

JUL 24 2018

PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC JOINT APPLICATION OF LOUISVILLE)
GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY AND KENTUCKY)
UTILITIES COMPANY FOR CERTIFICATES OF PUBLIC) Case No. 2018-00005
CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY FOR FULL)
DEPLOYMENT OF ADVANCED METERING SYSTEMS)

PUBLIC COMMENTS OF AARP

AARP appreciates this opportunity to comment on the latest proposal of Louisville Gas and Electric and Kentucky Utilities for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity for deployment of advanced metering systems.

LG&E-KU have asked to install smart meters throughout their systems. AARP believes that a smart meter roll-out is not needed. It costs too much.

As the Attorney General’s expert witness shows, the costs of the proposed roll out exceed the benefits.

Many Kentucky customers are already having trouble paying for electricity and natural gas service.

The utilities want customers to pay to retire the meters now in service. There is no need to add costs to retire these meters prematurely.

Further, there is no need to rush this investment. Today, 25 percent of customers already have them. The utilities can continue the slow roll out, retiring existing meters without charging customers extra and moderating the pace of rate increases.

The PSC just rejected the proposal in the recent rate case. Nothing has changed since then to make a universal roll-out any more sensible.

And if the utilities are sure they are offering a program with benefits exceeding costs, they can refile the proposal in their upcoming rate case this fall. At least then it can be reviewed in the context of other burdens on customers and other possible uses of the investment.

AARP asks the Commission to reject the smart meter proposal. We can’t afford it and it is not needed.

AARP, with its nearly 38 million members in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories, is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, nationwide organization that helps empower people to choose how they live as they age, strengthens communities, and fights for the issues that matter most to families, such as healthcare, employment and income security, retirement planning, affordable utilities and protection from financial abuse.

Ron Bridges, State Director
AARP Kentucky
10401 Linn Station Road, Suite 121
Louisville, KY 40223
Office: 502.394.3422



AARP Real Possibilities in

Kentucky