June 18, 2009

The Honorable Congresswoman Kathy Dahlkemper
516 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Dahlkemper:

My organization, the Butler Senior Center, represents seniors in your district. The mission of the senior center is to maximize opportunities for citizens over the age of 50 to lead independent, healthy and meaningful lives. Since February 2009, our center has already faced severe budget cuts and we have seen a 14% increase in our electricity bill.

You are about to vote on important environmental legislation (the Waxman-Markey bill). We support making the environment cleaner, but the reason we are writing is that we are concerned about our electric bills. Many seniors, as you know, are on low fixed incomes. The cost to heat and cool our homes, run hot water and use other appliances is very important to those on a budget.

Our state gets 56% of its electricity from coal. We urge you to pass legislation that reduces greenhouse gases but at the same time protects consumers from unaffordable increases in the basic necessity of electricity.

We ask you to use your important position to help protect seniors and other consumers in your district from higher electricity bills. Please don't vote to force cost increases on us, especially in this volatile economy. We urge you to make pro-consumer changes in the Waxman-Markey bill to protect seniors and all of your constituents from unaffordable energy cost increases.

Respectfully,

George West
George West
Butler Senior Center

1-847 P-001/008 P-008

1008881812

14:31 254-753-0182
PRO-CONSUMER REPORTS

MARKEY-000020