



February 19, 2018

The Honorable Alan Wilson
Attorney General, South Carolina
Rembert Dennis Building
1000 Assembly Street, Room 519
Columbia, S.C. 29201

Dear Attorney General Wilson:

I am writing to request your assistance in addressing concerns with what appears to be individuals filing false comments during a grassroots campaign conducted by Consumer Energy Alliance on behalf of electricity consumers in South Carolina.

Consumer Energy Alliance is a national, non-partisan, non-profit trade association composed of more than 500,000 individual members and more than 280 affiliate members nationwide. Our mission is to facilitate a constructive dialogue among energy producers, energy consumers and policy makers in order to foster the development and implementation of balanced, rational energy policies that will ensure affordable, reliable energy for American energy consumers.

Over our 13 year history, CEA often provides our members and the public opportunities to weigh-in online with comments on energy issues that could impact household energy prices. In each instance, the commenter must enter their name, address, email and zip code and affirmatively approve a comment letter.

As we have watched events unfold surrounding the decision by South Carolina Electric & Gas (SCE&G) and Santee Cooper to halt construction on the V.C. Summer nuclear power plant project, our primary concern has been the potential affects that this turn of events may have on electricity prices in South Carolina. South Carolina families and small businesses already pay among the highest electricity bills in the country and prices have risen throughout the lifespan of the project.

On or about February 6, 2018, Consumer Energy Alliance posted a website which allowed members of the public to send a letter to their state respective legislators to ensure that their legislator considered impacts on household electricity prices during future legislative deliberations. Approximately 2,515 individuals filled out all of the required fields and submitted letters which were then emailed to their respective State Senators and State Representatives.



Recently, CEA learned that one or more petition letters in South Carolina might have been submitted to our system on behalf of a local individual apparently without their permission. It appears to be false information. We are deeply concerned about this potential activity and are investigating it thoroughly.

Consumer Energy Alliance strongly believes that it is vital for the public to communicate directly with policy makers on important public policy issues and is proud of our efforts to provide platforms which allow the public to legitimately engage in public debates, such as this website portal. We are very concerned with any instance where an individual falsely files a comment in an attempt to influence the actions of policy makers – particularly when that individual has utilized a grassroots vehicle provided by Consumer Energy Alliance.

We would like to ask for a meeting with you or an appropriate member of your staff to discuss this matter and whether there is any appropriate response to address this issue by either your office or Consumer Energy Alliance. You or a member of your staff may reach me any time at 713-337-8800 or dholt@consumerenergyalliance.org.

On behalf of Consumer Energy Alliance and our members, I appreciate your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D Holt". The signature is stylized and cursive.

David Holt
President
Consumer Energy Alliance