Dear Ms. Cherry:

Thank you for your comments on the application of Louisville Gas & Electric Company for a rate adjustment.

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 2018-00295. 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=2018-00295.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Andrew Melnykovych

Director of Communications Kentucky Public Service Commission 502-782-2564 (direct) or 502-564-3940 (switchboard) 502-330-5981 (cell)

From: Kristen Cherry [mailto Sent: Wednesday, February 20, 2019 6:47 PM To: PSC - Public Information Officer < Subject: LG&E/KU rate increase

Hello,

I want to speak out against LG&E's proposed rate increases (case number 2018-00295). As a social worker in Louisville, I speak to Kentuckians every day who are struggling to pay their utility bills. Raising the fixed monthly fee will only exacerbate this problem, and the strain on nonprofits providing utility payment assistance. This deal is bad for consumers, particularly those on low and fixed incomes, and discourages energy efficiency and rooftop solar. I therefore ask that the Public Service Commission reject this deal, and open the public process.

Best wishes, Kristen Cherry Dear Mr. Sutton:

Thank you for your comments on the application of Louisville Gas & Electric Company for a rate adjustment.

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 2018-00295. It would be helpful if you would please refer to it in any further correspondence.

The documents in this case are available at <u>http://psc.ky.gov/PSC_WebNet/ViewCaseFilings.aspx?</u> case=2018-00295.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Andrew Melnykovych

Director of Communications Kentucky Public Service Commission 502-782-2564 (direct) or 502-564-3940 (switchboard) 502-330-5981 (cell)

From: PSC - Consumer Web Inquiry
Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2019 9:00 AM
To: Melnykovych, Andrew (PSC) <
Subject: FW: 2018-00294 (KU) and 2018-00295 (LG&E)
Importance: High</pre>

From: Brian K. Sutton < Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2019 1:58 AM To: PSC - Consumer Web Inquiry < Subject: 2018-00294 (KU) and 2018-00295 (LG&E) Importance: High

Good Morning,

I feel that the current rates for LG&E/KU in District 7 of Metro Louisville are expensive enough without another rate hike! Considering the high level of current rates and the low reliability of our grid, with little to no improvement in the current plans, this is a ridiculous and unjustified grab for profits. Many of the citizens in my local community are on fixed incomes and even the slightest increase dramatically effects their ability to afford basic essentials. Therefore, I urge the PSC to DENY cases 2018-00294 (KU) and 2018-00295 (LG&E) from increasing rates.

Thank you,

Brian K. Sutton Commissioner-City of Briarwood Email: Dear Ms. Kaufmann:

Thank you for your comments on the application of Louisville Gas & Electric Company for a rate adjustment.

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 2018-00295. 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=2018-00295.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Andrew Melnykovych

Director of Communications Kentucky Public Service Commission 502-782-2564 (direct) or 502-564-3940 (switchboard) 502-330-5981 (cell)

From: Anastasia K [mailto Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2019 12:15 PM To: PSC - Public Information Officer < Subject: Regarding case 2018-00295 (LG&E).

Hello,

I am a Louisville resident and would like to submit a comment regarding the proposed LG&E rate increase. I am strongly opposed to this rate increase.

As someone who lives in a small apartment and takes steps to be careful about how much energy I use, I oppose the approach of raising the "base rate". I and other people who conserve energy will see a much higher percentage increase in our energy bill than those that are profligate about energy usage.

As a "flat fee", this change will also have a disproportionate impact on lower-income folks who may already struggle to pay their energy bills.

Moreover, this proposed rate increase structure will dis-incentivize conservation and alternate

forms of energy. Not only does it fail to encourage energy conservation (since you cannot lower the base rate by using less energy), but it creates a dis-incentive for people to invest in rooftop solar, since a larger percentage of their traditional energy bill will now be a "base rate" that cannot be replaced by solar energy.

Additionally, this proposal subdivides even the actual per-kilowatt-hour energy charges into a "variable charge" and "infrastructure charge". This change is supposedly for "informational purposes" but will not actually be reflected in customer bills. Instead, it's very likely that the energy companies will use this sub-division to "prove" that only part of the per-kilowatt-hour energy charge is "really" the cost of the energy, and therefore only that smaller part should be paid to customers who use solar energy and sell extra energy back to the power companies.

As a side note, I am extremely disappointed that PSC did not permit organizations that advocate for low-income populations (such as the Association of Community Ministries and Metropolitan Housing Coalition) to participate in this case.

Thank you,

Anastasia Kaufmann

	By Kentucky PSC at 12:02 pm, Feb 21, 2019
From:	Melissa Stiff (Sent You a Personal Message
To:	PSC - Public Information Officer
Subject:	Public Comment Dockets No. 2018-00294 and 2018-00295, Kentucky Utilities and Louisville Gas and Electric Rate Cases
Date:	Thursday, February 21, 2019 8:27:04 AM

RECEIVED

Dear Kentucky Public Service Commission,

Please reject Louisville Gas and Electric and Kentucky Utilities proposed rate increases.

This is an unjust, unfair, and unreasonable proposal that is contrary to Kentucky law. I, the undersigned, call on the Public Service Commission to deny this rate change!

These proposals will hurt many customers, especially low- and fixed-income people, apartment dwellers and people who attempt to conserve energy. They will limit our ability to save money by reducing our energy use. And they will discourage many people from installing rooftop solar or energy efficient systems, steps which are needed to lower harmful pollution and protect our health and climate. These rates are unfair, unjust and a step in the wrong direction.

Sincerely,

Melissa Stiff 271 Burke Rd Lexington, KY 40511

From:	Kama Vinup (Sent You a Personal Message
To:	PSC - Public Information Officer
Subject:	Public Comment Dockets No. 2018-00294 and 2018-00295, Kentucky Utilities and Louisville Gas and Electric Rate
	Cases
Date:	Thursday, February 21, 2019 6:41:59 AM

Please reject Louisville Gas and Electric and Kentucky Utilities proposed rate increases.

This is an unjust, unfair, and unreasonable proposal that is contrary to Kentucky law. I, the undersigned, call on the Public Service Commission to deny this rate change!

These proposals will hurt many customers, especially low- and fixed-income people, apartment dwellers and people who attempt to conserve energy. They will limit our ability to save money by reducing our energy use. And they will discourage many people from installing rooftop solar or energy efficient systems, steps which are needed to lower harmful pollution and protect our health and climate. These rates are unfair, unjust and a step in the wrong direction.

Sincerely,

Kama Vinup 1000 Frederick Lane #13 LaGrange, KY 40031

From:	Nancy Givens (Sent You a Personal Message
To:	PSC - Public Information Officer
Subject:	Public Comment Dockets No. 2018-00294 and 2018-00295, Kentucky Utilities and Louisville Gas and Electric Rate
	Cases
Date:	Thursday, February 21, 2019 1:47:20 AM

Please reject Louisville Gas and Electric and Kentucky Utilities proposed rate increases.

This is an unjust, unfair, and unreasonable proposal that is contrary to Kentucky law. I, the undersigned, call on the Public Service Commission to deny this rate change!

These proposals will hurt many customers, especially low- and fixed-income people, apartment dwellers and people who attempt to conserve energy. They will limit our ability to save money by reducing our energy use. And they will discourage many people from installing rooftop solar or energy efficient systems, steps which are needed to lower harmful pollution and protect our health and climate. These rates are unfair, unjust and a step in the wrong direction.

Sincerely,

Nancy Givens 3015 Brownsboro Rd #11 Louisville, KY 40206

From:	Austin Tank (Sent You a Personal Message
To:	PSC - Public Information Officer
Subject:	Public Comment Dockets No. 2018-00294 and 2018-00295, Kentucky Utilities and Louisville Gas and Electric Rate
	Cases
Date:	Wednesday, February 20, 2019 8:49:05 PM

Please reject Louisville Gas and Electric and Kentucky Utilities proposed rate increases.

This is an unjust, unfair, and unreasonable proposal that is contrary to Kentucky law. I, the undersigned, call on the Public Service Commission to deny this rate change!

These proposals will hurt many customers, especially low- and fixed-income people, apartment dwellers and people who attempt to conserve energy. They will limit our ability to save money by reducing our energy use. And they will discourage many people from installing rooftop solar or energy efficient systems, steps which are needed to lower harmful pollution and protect our health and climate. These rates are unfair, unjust and a step in the wrong direction.

Sincerely,

Austin Tank 386 Gibson Lane, Apartment 18 Richmond, KY 40475

From:	Amber Ferrell (Sent You a Pers	sonal Message
To:	PSC - Public Information Officer	
Subject:	Public Comment Dockets No. 2018-00294 and 2018-00295, Ke Cases	entucky Utilities and Louisville Gas and Electric Rate
Date:	Wednesday, February 20, 2019 8:46:23 PM	

Please reject Louisville Gas and Electric and Kentucky Utilities proposed rate increases.

This is an unjust, unfair, and unreasonable proposal that is contrary to Kentucky law. I, the undersigned, call on the Public Service Commission to deny this rate change!

These proposals will hurt many customers, especially low- and fixed-income people, apartment dwellers and people who attempt to conserve energy. They will limit our ability to save money by reducing our energy use. And they will discourage many people from installing rooftop solar or energy efficient systems, steps which are needed to lower harmful pollution and protect our health and climate. These rates are unfair, unjust and a step in the wrong direction.

Sincerely,

Amber Ferrell 2823 Meadow Dr Louisville, KY 40220

From:	Edward Nix (Sent You a Personal Message
To:	PSC - Public Information Officer
Subject:	Public Comment Dockets No. 2018-00294 and 2018-00295, Kentucky Utilities and Louisville Gas and Electric Rate Cases
Date:	Wednesday, February 20, 2019 7:36:13 PM

Please reject Louisville Gas and Electric and Kentucky Utilities proposed rate increases.

This is an unjust, unfair, and unreasonable proposal that is contrary to Kentucky law. I, the undersigned, call on the Public Service Commission to deny this rate change!

These proposals will hurt many customers, especially low- and fixed-income people, apartment dwellers and people who attempt to conserve energy. They will limit our ability to save money by reducing our energy use. And they will discourage many people from installing rooftop solar or energy efficient systems, steps which are needed to lower harmful pollution and protect our health and climate. These rates are unfair, unjust and a step in the wrong direction.

or

Sincerely,

Edward Nix 4520 Borney Circle Louisville, KY 40299

Please contact Dave Simon at

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club.

for more information.

From:	Leonard Kearney	Sent You a Personal Message
To:	PSC - Public Information Officer	
Subject:	Public Comment Dockets No. 2018-00294 and Cases	2018-00295, Kentucky Utilities and Louisville Gas and Electric Rate
Date:	Wednesday, February 20, 2019 7:17:39 PM	

Please reject Louisville Gas and Electric and Kentucky Utilities proposed rate increases.

This is an unjust, unfair, and unreasonable proposal that is contrary to Kentucky law. I, the undersigned, call on the Public Service Commission to deny this rate change!

These proposals will hurt many customers, especially low- and fixed-income people, apartment dwellers and people who attempt to conserve energy. They will limit our ability to save money by reducing our energy use. And they will discourage many people from installing rooftop solar or energy efficient systems, steps which are needed to lower harmful pollution and protect our health and climate. These rates are unfair, unjust and a step in the wrong direction.

Sincerely,

Leonard Kearney 6914 Fallen Leaf Cir Louisville, KY 40241

From:	Stefani Dahl (Sent You a Personal Message
To:	PSC - Public Information Officer
Subject:	Public Comment Dockets No. 2018-00294 and 2018-00295, Kentucky Utilities and Louisville Gas and Electric Rate
	Cases
Date:	Wednesday, February 20, 2019 4:40:59 PM

Please reject Louisville Gas and Electric and Kentucky Utilities proposed rate increases.

This is an unjust, unfair, and unreasonable proposal that is contrary to Kentucky law. I, the undersigned, call on the Public Service Commission to deny this rate change!

These proposals will hurt many customers, especially low- and fixed-income people, apartment dwellers and people who attempt to conserve energy. They will limit our ability to save money by reducing our energy use. And they will discourage many people from installing rooftop solar or energy efficient systems, steps which are needed to lower harmful pollution and protect our health and climate. These rates are unfair, unjust and a step in the wrong direction.

Sincerely,

Stefani Dahl 1368 Barret Ave Louisville, KY 40204

From:	Annriette stolte (
To:	PSC - Public Information Officer
Subject:	Public Comment Dockets No. 2018-00294 and 2018-00295, Kentucky Utilities and Louisville Gas and Electric Rate Cases
Date:	Wednesday, February 20, 2019 4:32:42 PM

Please reject Louisville Gas and Electric and Kentucky Utilities proposed rate increases.

This is an unjust, unfair, and unreasonable proposal that is contrary to Kentucky law. I, the undersigned, call on the Public Service Commission to deny this rate change!

These proposals will hurt many customers, especially low- and fixed-income people, apartment dwellers and people who attempt to conserve energy. They will limit our ability to save money by reducing our energy use. And they will discourage many people from installing rooftop solar or energy efficient systems, steps which are needed to lower harmful pollution and protect our health and climate. These rates are unfair, unjust and a step in the wrong direction.

Sincerely,

Annriette stolte 400 jackson Berea, KY 40403

From:	Carol Wiedemer (Sent You a Personal Message
To:	PSC - Public Information Officer
Subject:	Public Comment Dockets No. 2018-00294 and 2018-00295, Kentucky Utilities and Louisville Gas and Electric Rate
	Cases
Date:	Wednesday, February 20, 2019 3:15:31 PM

Please reject Louisville Gas and Electric and Kentucky Utilities proposed rate increases.

This is an unjust, unfair, and unreasonable proposal that is contrary to Kentucky law. I, the undersigned, call on the Public Service Commission to deny this rate change!

These proposals will hurt many customers, especially low- and fixed-income people, apartment dwellers and people who attempt to conserve energy. They will limit our ability to save money by reducing our energy use. And they will discourage many people from installing rooftop solar or energy efficient systems, steps which are needed to lower harmful pollution and protect our health and climate. These rates are unfair, unjust and a step in the wrong direction.

Sincerely,

Carol Wiedemer 7519 Ashers Run Dr Crestwood, KY 40014

From:	Terri Bey (Sent You a Personal Message
To:	PSC - Public Information Officer
Subject:	Public Comment Dockets No. 2018-00294 and 2018-00295, Kentucky Utilities and Louisville Gas and Electric Rate
	Cases
Date:	Wednesday, February 20, 2019 3:10:28 PM

Please reject Louisville Gas and Electric and Kentucky Utilities proposed rate increases.

This is an unjust, unfair, and unreasonable proposal that is contrary to Kentucky law. I, the undersigned, call on the Public Service Commission to deny this rate change!

These proposals will hurt many customers, especially low- and fixed-income people, apartment dwellers and people who attempt to conserve energy. They will limit our ability to save money by reducing our energy use. And they will discourage many people from installing rooftop solar or energy efficient systems, steps which are needed to lower harmful pollution and protect our health and climate. These rates are unfair, unjust and a step in the wrong direction.

Sincerely,

Terri Bey 1349 Centre Pkwy Apt 2102 Lexington, KY 40517

From:	Jennifer Lewis (Sent You a Personal Message
То:	PSC - Public Information Officer
Subject:	Public Comment Dockets No. 2018-00294 and 2018-00295, Kentucky Utilities and Louisville Gas and Electric Rate Cases
Date:	Wednesday, February 20, 2019 3:08:14 PM

Please reject Louisville Gas and Electric and Kentucky Utilities proposed rate increases.

This is an unjust, unfair, and unreasonable proposal that is contrary to Kentucky law. I, the undersigned, call on the Public Service Commission to deny this rate change!

These proposals will hurt many customers, especially low- and fixed-income people, apartment dwellers and people who attempt to conserve energy. They will limit our ability to save money by reducing our energy use. And they will discourage many people from installing rooftop solar or energy efficient systems, steps which are needed to lower harmful pollution and protect our health and climate. These rates are unfair, unjust and a step in the wrong direction.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Lewis 2405 Rockaway Pl Lexington, KY 40511

From:	Don Adams (Sent You a Personal Message		
To:	PSC - Public Information Officer		
Subject:	Public Comment Dockets No. 2018-00294 and 2018-00295, Kentucky Utilities and Louisville Gas and Electric Rate Cases		
Date:	Wednesday, February 20, 2019 2:56:49 PM		

Please reject Louisville Gas and Electric and Kentucky Utilities proposed rate increases.

This is an unjust, unfair, and unreasonable proposal that is contrary to Kentucky law. I, the undersigned, call on the Public Service Commission to deny this rate change!

These proposals will hurt many customers, especially low- and fixed-income people, apartment dwellers and people who attempt to conserve energy. They will limit our ability to save money by reducing our energy use. And they will discourage many people from installing rooftop solar or energy efficient systems, steps which are needed to lower harmful pollution and protect our health and climate. These rates are unfair, unjust and a step in the wrong direction.

Give us protection from these unjust rate hikes

Sincerely,

Don Adams 2401 Massie School Rd La Grange, KY 40031

From:	Emilee McClure (Sent You a Personal Message	
To:	PSC - Public Information Officer	
Subject:	Public Comment Dockets No. 2018-00294 and 2018-00295, Kentucky Utilities and Louisville Gas and Electric Rate	
	Cases	
Date:	Thursday, February 21, 2019 10:29:43 AM	

Please reject Louisville Gas and Electric and Kentucky Utilities proposed rate increases.

This is an unjust, unfair, and unreasonable proposal that is contrary to Kentucky law. I, the undersigned, call on the Public Service Commission to deny this rate change!

These proposals will hurt many customers, especially low- and fixed-income people, apartment dwellers and people who attempt to conserve energy. They will limit our ability to save money by reducing our energy use. And they will discourage many people from installing rooftop solar or energy efficient systems, steps which are needed to lower harmful pollution and protect our health and climate. These rates are unfair, unjust and a step in the wrong direction.

Sincerely,

Emilee McClure 3611 Lentz Ave Louisville, KY 40215

 From:
 on behalf of

 To:
 PSC - Public Information Officer

 Subject:
 2018-00294 (KU) and 2018-00295 (LG&E)

 Date:
 Wednesday, February 20, 2019 3:25:10 PM

Dear members of the Kentucky Public Service Commission:

I am writing with great concern about the proposed rate increase sought by Louisville Gas and Electric and Kentucky Utilities: Case numbers 2018-00294 (KU) and 2018-00295 (LG&E).

I am a utility customer. I'm a Kentuckian. And like most people, I want more affordable and cleaner energy options. This case moves us in the wrong direction. Kentuckians deserve so much better. I call on the KY Public Service Commission to allow full and fair public participation in this case, and reject this rigged deal.

The KY Public Service Commission must allow public interest groups to intervene in this case Stop acting like a bodyguard for the monopoly utilities, and start acting like a fair referee. It is shameful that the KY Public Service Commission has gone to court to block intervention in by groups representing low-income Kentuckians. The utilities didn't ask for them to be excluded, and the KY Attorney General says their input is necessary and relevant to the case. Open your doors and allow the public interest groups to intervene.

The KY Public Service Commission should reject this rigged deal. LG&E and KU's proposed rate increase is bad for consumers, harmful to people on low and fixed incomes, and damaging to energy efficiency and rooftop solar. For example:

The LG&E and KU rate hurts all customers.

Under this plan, the average LG&E residential electric customer will pay \$7.53 more per month, a 7.5% increase. The average LG&E natural gas customer will see their bill rise by \$7.14 dollars a month, a 12.2% increase. And the average KU customer's monthly increase under this proposal will be \$13.47, a whopping 11.7% increase.

The LG&E and KU plan is rigged against low-income folks, energy efficiency, & rooftop solar. The utilities want to jack up the monthly service fee all customers pay for service, rather than further increasing the rate we pay for energy. For example: KU and LG&E want to raise fixed monthly rates for electricity from \$12.25 per month to \$16.43 in most months, a 34% increase. And LG&E's natural gas customers will see their fixed monthly fee jump from \$16.35 to \$20.15 in most months, a 23% increase.

This approach makes it very difficult for low-income customers to manage their bills by conserving energy. No matter how little energy we use, we'll still owe the monopoly utility an increasingly large amount just for basic service.

Shifting more of the monthly bill to the fixed monthly service fee is also a deliberate strategy by utilities to discourage customers from conserving energy or investing in rooftop solar. If Kentuckians are forced to pay large, fixed monthly fees no matter how much energy we use, we are less likely to make investments or behavioral changes to reduce our energy use.

The LG&E and KU plan is rigged to conceal information from customers.

At the same time that LG&E and KU want to raise our monthly base rate, they also propose to make that charge invisible to us. Instead, our bills will show the fixed monthly rate as a daily, rather than a monthly, charge. Do the utilities think customers will be happier to see a fixed charge of \$0.53/day than \$16.43/month? And does the KY Public Service Commission think that change is in the public's interest?

The LG&E and KU plan is rigged to harm KY's homegrown solar industry.

This proposal from LG&E and KU also contains a poison pill. The utilities are proposing a deceptively simple change that seems designed as a back-door effort to kill solar net-metering, a state policy that makes space for Kentucky's tiny but growing homegrown solar industry.

The utilities propose to divide their energy charge - the rate customers are charged for every kilowatt-hour consumed - into two parts: a variable charge and an infrastructure charge. This won't affect the overall energy rate or the amount customers owe. It simply takes a single rate and divides it into two parts, one smaller (the variable rate) and one larger (the infrastructure rate), for "informational purposes."

It's not clear what informational purposes the utilities have in mind, since they don't plan to reveal this change to customers on their bills. The sub-divided rates, if approved, will be found only in the fine print of KY PSC documents.

Sadly, this appears to be a two-step process to end solar net-metering as we know it. In the first step, LG&E and KU are asking the KY PSC to put a stamp of approval on their questionable claim (made without evidence or an open process) that the energy charge is best thought of in two pieces, one smaller and one larger. In the second step, they are likely to bring this KY PSC approved "information" to lawmakers, as they continue to argue (based on widely disputed assumptions about the value of rooftop solar) that solar customers should get credited for only the smaller portion.

If the Kentucky Public Service Commission wants to open an administrative case to determine a fair "Value of Solar," you should do so. That would allow for a broad range of stakeholders to intervene, a full and fair hearing of evidence, and a careful consideration of the costs and benefits of distributed renewable generation to the grid and non-participating customers. But you should not allow yourselves or this rate case to be used by monopoly utilities to justify their claims without consideration of evidence or an open process.

In closing, I urge the Kentucky Public Service Commission to open up your public process and reject this rigged deal. It is bad for consumers, harmful to people on low and fixed incomes, and damaging to energy efficiency and rooftop solar. We deserve far better.

Sincerely,

Silena Thornsberry 1712 Bettys Court Lexington, KY 40505

From:	
To:	PSC - Public Information Officer
Cc:	
Subject:	2018-00294 (KU) and 2018-00295 (LG&E).
Date:	Wednesday, February 20, 2019 6:37:53 PM

Dear Members of the Public Service Commission,

I am writing with great concern about the proposed rate increase sought by Louisville Gas and Electric and Kentucky UtilitiesI : Case numbers 2018-00294 (KU) and 2018-00295 (LG&E).

I am a utility customer. I'm a Kentuckian. And like most people, I want more affordable and cleaner energy options. This case moves us in the wrong direction. Kentuckians deserve so much better. I call on the KY Public Service Commission to allow full and fair public participation in this case, and reject this proposal by our utility. (And, thank you for giving citizens and rate payers the opportunity to share our concerns and hopes about our regulated utility, LG&E.)

The KY Public Service Commission should reject this rigged deal. LG&E and KU's proposed rate increase is bad for consumers, harmful to people on low and fixed incomes, and damaging to energy efficiency and rooftop solar. For example:

This approach makes it very difficult for low-income customers to manage their bills by conserving energy. No matter how little energy we use, we'll still owe the monopoly utility an increasingly large amount just for basic service.

Shifting more of the monthly bill to the fixed monthly service fee is a deliberate strategy by utilities to discourage customers from conserving energy or investing in rooftop solar. If Kentuckians are forced to pay large, fixed monthly fees no matter how much energy we use, we are less likely to make investments or behavioral changes to reduce our energy use.

The LG&E and KU plan is constructed to conceal information from customers. This is bad policy since the ratepayer will not have a direct knowledge about their energy use and cost. And I don't believe the KY Public Service Commission thinks that this change is in the public's interest?

The LG&E and KU plan will harm KY's homegrown solar industry.

If the Kentucky Public Service Commission wants to open an administrative case to determine a fair "Value of Solar," you should do so. That would allow for a broad range of stakeholders to intervene, a full and fair hearing of evidence, and a careful consideration of the costs and benefits of distributed renewable generation to the grid and non-participating customers. But you should not allow yourselves or this rate case to be used by monopoly utilities to justify their claims without consideration of evidence or an open process.

In closing, thank you for giving the public the opportunity to state their concerns and challenge LGE's proposals. It is important for the Public Service Commission to hear the arguments of those who are most likely to be impacted by the decisions contemplated. Transparency, the opportunities to continue to invest in conservation and solar applications, affordability for those impacted. (Recently I learned that 46% of Kentuckians live in poverty).

The people served by LGE and KU deserve far better.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to address my concerns.

Frank J. Schwartz

From:	on behalf of
To:	PSC - Public Information Officer
Subject:	2018-00294 (KU) and 2018-00295 (LG&E)
Date:	Wednesday, February 20, 2019 10:18:41 PM

Dear members of the Kentucky Public Service Commission:

I am writing with great concern about the proposed rate increase sought by Louisville Gas and Electric and Kentucky Utilities: Case numbers 2018-00294 (KU) and 2018-00295 (LG&E).

I am a utility customer. I'm a Kentuckian. And like most people, I want more affordable and cleaner energy options. This case moves us in the wrong direction. Kentuckians deserve so much better. I call on the KY Public Service Commission to allow full and fair public participation in this case, and reject this rigged deal.

The KY Public Service Commission must allow public interest groups to intervene in this case Stop acting like a bodyguard for the monopoly utilities, and start acting like a fair referee. It is shameful that the KY Public Service Commission has gone to court to block intervention in by groups representing low-income Kentuckians. The utilities didn't ask for them to be excluded, and the KY Attorney General says their input is necessary and relevant to the case. Open your doors and allow the public interest groups to intervene.

The KY Public Service Commission should reject this rigged deal. LG&E and KU's proposed rate increase is bad for consumers, harmful to people on low and fixed incomes, and damaging to energy efficiency and rooftop solar. For example:

The LG&E and KU rate hurts all customers.

Under this plan, the average LG&E residential electric customer will pay \$7.53 more per month, a 7.5% increase. The average LG&E natural gas customer will see their bill rise by \$7.14 dollars a month, a 12.2% increase. And the average KU customer's monthly increase under this proposal will be \$13.47, a whopping 11.7% increase.

The LG&E and KU plan is rigged against low-income folks, energy efficiency, & rooftop solar. The utilities want to jack up the monthly service fee all customers pay for service, rather than further increasing the rate we pay for energy. For example: KU and LG&E want to raise fixed monthly rates for electricity from \$12.25 per month to \$16.43 in most months, a 34% increase. And LG&E's natural gas customers will see their fixed monthly fee jump from \$16.35 to \$20.15 in most months, a 23% increase.

This approach makes it very difficult for low-income customers to manage their bills by conserving energy. No matter how little energy we use, we'll still owe the monopoly utility an increasingly large amount just for basic service.

Shifting more of the monthly bill to the fixed monthly service fee is also a deliberate strategy by utilities to discourage customers from conserving energy or investing in rooftop solar. If Kentuckians are forced to pay large, fixed monthly fees no matter how much energy we use, we are less likely to make investments or behavioral changes to reduce our energy use.

The LG&E and KU plan is rigged to conceal information from customers.

At the same time that LG&E and KU want to raise our monthly base rate, they also propose to make that charge invisible to us. Instead, our bills will show the fixed monthly rate as a daily, rather than a monthly, charge. Do the utilities think customers will be happier to see a fixed charge of \$0.53/day than \$16.43/month? And does the KY Public Service Commission think that change is in the public's interest?

The LG&E and KU plan is rigged to harm KY's homegrown solar industry.

This proposal from LG&E and KU also contains a poison pill. The utilities are proposing a deceptively simple change that seems designed as a back-door effort to kill solar net-metering, a state policy that makes space for Kentucky's tiny but growing homegrown solar industry.

The utilities propose to divide their energy charge - the rate customers are charged for every kilowatt-hour consumed - into two parts: a variable charge and an infrastructure charge. This won't affect the overall energy rate or the amount customers owe. It simply takes a single rate and divides it into two parts, one smaller (the variable rate) and one larger (the infrastructure rate), for "informational purposes."

It's not clear what informational purposes the utilities have in mind, since they don't plan to reveal this change to customers on their bills. The sub-divided rates, if approved, will be found only in the fine print of KY PSC documents.

Sadly, this appears to be a two-step process to end solar net-metering as we know it. In the first step, LG&E and KU are asking the KY PSC to put a stamp of approval on their questionable claim (made without evidence or an open process) that the energy charge is best thought of in two pieces, one smaller and one larger. In the second step, they are likely to bring this KY PSC approved "information" to lawmakers, as they continue to argue (based on widely disputed assumptions about the value of rooftop solar) that solar customers should get credited for only the smaller portion.

If the Kentucky Public Service Commission wants to open an administrative case to determine a fair "Value of Solar," you should do so. That would allow for a broad range of stakeholders to intervene, a full and fair hearing of evidence, and a careful consideration of the costs and benefits of distributed renewable generation to the grid and non-participating customers. But you should not allow yourselves or this rate case to be used by monopoly utilities to justify their claims without consideration of evidence or an open process.

In closing, I urge the Kentucky Public Service Commission to open up your public process and reject this rigged deal. It is bad for consumers, harmful to people on low and fixed incomes, and damaging to energy efficiency and rooftop solar. We deserve far better.

Sincerely,

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