From: PSC - Public Information Officer

To: <u>Chris Abner</u>

**Subject:** your comments in case 2019-00271 - Duke Energy Kentucky rates

**Date:** Tuesday, October 1, 2019 4:05:00 PM

## Dear Mr. Abner:

Thank you for your comments on the application of the Duke Energy Kentucky for an adjustment in its base rates for electric service.

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 2019-00271. It would be helpful if you would please refer to it in any further correspondence.

The documents in this case are available at http://psc.ky.gov/PSC\_WebNet/ViewCaseFilings.aspx? case=2019-00271.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Andrew Melnykovych
Director of Communications/Public Information Officer
Kentucky Public Service Commission
211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort KY 40601
Andrew.melnykovych@ky.gov
Direct line 502-782-2564
Cell 502-330-5981
Main 502-564-3940

From: Chris Abner

Sent: Monday, September 23, 2019 8:54 PM

To: PSC - Public Information Officer < PSC.Info@ky.gov>

**Subject:** Case # 2019-00271

Case # 2019-00271

Please deny the requested rate increase from Duke Energy. The company previously requested a huge raise of 17.5%, even though the Attorney General sent me a letter stating their analysis revealed a rate decrease was in order. I believe Duke received a 3.4% increase in the end. This latest request appears to ask for the remainder of what was denied before.

Looking at the dividend rate increase for the last 3 and 5 year periods reveals Duke Energy has been rewarding shareholders at an above inflation pace. Though customers are thrown some candy by waiving the \$1.50 fee for using a credit card to pay their bill, the wealthy who own stock are receiving quite a bonus.

The last 5 year dividend growth rate is 3.3%. In the last 3 years, Duke has rewarded shareholders with an even more handsome 3.9% increase per year.

## Inflation rates by year

2018 - 1.9

2017 - 2.1

2016 - 2.1

2015 - 0.7

2014 - 0.8

I hope the commission will consider how the company treats customers versus shareholders when determining what are appropriate rates. A review of executive and/or board member stock based compensation would be another interesting avenue to explore.

Thank you,

Chris Abner

Ft Mitchell, KY

\*L Allyson Honaker Goss Samford, PLLC 2365 Harrodsburg Road, Suite B325 Lexington, KENTUCKY 40504

\*Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc. 139 East Fourth Street Cincinnati, OH 45202

\*David S Samford Goss Samford, PLLC 2365 Harrodsburg Road, Suite B325 Lexington, KENTUCKY 40504 \*Minna Sunderman Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc. 139 East Fourth Street Cincinnati, OH 45201

\*Debbie Gates Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc. 139 East Fourth Street Cincinnati, OH 45201 \*Rocco O D'Ascenzo Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc. 139 East Fourth Street Cincinnati, OH 45201

\*Dennis G Howard II Howard Law PLLC 740 Emmett Creek Lane Lexington, KENTUCKY 40515

\*William Don Wathern, Jr. Director Rates & Reg. Strategy Duke Energy Kentucky, Inc. 139 East Fourth Street Cincinnati, OH 45201

\*Honorable Kurt J Boehm Attorney at Law Boehm, Kurtz & Lowry 36 East Seventh Street Suite 1510 Cincinnati, OHIO 45202

\*Kent Chandler Assistant Attorney General Office of the Attorney General Office of Rate 700 Capitol Avenue Suite 20 Frankfort, KENTUCKY 40601-8204