

Notice of Comment Period Concerning Rate Increase Request

Westar Energy has filed an application with the Kansas Corporation Commission (Commission) requesting a \$17.4 million (1.2%) rate increase for Westar Energy's retail electric customers. Residential customers with average monthly consumption of 1,000 kilowatt hours of electricity would have an average monthly increase of \$1.54.

Regulatory Responsibility

The Commission regulates public utilities, including home telephone, natural gas, electric and water companies as well as motor carriers, oil and gas pipelines, and oil and gas producers. The Commission's regulatory oversight of public utilities primarily pertains to rates and terms of service. In order to ensure that customers of regulated utilities are provided sufficient and efficient service at just and reasonable rates, utilities may not change their rates without Commission approval.

Public Comments

The Commission will accept comments regarding the proposed rate increase through 5 p.m. April 30, 2017. There are three convenient ways to submit a comment:

1. Go to the KCC website (www.kcc.ks.gov) to enter your comment. Click on the link under Your Opinion Matters.
2. Send a written letter to the Kansas Corporation Commission, Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection, 1500 SW Arrowhead Road, Topeka, KS 66604-4027. Be sure to reference Docket No. 17-WSEE-147-RTS.
3. Call the Commission's Public Affairs office at 1-800-662-0027.

Westar Energy's Proposal

Westar Energy's application indicates the increase relates to costs incurred to meet Environmental Protection Agency requirements, investment related to the extended operating license for Wolf Creek and investment in distribution assets to improve reliability.

Westar Energy rates affect about 690,000 customers in Topeka, Lawrence, Olathe, Leavenworth, Atchison, Manhattan, Salina, Hutchinson, Emporia, Parsons, Wichita, Arkansas City, El Dorado, Newton, Fort Scott, Pittsburg and Independence, among other towns and rural areas.

Other Information

An evidentiary hearing on Westar Energy's request is scheduled to begin May 9, 2017, at 9 a.m., at the Commission's Offices, 1500 SW Arrowhead Rd., Topeka, KS 66604-4027.

A complete copy of Westar Energy's application and supporting testimony is available on the Commission's website at www.kcc.ks.gov, searching Docket Filings for Docket No. 17-WSEE-147-RTS. If you need additional assistance or more information about the proposed rate increase or how to submit public comments to the Commission, contact the Commission's Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection at 1-800-662-0027, or at public.affairs@kcc.ks.gov.