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October 31, 2018

Public Service Commission Post Office Box 615 Frankfort, KY 40602

Dear Sirs,

I am writing this to express my opposition to the proposed rate hike by Kentucky Utilities. KU has applied for rate hikes seemingly every year since the ice storm. We were told the consumers had to bear the cost of recovering from that disaster and we understood that. But that was 9 years ago and KU has been raising rates with regularity ever since. This year, they are asking for an 11-13% hike. I feel not only is it unreasonable to ask for rates hikes every year, but even more so to ask for this kind of increase, especially considering how many people in Kentucky are on fixed incomes or struggle to make ends meet. In addition, I do not believe KU is fairly charging people. This past January, larger numbers of people found their bill spiked far beyond normal for that time of year, some even having bills over \$1,200. KU would never address this or explain why so many people were getting bills that high. The January temperatures were no worse than many other years. I have never received a bill higher than \$375 in any month of any year, but this past January my bill was over \$500, and there were many I know of whose bills were over \$700 and above. In February, bills were closer to normal and March was about normal. There was no apparent reason for this spike in charges, but gas did the same thing and again no explanation. I do not believe KU is being fair to customers and I do not believe they deserve another increase at this time. The PSC is responsible to residents of the state to act fairly and protect the interests of the public. I do not believe it is in the best interests of the public to allow KU to gouge them continually. They always come back and say KU has the lowest rates in the nation, but I would ask what is their profit margin and what are their profits over the last nine years? Certainly they are in business to make a profit and deserve to do so, but how much is enough and how much is taking advantage of the public that has no alternative but to do business with them? My request is that you will consider this and the best interests of the people of this state and deny this unreasonable proposal.

Sincerely,

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James E. Price

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION