

From: PSC - Public Information Officer
To: "Chip Ruble"
Subject: your comments in case number 2014-339 - Blue Grass Energy rates
Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 11:22:11 AM

Dear Mr. Ruble:

Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration.

As you noted, the case number in this matter is 2014-00339. It would be helpful if you would please refer to it in any further correspondence.

The application and other documents in this case are available at
http://psc.ky.gov/PSC_WebNet/ViewCaseFilings.aspx?Case=2014-00339

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Andrew Melnykovych

Director of Communications
Kentucky Public Service Commission
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Andrew.Melnykovych@ky.gov

From: Chip Ruble [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2015 4:23 PM
To: PSC - Public Information Officer
Subject: Blue Grass Energy's rate case number 2014-00339

Kentucky Public Service Commission,

If Bluegrass Energy truly needs additional revenue, the PSC should direct them to increase the per-kilowatt-hour charge, while leaving the flat monthly fee low. That would leave customers with options to lower bills by using less electricity. **But I do not buy the reasoning underlying this requested change. This request (combined with similar utility requests across Kentucky) is an attempt to lock in the current archaic structure of our energy supply system. I feel it is time for a change.**

Kentucky has the opportunity, right now, to transform our energy systems and economy by embracing low-cost clean energy solutions including energy efficiency and renewable energy. Diversifying our energy sources and becoming more energy efficient is the right approach for our health and climate. It is also in the best interests of Kentucky's ratepayers. Monopolistic utilities exist for the betterment of the Commonwealth – not the other way around. Encouraging energy efficiency should be a high priority for the Kentucky Public Service Commission and utilities operating in Kentucky. It far less expensive for utilities and their customers to invest in energy

efficiency than to build out new generation and transmission infrastructure. Kentucky's rate structures and policies should encourage, not discourage, private investments in energy efficiency and distributed renewables.


Rate case # 2014-00339 would discourage energy conservation and distributed renewable energy generation. In fact, experts who examined the LG&E case determined that the new rate structure would actually cause customers to increase their energy consumption by 2% over several years. A similar impact could be expected in similar cases involving Kentucky Utilities, and Kentucky Power. This is due to the fact that customers would benefit less from reducing their energy consumption under the proposed rates.

Changes such as this are inherently unfair against the residents of our community least able to pay for them. The current proposals disproportionately and inequitably increase bills for the smallest residential customers who take steps to keep their energy use low. This group includes many individuals who have low or fixed incomes and pay a high percentage of their monthly income for home energy costs. Under these proposals, low-energy users would subsidize customers who have larger homes and/or higher energy use.

This proposal is a step backwards. These rate proposals will also restrict the growth of Kentucky's clean energy economy, including jobs in the solar and energy efficiency industries, at a time when those sectors are booming in other states. Kentucky's Public Service Commission should not allow utilities to crowd out private investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy by rigging their rate structures to their own distinct advantage.

Throw this proposal out it's time to move forward with more progressive creative thinking for our future.

Philip "Chip" Ruble
Blue Grass Energy Customer
2001 Freestone Way
Lawrenceburg, KY 40342



From: PSC - Public Information Officer
To: "Amy Tempus"
Subject: your comments in case number 2014-339 - Blue Grass Energy rates
Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 11:17:23 AM

Dear Ms. Tempus:

Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration.

As you noted, the case number in this matter is 2014-00339. It would be helpful if you would please refer to it in any further correspondence.

The application and other documents in this case are available at
http://psc.ky.gov/PSC_WebNet/ViewCaseFilings.aspx?Case=2014-00339

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

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By Kentucky PSC at 11:46 am, Mar 31, 2015

From: Amy Tempus [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2015 2:42 PM
To: PSC - Public Information Officer
Subject: Case Related Comment or Question (2014-00339)

Kentucky has the opportunity, right now, to transform our energy systems and economy by embracing low-cost clean energy solutions including energy efficiency and renewable energy. Diversifying our energy sources and becoming more energy efficient is the right approach for our health and climate. It is also in the best interests of Kentucky's ratepayers.

The current proposals disproportionately and inequitably increase bills for the smallest residential customers who take steps to keep their energy use low. This group includes many individuals who have low or fixed incomes and pay a high percentage of their monthly income for home energy costs. Under these proposals, low-energy users would subsidize customers who have larger homes and/or higher energy use.

Encouraging energy efficiency should be a high priority for the Kentucky Public Service Commission and utilities operating in Kentucky. It far less expensive for utilities and their customers to invest in energy efficiency than to build out new generation and transmission infrastructure. Kentucky's rate structures and policies should encourage, not discourage, private investments in energy efficiency and distributed renewables.

Unfortunately, the current rash of utility rate cases before the PSC (including case # 2014-

00339) would have the opposite effect. These proposals actually discourage energy conservation and distributed renewable energy generation. In fact, experts who examined the LG&E case determined that the new rate structure would actually cause customers to increase their energy consumption by 2% over several years. A similar impact could be expected in similar cases involving Kentucky Utilities, Kentucky Power, and Bluegrass Energy. This is due to the fact that customers would benefit less from reducing their energy consumption under the proposed rates.

These rate proposals will also restrict the growth of Kentucky's clean energy economy, including jobs in the solar and energy efficiency industries, at a time when those sectors are booming in other states. Kentucky's Public Service Commission should not allow utilities to crowd out private investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy by rigging their rate structures to their own distinct advantage.

As a new homeowner strongly considering installing renewables, this type of rate strategy only serves to maintain the status quo and discourage me from installing solar or other renewables. This is silly. We should be doing everything we can to encourage and promote diversifying our energy sources and use of renewables.

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