

Dear Mr. Lawson:

Thank you for your comments (attached below) to Governor Steve Beshear regarding the rate increase proposed by Kentucky Utilities Co. Your comments will be placed into the case file for the Commission's review as it considers this matter. For your future reference, the case number in this matter is 2009-00548. Please cite it in any future correspondence regarding this case so that your comments may be readily directed to the case file.

Thank you again for your interest.

Andrew Melnykovich
Director of Communications
Kentucky Public Service Commission
502-564-3940 x208

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FEB 10 2010
PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

Topic/Subject Desc: Electricity rate hikes
Dear Governor Beshear:

I just read where the Kentucky Utilities Electric Company is, or will be asking for new price increases for residential customers. I am writing to ask you to decline any electrical price increases for the KU / LG&E / EON Company.

I ask for your consideration in declining these increases based on the following:

A. One of the stated reasons for asking for the price increase was the 2008 /2009 winter and ice storm damage. In my opinion that is a poor leg to stand on when approaching the public and asking us to pay more for electricity. Why doesn't KU take it on the chin like the rest of us and do what needs to be done without asking for more? Many folks lost electricity during these storms, and food, and homes and many other things and they never got to pass the buck and have someone else pay for it. I ask you, what is KU doing with all the money they get from the customers now? They should have an account set aside for just such emergencies.

The experience during the ice storm is nor more or less different than me having to perform maintenance and repairs on my personal vehicle. If I need to install brakes or tires on my car, then I do not go to someone else and say I'm taking money from you to do perform this maintenance. No, I have to perform this maintenance out of my own pocket with the resources already provided to me.

Then, Heaven forbid, I have an emergency engine failure in my car, I do not go to someone else and say, you have to pay for this. No, I have the repairs performed out of my own pocket and at my own expense.

The same should go for KU in relation to this flimsy excuse to raise rates. The emergency failures KU experienced as part of the winter storms is no less different than an engine failure for me. Yes, it is on a larger scale, but the same experience.

I have to pay for my own engine failure. KU should foot the bill for their experience without asking to raise residential customer rates.

B. KU residential customers have, and are still losing jobs. How can KU facetiously and insultingly expect customers' to pay higher rates after all that has happened with personal finances. Many folks are out of jobs, broke and can barely pay their bills. And to top that off, residential customers are already footing the bill for the Home Energy Assistance Fund. (and illegally in my opinion, regardless of what any law says. This money is being extorted from us because the public did not get to decide for ourselves if we wanted to participate. That makes it stealing!) Why isn't this fund used to help cover emergency expenses?

We pay enough in electrical costs already. Sure, we continue to brag that we have the lowest rates in the nation, but so what, our state is also near the bottom of the pile in wage earning.

We are tired of our KY leaders and public servants selling out to the highest bidder and stealing from everyday consumers!

I say a resounding NO! , to more electricity price increases for KU residential customers!

Sincerely,

Marty Lawson
Harrodsburg KY.