

Commonwealth of Kentucky
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

McKenzie Cantrell



State Capitol
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38th Legislative District

July 23, 2018

RECEIVED

JUL 23 2018

PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

Mr. Michael J. Schmitt, Chairman
Kentucky Public Service Commission (KPSC)
211 Sower Boulevard
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601-0615

Re: Case Number 2018-00005

Dear Commissioner Schmitt:

I am writing on behalf of Louisville consumers of Louisville Gas and Electric (LG&E). You are currently considering a substantial change to Louisville customers in case number 2018-00005. As you know, this case for the Advanced Metering System has a total charge that will exceed \$350 million when return on investment is added in, and most of that will be in the LG&E service area.

In order to obtain input from my constituents, I recently posted on my official Facebook page a summary of the advanced metering proposal and asked for input. Attached you will find a copy of that post, along with all of the reactions, comments and concerns of Louisville residents in my district (House District 38). I ask that you incorporate this letter and its attachments as a part of the official hearing record.

Thank you for taking the time to hear the voices of concern from Louisville consumers by having this hearing. I regret that I will be out of the state and unavailable to make these requests in person.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "McKenzie Cantrell".

McKenzie Cantrell
State Representative
38th Legislative District

MC/hm: Enclosure



State Representative McKenzie Cantrell

Published by McKenzie Cantrell on July 11 at 1:14 PM

Do you have questions or concerns about the advanced or "smart" meter proposal from LG&E? You can read more about them at the news article linked below from a recent public hearing or do your own research. Basically, LG&E / KU recently asked the Public Service Commission (PSC) for permission to install these meters on your home or business in the next five years. They say this will cost about \$380 million, but our Attorney General and others say that the costs will be almost twice as high: \$716 million over the lifetime of the project.

All of these costs will be paid by you, the ratepayer, and rates could go up if these meters do not net enough cost savings. There is also a significant fee to opt out of the meter: a one-time fee of about \$50 and an ongoing monthly charge around \$20. Some concerns regarding privacy and the type of radio waves emitted by the meters have been of concern to some users in other places.

I will be out of town on July 24th for the hearing in Frankfort, but I am happy to forward your concerns in a letter to the PSC. You can comment on this post, call my office at 502-564-8100, or email mckenzie.cantrell@lrc.ky.gov.

If you want to voice your concerns directly, you can email psc.info@ky.gov with "Case 2018-00005" in the subject line. The deadline for submitting comments is July 24, 2018. Written comments may also be mailed to the PSC at P.O. Box 615, Frankfort, KY 40602 or faxed to 502-564-3460 by July 24.

<http://wvfp.org/lge-customers-react-to-smart-meters-propos.../>



WFPL.ORG

LG&E Customers React To Smart Meters Proposal

Louisville Gas & Electric customers opposed the utility's plan to install...

5,327 people reached

Boost Post

Betty Siroki, Rose Walker and 41 others

41 Comments 42 Shares

Like

Comment

Share



They save money by eliminating meter reader jobs & it saves us money. But then your bill goes up \$2.60 a month to pay for meters?? & to stay the same \$50 opt out fee & \$20 extra a month? NO THANKYOU

Like · Reply · 4d





So I pay even more while they get rid of jobs, and increase our cost? Sure they have some up front cost but I'm sure the money they will make back getting rid of louisvillians jobs will be well worth it, not to mention another reason to charge more each month. The monopoly they have is ridiculous as is. I vote no

Like · Reply · 4d



1



I never even heard of this until I got on face book,if it cost more money I am on a fixed income with thousands of other people who can't afford to pay anything else.I don't. Know where we get our money from

Like · Reply · 4d



1



██████████ VOTE NO, Smart meters smart higher cost for who?
US

Like · Reply · 5d



State Representative McKenzie Cantrell Hi ██████████, the legislature is not in session now, so this is not something we can vote on. This is a proposal before the Public Service Commission, which regulates utility companies.

Like · Reply · 5d



██████████ State Representative McKenzie Cantrell if it regulates cheaper rates like money in our pockets and not theirs I'm on board?

Like · Reply · 4d



State Representative McKenzie Cantrell Hi ██████████ — I will be sending a letter to the Commission with everyone's comments here.

Like · Reply · 4d



██████████ We can barely afford LG&E now! We are on the budget plan and our payment is \$400+ a month on our 1800 square foot home. Rediculous! I'm on Diability and have Luekemia. How do they think I can afford this!!

Like · Reply · 4d





I cannot even get an actual read of my existing meter. Rather, I get an estimated usage and it strangely is always higher than my historical actual usage. I certainly do not trust LG&E and do not like the idea of them installing smart meters and jacking up the costs and rates.

Like · Reply · 6d



I get notices telling me they can't get to my meter because of a bush. The bush has been gone for 2 years now. Crazy. They see letters every month about the "efficiency" of my home and how it's way more than people around me. I don't see how. I'm not real happy with LGE or our water company right now.

Like · Reply · 5d



you know what I get those same letters, and I get them every where I have lived, I could understand that if I had children in the house but it is just my husband and I. We don't burn lights in the daytime, and we use fans so we don't use th... See More

Like · Reply · 5d



Disappointed that opting out isnt opting out but just another price gouge \$50 one time fee (why ?) and \$20 a month is me paying the salary of a meter reader so LGE doesnt have the burden. Win Win for LGE, Lose Lose for e public.

Like · Reply · 4d



I am so sick of companies that want to make so called "improvements" that end up costing the customers more money whether we want these improvements or not!!! They already make millions off of us each year and want to bleed us for even more!! This goes for LG&E, Louisville Water Company and Spectrum just to name a few!!!!

Like · Reply · 4d · Edited



NO, to smart meters.

Like · Reply · 5d





██████████ I would like to know why the city of Louisville doesn't own LG&E. This would not happen if the city of Louisville owned the company with our name on it. And do they get free electric because they own it, and will they go on those smart meters? I'm sick... See More

Like · Reply · 5d



██████████ Vote no  1

Like · Reply · 6d



State Representative McKenzie Cantrell Hi ██████████, the legislature is not in session now, so this is not something we can vote on. This is a proposal before the Public Service Commission, which regulates utility companies.

Like · Reply · 6d · Edited



██████████ State Representative McKenzie Cantrell I guess we have no say on this matter. Just suck it up and handover more \$\$.

Like · Reply · 5d



State Representative McKenzie Cantrell Hi ██████████ ██████████ the comments that are posted here, I am sending them in a letter to the commission for their public comment process. The contact information for the Public service commission is in the original post that you can send comment as well if you would like to do so directly.

Like · Reply · 5d · Edited



██████████ Thanks for keeping us informed

Like · Reply · 5d



██████████ State Representative McKenzie Cantrell Thank you McKenzie Cantrell. You are doing an awesome job, keep up the good work.

Like · Reply · 5d · Edited





State Representative McKenzie Cantrell Thank you for so many of you making comments on this proposal. I will be forwarding your concerns in a letter to the Public Service Commission—the governing body that will decide if LG&E will have the smart meters approved.

You can comment on thi... See More

Like · Reply · 5d



what about the people that are on fixed incomes that are struggling to pay their utility bills now

Like · Reply · 5d



So the goal here is to automate meter information to LG&E so they no longer have to employ meter readers and have the customers pay for that "privilege"? Eliminate one their costs by increasing my cost?

We already have no choice is utility providers,... See More

Like · Reply · 6d



Thank you for some very valid points. I agree with them.

Like · Reply · 6d



bill was \$300 this month. I really don't need LGE prices raised! 🙄

Like · Reply · 5d



Wow my bill is around 800 in the winter.

Like · Reply · 5d



So LG&E wants to install Smart Meters to read what?? This is a monopoly ploy to get rid of employees and having us pay for something that is unneeded, just to put more dollars in their pockets! All of the utility companies are approved to receive raise after raise whenever they ask. What about the working families trying to make ends meet!! Why is Kentucky Government not protecting it's people? Say NO Frankfort!

Like · Reply · 5d



Vote no! What is the penalty to LG&E if their costs are understated by \$336 million, just to make the program successful. People should have the option to be out of the program without incurring fees. Have they completed a study of long term effects of the radio wave emissions? Please vote no on this issue!!

Like · Reply · 6d



State Representative McKenzie Cantrell Hi [REDACTED], the legislature is not in session now, so this is not something we can vote on. This is a proposal before the Public Service Commission, which regulates utility companies. I will be sending a letter to the Commission with the comments from constituents here.

Like · Reply · 6d



State Representative McKenzie Cantrell Please do whatever you can to stop this proposal from going thru!!!

Like · Reply · 5d



Thank you so much. I appreciate your excellent work as our representative.

Meter readers need their jobs and are probably more accurate than these smart readers would be. I am against this proposed technology.

Like · Reply · 5d





██████████ I think this is the kind of meter we have at our lake home in Breckinridge County !! They don't have to have anyone come to read it!

Like · Reply · 5d



██████████ LG&E is out of control! They charge ridiculous rates and if you call and complain they inform you that their rates are low, blah, blah, blah. I have energy efficient appliances & windows in my home and our bill is still outrageous. I am against this "smart meter" being FORCED upon us. The customers shouldn't be charged penalties just so LG&E can eliminate jobs and increase their profits.

Like · Reply · 6d



██████████ This is the first I have heard of this. If what we have works then leave it the hell alone. We do not need smart meters or the fortune it would cost to upgrade to one!

Like · Reply · 6d



██████████ I don't understand how makin us do this, is goin to make America better, your talking about taking jobs away from hundreds if not thousands of people, they get enough from the people of Kentucky, like the guy said get another utility company here give ... See More

Like · Reply · 6d · Edited



██████████ Gary Riley. Debbie Riley Warner.

Like · Reply · 6d



██████████ Sounds like everyone is against this program. Maybe the new governor will listen to the people, and not big business.

Like · Reply · 6d





██████████ I pay enough already. We are considering moving out of the city limits because of all the rate hikes we have to put up with on utilities and water. Enough is enough. I'm also not in favor of the radio waves issues.

Like · Reply · 6d · Edited



██████████ I can't afford my bill now, I am against the automate meters because we the people should not have to pay for it ... and then have our bill doubled....

Like · Reply · 6d · Edited



██████████ We already pay utility companies to much as is. Now they want to force us to accept this? No.

Like · Reply · 6d



██████████ I got one during the beta rollout. I've never had a bad reading since I got it. The app needs work, but the meter itself is working as advertised.

Like · Reply · 6d



██████████ I am totally opposed on different levels not to dismiss the danger of smart meter frequency emission, as well as robbing people's jobs the same way self service grocery check outs which I refuse to use, rob people's jobs. No smart meters, and crack dow... See More

Like · Reply · 6d · Edited



██████████ I have privacy concerns. Daily data patterns could show when you leave for work, return, on vacation, go to bed for the night using variances of power usage. How else will this data be used, shared...or sold?

Like · Reply · 6d





██████████ Cutting their cost to increase their profits trying to make consumers pay even more with I say no. And putting their employees the meter readers out of work.

Like · Reply · 6d



██████████ We should not pay for the upgrades. When is enough enough? What is their profit margin?

Like · Reply · 6d



██████████ ██████████ I agree with a previous comment that said we are to pay LG\$E more money so that they can cut their cost by eliminating meter readers. Seems like something they would expect. Unfortunately they will probably get it since they always get their rate incre... See More

Like · Reply · 6d



██████████ Representative McKenzie Cantrell, thank you for seeking the input from your constituents. Your dedicated service District 38 and the Commonwealth is very appreciated.

If I understand the article correctly if a "smart" meter is installed on a customer... See More

Like · Reply · 6d



██████████ It's a shame we would have to pay an opt out fee plus a monthly fee to opt out. You are basically paying for something you don't need, don't want, and would never get unless forced by what boils down to good ol' Big Brother. I have a medical condition... See More

Like · Reply · 6d



██████████ Sounds like a fleecing of LGE customers, either take this new meter or pay big! Not a good deal for us customers

Like · Reply · 6d





██████████ I want one!

Like · Reply · 6d



██████████ I detest this new meter. Please tell the PSC that it is an invasion of privacy.

Like · Reply · 6d



██████████ Sounds like LG\$E can't manage its money. We should not be under their control regarding our usage, nor should we be penalize for opting out. What LG\$E is essentially proposing is blackmailing users into allowing them to install the metered. So very wrong. The meters need to remain voluntary and there should not be any intimidation factor in refusing them.

Like · Reply · 5d · Edited



██████████ Another way for the public to get screwed by a monopoly! No choice here! Crock of 🤡🤡🤡!

Like · Reply · 6d



██████████ People cant afford what they pay now

Like · Reply · 6d



State Representative McKenzie Cantrell Thank you for commenting ██████████.

Like · Reply · 6d



██████████ True

Like · Reply · 6d



██████████ No i have heard they are not accurate, and ppl are being overcharged. I am happy with what i pay now. ...

Like · Reply · 6d



State Representative McKenzie Cantrell Thank you for commenting, ██████████.

Like · Reply · 6d

