

March 15, 2017

To : Kentucky Public Service Commission
KU customers rate case : Case #2016-00370.

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I am Cecelia Gass of 1540 Hedden Rd, Versailles .KY 40383

Public Service
Commission

I am very concerned about KU's rate increase proposal. KU wants to more than double the flat fee we all have to pay no matter how much energy we use, while slightly lowering the rate they charge for energy use. This would have a negative impact on people with low and moderate incomes. Also, it makes it harder for customers to manage their bills by being careful about how much energy they use.

KU has sent customers misleading information about the new rate structure, indicating that it will save consumers money. But their claims only apply to very high-volume users, and only in months with very high energy use. For my family and many others, their plan will lead to an average increase in my monthly energy bill. I am concerned about the nature of the utilities' public information. And I believe it makes no sense for a rate structure to reward customers who use the most energy.

The proposed charges will discourage people like me from taking steps to make our homes and businesses more energy efficient or use renewable energy. These charges will move Kentucky in the wrong direction and make things worse for our energy bills, health, local jobs and climate.

The utilities say they need the new charges to upgrade all electric and natural gas meters on their system to advanced digital meters, or Smart Meters. LG&E and KU are not proposing to use the new meters for energy conservation. Instead, they say their investment will allow them to reduce personnel costs (by eliminating jobs) and cut service response time, since the meters can be turned on and off remotely. So in effect, they are asking for a permanent rate increase from customers for a one-time cost which will lead to job cuts and permanent savings for the utilities.

It is strongly in the public interest to establish fair rate structures that support greater use of energy efficiency, energy conservation and renewable energy in our communities.

I own shares of PPL (parent company of KU). I would rather see the dividend returns go down than have this rate increase be approved.

Please reject these rate increase proposals.

Sincerely,

Cecelia Gass

