To:

Subject: KU case 2020-00349 and LG&E case 2020-00350

Date: Friday, March 12, 2021 10:11:00 AM

Thank you for your comments on the application of Kentucky Utilities Company and Louisville Gas and Electric Company. Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case numbers in this matter, 2020-00349 and/or 2020-00350, in any further correspondence. The documents in these cases are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00349 (ky.gov)</u> and <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00350 (ky.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Best Regards,

Brandon Bruner Administrative Branch Manager Filings Branch General Administration

Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601

From: PSC Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Sent: Friday, March 12, 2021 9:11 AM

To: PSC Executive Director < PSCED@ky.gov>

Subject: FW: KU case 2020-00349 and LG&E case 2020-00350

From: Ann Adkins

Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 3:56 PM

To: PSC Public Information Officer < PSC.Info@ky.gov > **Subject:** KU case 2020-00349 and LG&E case 2020-00350

Am writing to request your assistance and cooperation in establishing a fair credit for excess solar energy generated by solar systems. It is unreasonable for those who pay for a solar system to end up subsidizing a utility company, and a utility company who also requests a rate increase at the same time! Am requesting defeat of new net metering rules and that you support a climate friendly energy source. Our environment and our people need more progressive plans & actions. Thank you

To: Subject:

RE: 2020 00350

Date:

Friday, March 5, 2021 3:57:00 PM

Thank you for your comments on the application of Louisville Gas and Electric Company. Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case number in this matter, 2020-00350, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00350 (ky.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Best Regards,

Brandon Bruner Administrative Branch Manager Filings Branch General Administration

Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601

From: Carl Wolf

Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 4:59 PM

To: PSC Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Subject: 2020 00350

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

This is to let you know I oppose the rate hike. I own a business and cannot keep raising prices on my clients when I have to upgrade my business. That comes out of profits. Rates are constantly being raised for their upgrades. In should come out of their profits and not always passed on to the customers. My Name is Carl Wolf @ 200 W. Ormsby. These raises are pushing us out of Louisville. Not with COVID when economy is so bad already.

To:

Subject: RE: I oppose LG&E and KU"s rate increase (Case #2020-00350 for LG&E / #2020-00349 for KU)

Date: Friday, March 12, 2021 9:36:00 AM

Thank you for your comments on the application of Kentucky Utilities Company and Louisville Gas and Electric Company. Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case numbers in this matter, 2020-00349 and/or 2020-00350, in any further correspondence. The documents in these cases are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00349 (ky.gov)</u> and <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00350 (ky.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Best Regards,

Brandon Bruner Administrative Branch Manager Filings Branch General Administration

Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601

----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 3:38 PM

To: PSC Public Information Officer < PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Subject: I oppose LG&E and KU's rate increase (Case #2020-00350 for LG&E / #2020-00349 for KU)

Dear Kentucky Public Service Commission,

I am a lifelong Kentuckian and a current LGE-KU customer. I pay extra to use space on the company's solar panels because I care about the environment. I live in an apartment, so this is the only way I can get solar energy right now, but someday I would like to own a home and have solar panels of my own.

Here are some of the reasons I oppose the rate increase plan:

1) It's wrong to jack up rates and disconnect fees when so many people are hurting.

KU's proposal will raise the average residential electric bill by \$12.85 / month, and increase its fees for disconnection by \$9.00. LG&E's proposal will increase the average residential electric bill by \$11.74 / month, and the average residential gas bill by \$6.17 / month. LG&E's disconnect fees will increase by \$4.00 for gas customers and another \$4.00 for electric service. This is the third rate increase sought by LG&E/KU in the last four years.

2) LG&E / KU's proposal is unfair to low-income folks and communities of color.

The companies propose to increase people's bills mostly by raising the basic monthly service charge, a flat per-meter fee that customers pay regardless of how much energy they use. For KU customers, the service charge will become \$18.60 per month, around a 15% increase. For LG&E electricity the new flat fee will be \$15.80 per month, and for gas it will be \$23.72 per month. These proposed per-meter fees are more than double what KU customers paid nine years ago, and nearly double what LG&E customers paid in 2012.

This approach to rate design – shifting a larger share of each person's monthly bill to the flat charge – means folks' bills rise significantly no matter how little energy they use. It unfairly harms low-income customers, people of color, folks who live in smaller apartments and homes, and others who seek to manage their bills by using less energy. Putting most of the rate increase on a flat per-meter charge also means that neighborhoods with a higher density of apartments and houses are essentially subsidizing the utility's costs for providing service in suburban or wealthier – and often whiter – neighborhoods, which have fewer meters over a larger area.

3) LG&E and KU also seek to rig the rules so only they can benefit from low-cost solar.

The utilities' plan threatens the future of locally-owned rooftop solar by slashing by nearly 80% the value of the credit a customer gets for each kWh of solar energy provided to the grid. The justification for this change is not supported by evidence, and would ruin the economic value of rooftop solar for new solar customers. It's part of a larger trend by utilities to re-write the rules so their customers can't benefit from increasingly low-cost solar panels. The Public Service Commission should reject the utility's net-metering proposal and replace it by using a fair methodology and a full accounting of the costs and benefits of distributed energy.

4) The KY Public Service Commission should hold accessible public hearings.

The PSC should schedule and hold multiple hearings so customers can make their voices heard about LG&E / KU's proposals. The dates and times for these events should be publicized widely and the public should be given at least three weeks of advance notice.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Cassandra Lyons
213 Sycamore Rd Lexington, KY 40502-1862

To:

Subject: RE: I oppose LG&E and KU"s rate increase (Case #2020-00350 for LG&E / #2020-00349 for KU)

Date: Friday, March 12, 2021 9:35:00 AM

Thank you for your comments on the application of Kentucky Utilities Company and Louisville Gas and Electric Company. Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case numbers in this matter, 2020-00349 and/or 2020-00350, in any further correspondence. The documents in these cases are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00349 (ky.gov)</u> and <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00350 (ky.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Best Regards,

Brandon Bruner Administrative Branch Manager Filings Branch General Administration

Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601

----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 5:47 PM

To: PSC Public Information Officer < PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Subject: I oppose LG&E and KU's rate increase (Case #2020-00350 for LG&E / #2020-00349 for KU)

Dear Kentucky Public Service Commission,

I am opposed to LG&E's third proposal to increase billing rates and disconnection fees in the past four years. I work with many people that are struggling to pay at the current billing rate much less an increased rate. I am especially against the flat per-meter fee that people are required to pay regardless of how responsible they may be as energy consumers. LG&E is a privately held company with billions in annual profits. I believe it's time to create cooperative solutions that are owned by the citizen consumers. A rate hike at this particular time when many consumers are dealing with the economic repercussions of Covid seems both cruel and unwise related to the larger economy.

The proposed rate hike is disproportionately carried by the working poor and communities of color. The increase will force some individuals to make difficult family choices that will spill into additional detriments to the local economy. Many of those detriments will be shifted to other sectors of the local economy compounding the costs.

For example - by going to a flat rate increase plan (per meter)LG&E gains the most within dense urban communities (where distribution is MOST efficient) and gains least in spread out rural areas (where distribution is LEAST efficient.) Put differently - urban communities subsidize rural communities. It's yet another form of systemic racism at worst and just plain unfair at best.

And top all this off by allowing LG&E and KU to rig solar strategies in their favor.

The word "public" is in Public Service Commission for a reason. You are not the Corporate Service Commission by definition.

At the absolute minimum the PSC should schedule and hold multiple hearings so customers can make their voices heard about LG&E / KU's proposals. The dates and times for these events should be publicized widely and the public should be given at least three weeks of advance notice. Because of Covid virtual options should be included. This is 2021. Not 1810.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Claude Stephens 1339 Hull St Louisville, KY 40204-1117

To:

Subject: RE: Comments for PSC Case Number 2020-00350

Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 8:11:00 AM

Thank you for your comments on the application of Louisville Gas and Electric Company. Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case number in this matter, 2020-00350, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00350 (ky.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Best Regards,

Brandon Bruner Administrative Branch Manager Filings Branch General Administration

Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601

From: Colin Goggin

Sent: Saturday, February 27, 2021 12:19 PM

To: PSC Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov> **Subject:** Comments for PSC Case Number 2020-00350

Kentucky Public Service Commissioners,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed compensation rate changes for solar net metering by LG&E. The topic of rooftop solar regulation is important to me as a citizen concerned about this state's path to a clean energy future. I am also a homeowner with rooftop solar. This important case will be precedent-setting for all of Kentucky's residents, its net metering customers, the local rooftop solar industry, and Kentucky's future energy infrastructure. It therefore deserves an appropriate level of consideration that requires a value of solar analysis to weigh the benefits of solar not being considered at this time.

Changing the current net metering rate structure is wrong for the following reasons:

1) Utilities like to refer to cost shifts as a justification for lowering solar feedback compensation, but at the current low level of solar penetration in LG&E's service area those cost shifts are certain to be negligible regardless of whether compensation is accurate and fair to the solar producer. If a value of solar analysis was to be done on all cost shifts that exist for every utility, those attributable to LG&E's solar customers would be near the bottom of a very long list. Demonstrating a solar cost shift sufficient to justify a change in the net metering rate requires a comprehensive value of solar analysis to appropriately balance the costs and benefits of rooftop solar for a given utility (and yet this is typically a discussion appropriate

for scenarios where rooftop solar penetration reaches the 5-10% level - nowhere near LG&Es current level). Simply saying there is a cost shift while ignoring its practically negligible current magnitude means that this request should not be granted serious consideration. It is simply a waste of this commission's scarce and valuable time and giveaway to a monopoly utility. If that weren't enough, many rigorous studies have shown that the true value of solar power fed back to the grid is in fact worth more (not less) than utilities like LG&E currently pay at a 1:1 rate.

- 2) Should this commission agree to the proposed lower net metering reimbursement rate, it would set a precedent for all other Kentucky utilities. This would be a significant setback for the Kentucky solar industry, its employees, and its current and future customers. The proposed credit rate would make it economically impractical for virtually anyone to install a system. It would be a shameful outcome given the current lack of appropriate analysis that should be requisite for such impactful decisions.
- 3) The provision to automatically change the current 1:1 rate promised to current net metering customers triggered by future changes in their solar installation is opportunistic theft and abuse of LG&E's monopoly position in the market. The public service commission should not assent to such egregious requests on behalf of LG&E.
- 4) It is currently critical for all stakeholders in our state's energy infrastructure to be focused on reducing and not entrenching our use of fossil fuels. We should be reducing emissions and making the changes required towards that goal. Rooftop solar is a means to help both LG&E and its customers to do just that. Killing its development would be a huge setback.
- 5) As recent events in the state of Texas have highlighted, grid reliability is of utmost importance. Solar is a net benefit to the grid in terms of reliability by reducing peak loads. Residential distributed solar generation will be a part of this country's future energy mix, so adapting and supporting its integration is in the PSC's and LG&E's strategic interest.

I ask that you please honor your responsibility to defend the overwhelming public interest in denying the requests put forth by LG&E. You should not destroy a growing future industry in order to appease the short sighted interests of and perceived threats to a monopoly utility. Please do not grant the requested net metering compensation changes being sought by LG&E.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments and your service to the citizens of our state.

Colin Goggin 3324 Lyon Dr. Lexington, KY 40513

To:

 Subject:
 RE: Case number 2020-00350

 Date:
 Thursday, March 4, 2021 8:11:00 AM

Thank you for your comments on the application of Louisville Gas and Electric Company. Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case number in this matter, 2020-00350, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case</u> Filings for: 2020-00350 (ky.gov).

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Best Regards,

Brandon Bruner Administrative Branch Manager Filings Branch General Administration

Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601

From: Elwood Sturtevant

Sent: Saturday, February 27, 2021 2:57 PM

To: PSC Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Subject: Case number 2020-00350

To whom it may concern:

I am writing about Case # 2020-00350 in opposition to the requested increases and changes. During a pandemic which has thrown many of the poorest among us out of work, it is not the time for raising the proportional costs of those who can least afford to pay for essential utilities. Yet this is what LG&E proposes to do by increasing the per meter fee for both gas and electric meters. A regulated monopoly should not be arranging its pricing so as to be most burdensome on the poor, and cheapest for those who use the most. LG&E's per meter fees will be almost double what they were less than ten years ago, at a time when inflation has been exceptionally low.

Given that LG&E has sought rate increases in three of the last four years, it is important that it be required to defend its request in a public hearing where all Kentuckians can see what is going on, and where all customers can make their voices heard. A regulated monopoly should not be able to impose its will in secret upon people who have no alternative but to use its services.

LG&E also proposes to change how those who have solar will be compensated for their contribution to the grid, apparently in an effort to use its monopoly to drive out any competition, while pretending that privately owned solar installations exist at the expense of the poor. LG&E should be required to show both its claimed costs and the benefits of having

additional clean generating facilities during times of peak demand.

Thank you for your consideration of these matters.

Sincerely, Rev. Elwood Sturtevant 3712 Trail Ridge Rd. Louisville, KY 40241

To:

Case No 2020-00350

Subject: Date:

Friday, March 12, 2021 10:35:00 AM

Attachments:

Kentucky Public Service Commission 2021 rate Case.pdf

Thank you for your comments on the application of Louisville Gas and Electric Company. Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case number in this matter, 2020-00350, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00350 (ky.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Best Regards,

Brandon Bruner Administrative Branch Manager Filings Branch General Administration

Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601

From: PSC Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Sent: Friday, March 12, 2021 9:17 AM

To: PSC Executive Director < PSCED@ky.gov>

Subject: FW: Case No 2020-00350

CAUTION PDF attachments may contain links to malicious sites. Please contact the COT Service Desk ServiceCorrespondence@ky.gov for any assistance.

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.....

From: George Eklund

Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 9:38 AM

To: PSC Public Information Officer < PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Subject: Case No 2020-00350

CAUTION PDF attachments may contain links to malicious sites. Please contact the COT Service Desk ServiceCorrespondence@ky.gov for any assistance.

Please find an attached comment from the coalition for the homeless for Case NO. 2020-00350.

Thank you,

George

George Eklund (Pronouns: he, him) Education and Advocacy Director

Coalition for the Homeless

1300 S. 4th Street #300, Louisville, KY 40208

O: M:

Web: <u>louhomeless.org</u>

Facebook: facebook.com/louhomeless Twitter: twitter.com/louhomeless



1300 S. Fourth Street, Louisville, KY 40208 | www.louhomeless.org |

Kentucky Public Service Commission Sent by email to psc.info@ky.gov

Re: Case No 2020-00350

Dear Commissioners:

The Coalition for the Homeless is based in Louisville, Kentucky and we represent nearly 40 organizations that are dedicated to addressing the needs of Louisvillians experiencing homelessness and those that are housing insecure. This mission extends to those that struggle to pay for utilities. We strive to develop and implement smart, long-term, collaborative solutions. We offer the following comments to the Public Service Commission regarding Rate Case No. 2020-00350.

We are very concerned about the proposed rate change especially during a national emergency and economic downturn due to the COVID-19 Crisis. Locally we are seeing a multitude of people that are struggling to keep up with their bills. The number and percent of households unable to pay their LG&E bill have risen dramatically over the last year. A recent news story put the count at 28,000 households- which easily amounts to 50,000 people in the LG&E service area who cannot pay their electric and gas bills. This is a dire time for Kentuckians and is not the time to exasperate this issue for families that are struggling to stay healthy at home.

We ask that the Public Service Commission take the following actions when reviewing rate cases and the collection of data that can drive future actions. We ask that you require LG&E to keep data about utility usage, delinquency, shutoffs, and other measurable metrics using the geographies of the US Census Bureau. We ask that the PSC stop the trend of transferring the cost of utilities from the usage rate to the Basic Service Charge. We ask that you scrutinize any proposed capital expenses to ensure that it is the best use of the rate payers' money. We also ask that you use a civil rights lens while reviewing all proposed actions.

In Regards to Case No 2020-00350, we have several concerns about the proposed changes. We feel that the prosed changes are overly burdensome to low-income individuals, the work should prove to be the most dire need, proposed programs will not be accessible for low income Louisville, will have desperate impact on racial groups, the focus on basic service charge is dangerous for low income communities, and that the PSC should require LG&E to collect data based on census tracts.

AMOUNTS REQUESTED ARE ONEROUS

Presently, we know that over 30,000 Louisvillians are behind on their LG&E. This is the wrong time to continue the trend of passing rate increases that will be manageable for most but will make those that are already vulnerable and housing insecure a small crisis away from homelessness. Homerenters with vouchers already face obstacles to finding safe and affordable



1300 S. Fourth Street, Louisville, KY 40208 | www.louhomeless.org | (502) 636-9550

housing. They often find a place that just works with a few dollars to spare in their budget. An increase of 12% in the basic usage fee will push these units out of reach for those that are exiting homelessness.

If there was ever a time to not pass the costs of increases on to the customer it is now when we are amid a pandemic.

THE PROPOSED WORK NEEDS TO SCRUTINIZED FOR ONLY THE MOST DIRE NEEDS AND LET THE PUBLIC GIVE INPUT

The standard to use in reviewing the proposal should limit all decisions to those addressing the direst needs of the community. If the PSC feels this is not a standard they are allowed to use, then the commission should ask the Executive Branch to issue an order. Before there is an increase in cost, the PSC should ask how many more households will fail if costs go up? How many fewer people will be helped if each household's cost increases for the same usage? We also believe that the public should be allowed to comment and scrutinize the proposed work.

THE PROPOSED ALLOCATION OF COSTS SAYS THAT USAGE IS IRRELEVANT AND UNDERMINES ALL ASSERTIONS THAT SAVING USAGE IS IMPORTANT

It has long been the underlying principle of utility service that controlling usage is a public good. The transfer of cost from usage to mandatory Basic Service Charge creates an inflexible payment demand that cannot be controlled by the user. What percentage of cost has been transferred to the mandatory Basic Service Charge? According to the bills that a coworker received between 1998 and the proposed changes, the user has seen a 156% increase in the basic service charge.

It is well document that households earning under 150% of the poverty line use less energy. The Southern Environmental Law Center found that users earning under 150% of the poverty line used 25% less energy. Continuing this trend will create a situation where users that use less energy often those earning less are subsidizing those that earn more and use more.

What is more troubling is that the utilities propose incremental changes over the course of decades shows a trend that they envision a future where we are all paying a flat rate for gas and electricity. This is a future where housing insecure families will suffer and we must ask when this trend of increasing the Basic Service Charge will end?

THE PROPOSED ALLOCATION OF COSTS HAS A DISPARATE IMPACT BY RACE, HAVING A DISABILITY, ETHNICITY, GENDER, AND FAMILIAL STATUS

The segregation of Louisville by race is well documented. Our Zoning and land use policies herd Black households into small geographies by allowing multi-family housing (66% of Black households rent compared to 30% of White households in Louisville) and by allowing small lot sizes that are prohibited by law in eastern Jefferson County. Areas zoned for R-4, roughly half of



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Jefferson county, have a max density of 4.8 units or LG&E customers per acre. Areas that are zoned for Multifamily have much higher densities ranging from 12 units per acre to 58 units per acre. Relying on the basic service charge makes these areas much more profitable compared to areas that are zone single families. Those that reside in multifamily complexes are often poorer, Black, elderly, and disabled.

By transferring the percent of the cost of utilities into the mandatory Basic Service Charge, LG&E is disparately bleeding dense census tracts of Black households to subsidize utility service to White areas. It also has the effect of taking money from low-income households to provide service to high-income households.

The number of meters per square mile can be calculated and you will see that this has a very ugly side that violates Civil Rights laws on discrimination.

The PSC should adopt a new lens to examine the racial impact of all future rate cases.

THE PROPOSED WORK INCLUDES PROGRAMS THAT HAVE CLEARLY BEEN SHOWN TO BE USELESS TO PEOPLE WITH LOW INCOMES

For instance, although the experience of JCPS in remote learning has taught us all that there is not equal access to the internet and affordable connectivity, there is still a proposal for Advanced Metering. Why should poor people, disproportionately Black, disproportionately LatinX, or disproportionately female-headed households with children—all of whom, it has been shown, lack easy and affordable access to the internet- pay for toys for wealthier households. And pay a premium as those toys are "capital" expenses that give LG&E an extra payment. The dollar amount itself requires extra scrutiny.

LG&E has, through its actions, taken the position that usage has become far less relevant to the cost of utilities, as the percent of the cost of utilities has been transferred from usage to the mandatory Basic Service Charge. The programs LG&E once touted as important to let people know their usage is now touted differently.

We strongly encourage a new emphasis on weatherization and efficiency to reduce our consumption of energy especially in areas that have aging housing stock and lack the resouces to make capital improvements.

LG&E SHOULD KEEP INFORMATION BY CENSUS BLOCK AND CENSUS TRACT following THE WAY THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION AND FEDERAL LAW REQUIRES INFORMATION TO BE KEPT

The Coalition for the Homeless believes in developing policy based on facts and data. Data that can be compared with other data sets should use the national standard of census tract geographies.



1300 S. Fourth Street, Louisville, KY 40208 | www.louhomeless.org | (502) 636-9550

The United States Constitution, in Article 1, Section 2, mandates a census. The Census Bureau has created data based on the census. This information has become the standard of data collection and uses because it can be compared to Census Bureau data and reveal so much more. Cities use this information to inform their planning and the utilities of those cities should also use those same geographies for consistency and uniformity.

The Public Service Commission should honor the United States Constitution and REQUIRE LG&E to keep data using the geographies of the U.S. Census Bureau. This should be available for use by the larger public.

Respectfully Sybmitted

George Eklund

Education and Advocacy Director

To:

 Subject:
 RE: CASE PSC Case No. 2020-00350

 Date:
 Friday, March 5, 2021 3:57:00 PM

 Attachments:
 LGE CASE 2020-00350.pdf

Thank you for your comments on the application of Louisville Gas and Electric Company. Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case number in this matter, 2020-00350, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00350 (ky.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Best Regards,

Brandon Bruner Administrative Branch Manager Filings Branch General Administration

Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601

From: Graeme Donovan

Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 8:32 PM

To: PSC Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Subject: CASE PSC Case No. 2020-00350

CAUTION PDF attachments may contain links to malicious sites. Please contact the COT Service Desk <u>ServiceCorrespondence@ky.gov</u> for any assistance.

The Public Information Officer, Public Service Commission, Kentucky Re PSC Case No. 2020-00350

Please see the attached Letter Protesting Proposed LG & E Rate Increases for Electricity and Gas, requesting a public hearing, and submitting a comment thereto.

I am a resident of Louisville at the address recorded below: 6425 Mistflower Cir Prospect, KY 40059-6605

Thank you for your consideration.

Graeme Donovan

PROTESTING LG&E RATE INCREASES RE: PSC Case no. 2020-00350

AS RESIDENTS OF LOUISVILLE, CAPTIVE TO LG&E ELECTRIC RATES, WE OBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING LG&E PROPOSALS:

1.RAISING the Residential USAGE RATES that <u>profits</u> LG&E by 19% for electric and 32% for gas IS UNFAIR.

This proposal will place an unfair hardship on members of our Neighborhood and on low and moderate income people during a pandemic. Additional increases out of LG&E control on the cost of natural gas will only make things worse.

2. RAISING the BASE RATE for gas and electric to \$1.30 per day IS UNFAIR.

This <u>18% increase</u> from \$33.46 to \$39.54/month on our base rate fee means the utility makes MORE money no matter how LITTLE energy customers use! This proposal <u>discourages</u> residents in our city from saving energy, investing in efficiency, and makes it harder for many households to manage their bills by conserving energy, some of whom live on a Social Security income of less than \$1000 per month.

3. CHARGING us for 'smart meters' IS UNFAIR.

This proposal provides no real value over existing meters to residential customers and requires internet access which many do not have. LG&E wants us to pay their approximately total cost of \$400 million!

4. DEVALUING Net Metering IS UNFAIR.

This LG&E proposal lowers payment to 2 cents per kwh for the electricity generated by families with solar panels, but charges 10.5 cents for the electricity they must buy. This proposal will hurt homeowners who currently have or who want to install solar panels and leave us more vulnerable to grid failure like in Texas. And it will kill jobs in Kentucky's fledgling solar industry.

The PSC should schedule a public hearing before burdening us. In agreement with the above:

| (signed)_ | 1 | 2. 5 | ? Don | eova | | d | date:_ | FEB. | 27, | 2021 |
|-----------|----|-----------|-------|---------|-----|----------|--------|------|------|------|
| (print) | W. | W. GRAEME | | DONOVAN | | | | _ | | |
| (Address) | 64 | 25 | MISTE | LOWED | CIR | PROCRECT | · uv | 400 | 59-6 | 605 |

To: Subject:

LGE/KII

Date:

Thursday, March 4, 2021 8:04:00 AM

Thank you for your comments on the application of Kentucky Utilities Company and Louisville Gas and Electric Company. Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case numbers in this matter, 2020-00349 and/or 2020-00350, in any further correspondence. The documents in these cases are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00350 (ky.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter. Best Regards,

Brandon Bruner Administrative Branch Manager Filings Branch General Administration

Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601

----Original Message-----

From: PSC Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 2:36 PM To: PSC Executive Director <PSCED@ky.gov>

Subject: LGE/KU

----Original Message-----

From: gary Hamilton

Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2021 12:35 PM

To: PSC Public Information Officer < PSC.Info@kv.gov>

Subject: Rate increase

Public Service Commission,

The callous rate increases requested by the utility company KU/LGE are exorbitant money grab from the overextended budgets of Kentucky families. The folks at Pennsylvania Power & Light have raised rates at every opportunity and the PSC has done little to hold the line on this "well regulated monopoly".

SSI raised the cost of living by less than 4% over the last 4 years.

Thank You GS Hamilton

To:

Subject: Case # 2020-00349 KU and Case # 2020-00350 LG&E

Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 8:10:00 AM

Thank you for your comments on the application of Kentucky Utilities Company and Louisville Gas and Electric Company. Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case numbers in this matter, 2020-00349 and/or 2020-00350, in any further correspondence. The documents in these cases are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00349 (ky.gov)</u> and <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00350 (ky.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter. Best Regards,

Brandon Bruner Administrative Branch Manager Filings Branch General Administration

Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601

From: PSC Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 2:38 PM **To:** PSC Executive Director <PSCED@ky.gov>

Subject: FW: Case # 2020-00349 KU and Case # 2020-00350 LG&E

From: Janet1

Sent: Sunday, February 28, 2021 12:30 PM

To: PSC Public Information Officer < PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Subject: Case # 2020-00349 KU and Case # 2020-00350 LG&E

In reference to the Opinion article by Carrie Ray, Energy Programs Coordinator at the Mountain Association in the Sunday 2/28/21 edition of the Lexington Herald-Leader: It seems to me that utilities regularly request rate hikes very frequently (see the article's reference to Kentucky Power's rate hike request – the third in five years). At least it seems that way with regard to Kentucky Utilities in Lexington.

I'm grateful that representatives of various organizations intervened in the case of the Kentucky Power request. Thank goodness someone is advocating for reasonable rates and fair solar net metering policies. In light of the pandemic and the recent horrid weather, I can't imagine that Eastern Kentuckians have much energy and finances left to pay for a price increase.

Might I suggest that when considering the legitimacy of rate hike requests for utilities, the PSC in turn request from the utility the average salary paid to the employees and the salaries & benefits of the chief executives of the utilities. I would bet that when one sees the discrepancy between what is being paid to each group, one might think that perhaps the chief executives should give up some of their cushy pay and benefits to cover whatever rate increase

has been requested. **JANET PIECHOWSKI** (*Pe-ah'-ski*) 3451 Saybrook Rd. Lexington, KY 40503



Bruner, Brandon S (PSC) on behalf of PSC Executive Director From:

To: Subject:

RE: case number 2020-00350 Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 8:11:00 AM

Thank you for your comments on the application of Louisville Gas and Electric Company. Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case number in this matter, 2020-00350, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at View Case Filings for: 2020-00350 (ky.gov).

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Best Regards,

Brandon Bruner Administrative Branch Manager Filings Branch General Administration

Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601

From: jill harmer

Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2021 3:26 PM

To: PSC Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov>; jill harmer

Subject: case number 2020-00350

psc.info@ky.gov

Please don't jack up rates and disconnect fees when so many people are hurting.

LG&E's proposal will increase the average residential electric bill by 11.74 / month, and the average residential gas bill by \$6.17 / month. LG&E's disconnect fees will increase by \$4.00 for gas customers and another \$4.00 for electric service. This is the third rate increase sought by lge in little time. For LG&E electricity the new flat fee will be \$15.80 per month, and for gas it will be \$23.72 per month. These proposed per-meter fees are nearly double what LG&E customers paid in 2012.

I'm against the flat charge for no matter how little energy I use. This approach to rate design – shifting a larger share of each person's monthly bill to a charge they have no control unfairly harms low-income customers, people of color, folks who live in smaller apartments and homes, and others who seek to manage their bills. I keep my thermostat to 55 degrees to save electricity.

LG&E 's rates hurt solar owners by slashing by nearly 80% the value of the credit a customer gets for each kWh of solar energy provided to the grid. please let your customers benefit from increasingly lowcost solar panels.

Utilities should be public, so please take into consideration our practical concerns.

Thank you. Jill harmer 40205

To:

Subject: LG&E's case number 2020-00350 & 2020-00349

Date: Friday, March 12, 2021 9:25:00 AM

Thank you for your comments on the application of Kentucky Utilities Company and Louisville Gas and Electric Company. Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case numbers in this matter, 2020-00349 and/or 2020-00350, in any further correspondence. The documents in these cases are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00349 (ky.gov)</u> and <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00350 (ky.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Best Regards,

Brandon Bruner Administrative Branch Manager Filings Branch General Administration

Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601

From: PSC Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Sent: Friday, March 12, 2021 8:55 AM

To: PSC Executive Director <PSCED@ky.gov> **Subject:** FW: LG&E's case number 2020-00350

From: Joetta Venneman

Sent: Monday, March 8, 2021 11:19 AM

To: PSC Public Information Officer < PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Subject: LG&E's case number 2020-00350

To Whom it May Concern at the Public Service Commission:

As elected leaders in the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Catholic Women Religious Congregation whose membership has devoted their entire lives to those people who are poor and in greatest need, we urge you to reject the proposed rate increases as outlined in 2020-00350 (LG&E) and 2020-00349 (KU).

As a group of women religious who have served those living in poverty and with low-income, we find this proposal unfair and untimely. First, it is our understanding that Louisville Gas and Electric wants to raise average residential electricity bills by \$11.74 per month, an increase of 11.8%. LG&E also proposes to increase residential gas bills by \$6.17 / month, an increase of 9.4%.

This increase will harm low-income customers and anyone else seeking to lower their energy bills by using less energy. A proposed raise in the basic monthly service charge, regardless of energy use, raises the ratio on the amount of earned income that low-income individuals will pay on energy. There is no incentive to conserve or use less energy.

It is also our understanding that LG&E and KU have each reported issuing more than 160,000 disconnect notices due to lack of payment. This harms those with the lowest incomes as the proposal includes raising the charges for disconnections and reconnections (KU proposes a \$9.00 increase; LGE proposes a \$4.00 increase each for gas and electric). Now is not the time for a rate increase that will make economic hardship worse for these individuals.

Lastly, the increase in this proposal follows multiple rate increases in the past four years. This is unfair and unreasonable. At a time when many Kentuckians are unemployed or have lost income and are facing disconnections and evictions because of the pandemic, the utilities and their investors seem heartless in their desire to deepen the pain of low-income individuals.

Any rate increase - if there has to be one - should be reflected in the energy charge that customers pay for each unit of electricity or gas they consume. Good rate design should not unfairly impact low-income customers and should encourage - not discourage - energy efficiency and energy conservation. The state average energy burden is 3%, but for low-income families it is much higher. For example, in Jefferson and Fayette counties, the average energy burden for people living at 80% or below of median state income is 8% and 7%, and it is substantially higher for people with the lowest incomes.

It is with this compassionate concern for those living in financial hardship and with low-incomes, that we respectfully request that members of the Kentucky Public Service Commission oppose this proposal because it disproportionately harms those living on low-incomes and is untimely for those who find themselves in stressful financial circumstances due to the pandemic.

Sincerely, Sisters of Charity of Nazareth 135 West Drive Nazareth, KY 40048 Joetta Venneman

To:

Subject: Ky rate cases:2020-00174 & 2020-00349, & l,g&e case 2020-00350

Date: Friday, March 5, 2021 3:54:00 PM

Thank you for your comments on the application of Kentucky Utilities Company and Louisville Gas and Electric Company. Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case numbers in this matter, 2020-00349 and/or 2020-00350, in any further correspondence. The documents in these cases are available at View Case Filings for: 2020-00349 (ky.gov) and View Case Filings for: 2020-00350 (ky.gov).

Thank you for your interest in this matter. Best Regards,

Brandon Bruner Administrative Branch Manager Filings Branch General Administration

Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601

----Original Message-----

From: PSC Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 3:22 PM
To: PSC Executive Director <PSCED@ky.gov>

Subject: FW: Ky rate cases:2020-00174 & 2020-00349, & l,g&e case 2020-00350

----Original Message-----

From: John Scott
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 1:32 PM

To: PSC Public Information Officer < PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Subject: Ky rate cases:2020-00174 & 2020-00349, & l,g&e case 2020-00350

As a solar owner of 17 rooftop solar panels on my house,@811 Cramer ave.,lex.40502,I feel compelled to comment on the attempted power grab,both literal and figurative,by Kentucky's electric utilities. The bottom line is they want to control the solar energy market,and view homeowners as unnecessary competition. By proposing a reduction in The compensation currently offered homeowners thru a different net metering formula, They seek to disincentivize home solar ownership. I can tell you that I would not have invested a substantial sum in solar based on this new proposal. Nowhere in their calculations is there a nod to the capacity buildout investment they've saved on due to Private solar investment. Homeowners want the relative freedom from constant rate increases that utilities currently enjoy,mostly to satisfy shareholders. We as a country need to minimize fossil fuel consumption,home solar ownership affords that opportunity-much more so on the current playing field.

Please consider more than the utility side of these proposals.

Thank you. John g.scott

P.s.if they're allowed this rate change, what's to stop them from trying to make it retroactive in the future, thus cheapening my investment?

Sent from my iPad

To: Subject: Date:

FW: 2020-00349/2020-00350 Friday, March 12, 2021 10:30:00 AM

Thank you for your comments on the application of Kentucky Utilities Company and Louisville Gas and Electric Company. Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case numbers in this matter, 2020-00349 and/or 2020-00350, in any further correspondence. The documents in these cases are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00349 (ky.gov) and <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00350 (ky.gov).</u></u>

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Best Regards,

Brandon Bruner Administrative Branch Manager Filings Branch General Administration

Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601

----Original Message-----

From: PSC Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Sent: Friday, March 12, 2021 9:17 AM

To: PSC Executive Director < PSCED@ky.gov>

Subject: 2020-00349/2020-00350

-----Original Message-----

From: Karrie Bickett

Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 8:50 AM

To: PSC Public Information Officer < PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Subject: Meter raises

Stop raising rates! And stop diminishing solar.

Please do not allow KU and LGE raise their meter rates! This is outrageous. As if they don't make enough money as is.

To:

Subject: RE: I oppose LG&E and KU"s rate increase (Case #2020-00350 for LG&E / #2020-00349 for KU)

Date: Friday, March 12, 2021 9:36:00 AM

Thank you for your comments on the application of Kentucky Utilities Company and Louisville Gas and Electric Company. Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case numbers in this matter, 2020-00349 and/or 2020-00350, in any further correspondence. The documents in these cases are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00349 (ky.gov)</u> and <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00350 (ky.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Best Regards,

Brandon Bruner Administrative Branch Manager Filings Branch General Administration

Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601

----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 5:09 PM

To: PSC Public Information Officer < PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Subject: I oppose LG&E and KU's rate increase (Case #2020-00350 for LG&E / #2020-00349 for KU)

Dear Kentucky Public Service Commission,

I am . . . (add a few sentences here about who you are and why you oppose the rate increase)

1) It's wrong to jack up rates and disconnect fees when so many people are hurting.

KU's proposal will raise the average residential electric bill by \$12.85 / month, and increase its fees for disconnection by \$9.00. LG&E's proposal will increase the average residential electric bill by \$11.74 / month, and the average residential gas bill by \$6.17 / month. LG&E's disconnect fees will increase by \$4.00 for gas customers and another \$4.00 for electric service. This is the third rate increase sought by LG&E/KU in the last four years.

2) LG&E / KU's proposal is unfair to low-income folks and communities of color.

The companies propose to increase people's bills mostly by raising the basic monthly service charge, a flat per-meter fee that customers pay regardless of how much energy they use. For KU customers, the service charge will become \$18.60 per month, around a 15% increase. For LG&E electricity the

new flat fee will be \$15.80 per month, and for gas it will be \$23.72 per month. These proposed permeter fees are more than double what KU customers paid nine years ago, and nearly double what LG&E customers paid in 2012.

This approach to rate design – shifting a larger share of each person's monthly bill to the flat charge – means folks' bills rise significantly no matter how little energy they use. It unfairly harms low-income customers, people of color, folks who live in smaller apartments and homes, and others who seek to manage their bills by using less energy. Putting most of the rate increase on a flat per-meter charge also means that neighborhoods with a higher density of apartments and houses are essentially subsidizing the utility's costs for providing service in suburban or wealthier – and often whiter – neighborhoods, which have fewer meters over a larger area.

3) LG&E and KU also seek to rig the rules so only they can benefit from low-cost solar.

We are solar panel owners, with an in-ground system. People of all political ideologies are constantly asking us about our panels and want to get involved with solar. Being able to pay their electric bills with solar is their top priority! This could be a boon to our economy, provide jobs, and clean energy, but these proposed regulations would take us backwards and discourage people from moving to the future.

The utilities' plan threatens the future of locally-owned rooftop solar by slashing by nearly 80% the value of the credit a customer gets for each kWh of solar energy provided to the grid. The justification for this change is not supported by evidence, and would ruin the economic value of rooftop solar for new solar customers. It's part of a larger trend by utilities to re-write the rules so their customers can't benefit from increasingly low-cost solar panels. The Public Service Commission should reject the utility's net-metering proposal and replace it by using a fair methodology and a full accounting of the costs and benefits of distributed energy.

4) The KY Public Service Commission should hold accessible public hearings.

The PSC should schedule and hold multiple hearings so customers can make their voices heard about LG&E / KU's proposals. The dates and times for these events should be publicized widely and the public should be given at least three weeks of advance notice.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Leslie McColgin 6337 Shaw Rd Melber, KY 42069-8834

To:

Subject: Letter addressing KU Case Number 2020-00349 and LG&E Case Number 2020-00350

Date: Friday, March 12, 2021 10:04:00 AM

Attachments: Outlook-City Logo .png

PSC Rate Case Letter 03 10 21.pdf

Thank you for your comments on the application of Kentucky Utilities Company and Louisville Gas and Electric Company. Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case numbers in this matter, 2020-00349 and/or 2020-00350, in any further correspondence. The documents in these cases are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00349 (ky.gov)</u> and <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00350 (ky.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Best Regards,

Brandon Bruner Administrative Branch Manager Filings Branch General Administration

Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601

From: PSC Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Sent: Friday, March 12, 2021 9:11 AM

To: PSC Executive Director < PSCED@ky.gov>

Subject: FW: Letter addressing KU Case Number 2020-00349 and LG&E Case Number 2020-00350

CAUTION PDF attachments may contain links to malicious sites. Please contact the COT Service Desk ServiceCorrespondence@ky.gov for any assistance.

From: Liz Sheehan

Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 1:23 PM

To: PSC Public Information Officer < PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Subject: Letter addressing KU Case Number 2020-00349 and LG&E Case Number 2020-00350

CAUTION PDF attachments may contain links to malicious sites. Please contact the COT Service Desk ServiceCorrespondence@ky.gov for any assistance.

Hello,

Please find attached a letter addressing Kentucky Utilities Case Number 2020-00349 and Louisville Gas & Electric Case Number 2020-00350

Thank you, Liz Sheehan

Liz Sheehan

5th District Councilmember
Lexington-Fayette Urban County Council office:
lexingtonky.gov



The Office of Liz Sheehan

Councilmember, 5th District Lexington-Fayette Urban County Council 200 East Main Street Lexington, KY 40507



March 10, 2021

Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd PO Box 615 Frankfort, KY 40602 psc.info@ky.gov

Kentucky Public Service Commission:

My name is Liz Sheehan and I am a Councilmember in the City of Lexington, Kentucky. I am writing in response to constituent concerns I have received related to the proposed rate cases: Kentucky Utilities Case Number 2020-00349 and Louisville Gas & Electric Case Number 2020-00350.

Due to the historic economic strain facing many Fayette County residents, I am opposed to service charge rate increases at this time. Even a small increase can have an outsized financial impact on residents. Due to the pandemic, many households are facing financial strain in our Lexington community and across Kentucky. A significant number of folks are facing eviction and cutoffs in utilities because they are having trouble keeping up with bills when dealing with unemployment and slow downs in the economy. While some residents might be able to afford a rate increase, this unfairly burdens residents in our lower income sector. This is a time, more than ever, that we need to think about equity and avoiding disproportionately harming our neighbors.

Changes are also being proposed to solar net metering. Our council passed a Resolution (#0183-2021) on February 25, 2021 to encourage the Public Service Commission to duly consider this issue and "to ultimately decide in an equitable manner." This resolution builds on a prior resolution (#729-2018) passed on 12/4/2018 that expressed support for solar initiatives and making solar energy more affordable in Lexington-Fayette County. Solar energy reduces carbon pollution, improves air quality, and increases jobs as this fast growing industry continues to expand.

In sum, I encourage the Public Service Committee to not approve the Kentucky Utilities and Louisville Gas & Electric rate cases at this time

Sincerely,

Liz Sheehan

To:

Public Hearing request

Subject: Date:

Friday, March 12, 2021 10:40:00 AM

Thank you for your comments on the application of Kentucky Utilities Company and Louisville Gas and Electric Company. Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case numbers in this matter, 2020-00349 and/or 2020-00350, in any further correspondence. The documents in these cases are available at View Case Filings for: 2020-00350 (ky.gov).

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Best Regards,

Brandon Bruner Administrative Branch Manager Filings Branch General Administration

Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601

From: PSC Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Sent: Friday, March 12, 2021 9:15 AM

To: PSC Executive Director < PSCED@ky.gov>

Subject: FW: Public Hearing request

From: Margaret Stewart

Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 10:11 AM

To: PSC Public Information Officer < PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Subject: Public Hearing request

Dear PSC members,

I urge you to schedule a public hearing on the matter of LGE and KU's proposed rate increases.

The matter is of GREAT significance and merits careful consideration of the public's multiple concernsrelating to this issue.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,

Margaret Stewart Louisville, KY

То:

 Subject:
 2020-00174, 2020-00349, 2020-00350

 Date:
 Friday, March 12, 2021 10:41:00 AM

Thank you for your comments on the application of Kentucky Utilities Company and Louisville Gas and Electric Company. Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case numbers in this matter, 2020-00349 and/or 2020-00350, in any further correspondence. The documents in these cases are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00349 (ky.gov)</u> and <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00350 (ky.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Best Regards,

Brandon Bruner Administrative Branch Manager Filings Branch General Administration

Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601

From: PSC Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Sent: Friday, March 12, 2021 9:12 AM **To:** PSC Executive Director <PSCED@ky.gov> **Subject:** 2020-00174, 2020-00349, 2020-00350

From: Nicolette Catlett

Sent: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 4:39 PM

To: PSC Public Information Officer < PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Subject: Increasing basic meter fees and diminishing economic value to solar panels

Dear Madam or Sir to whom this concerns,

As we are gaining ground in 2021, learning more and more about the climate crisis that is happening all around us, we are disappointed in your actions to make your utility offerings affordable for your community and the people of KY. As well as, making solar panels less "valuable" for Kentuckians because ???? there really is no reason to be doing this.

There are plenty of research in studies exemplifying that these panels are beneficial to our environment vs the electricity and products we have been using for centuries. If you could give the people of Kentucky a good explanation as to why you are increasing meter fees and reducing the value of solar panels that would be great. Otherwise please inform yourself of what solar panels can actually do for our planet instead of spreading false information or encouraging false information and instead be more open minded and informed.

I love my home state for the very reasons that we are open to clean energy and other ways to live in hopes to spread that to neighboring states and or others. Please be a leader in this

movement to encourage green energy and a better place for our current and future communities to live in.

Thank you

-

Nicolette Catlett

From: <u>Bruner, Brandon S (PSC)</u> on behalf of <u>PSC Executive Director</u>

To:

 Subject:
 RE: Case number 2020-0350

 Date:
 Thursday, March 4, 2021 8:11:00 AM

Thank you for your comments on the application of Louisville Gas and Electric Company. Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case number in this matter, 2020-00350, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case</u> Filings for: 2020-00350 (ky.gov).

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Best Regards,

Brandon Bruner Administrative Branch Manager Filings Branch General Administration

Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601

From: Samantha Skaggs

Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2021 7:34 PM

To: PSC Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov>; rateintervention <rateintervention@ky.gov>

Subject: Case number 2020-0350

Hello,

I am writing to urge you to not raise rates and undercut solar energy value.

People are hanging on by a thread right now, the last thing they need are increased energy rates.

Undervaluing solar energy is so short sighted and detrimental to the welfare of our immediate and global community.

Please adopt a "do no harm" principle and make only validated, scientific driven policy and rate changes and investments.

Thank you,

Samantha Skaggs

1908 Sils Ave

Louisville, KY 40205

From: <u>Bruner, Brandon S (PSC)</u> on behalf of <u>PSC Executive Director</u>

To:

Subject: Kentucky Utilities Case Number: 2020-00349

Date: Thursday, March 4, 2021 8:02:00 AM

Attachments: <u>image001.png</u>

VMSteveKay PSCStatement.pdf

Thank you for your comments on the application of Kentucky Utilities Company and Louisville Gas and Electric Company. Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case numbers in this matter, 2020-00349 and/or 2020-00350, in any further correspondence. The documents in these cases are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00349 (ky.gov)</u> and <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00350 (ky.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter. Best Regards,

Brandon Bruner Administrative Branch Manager Filings Branch General Administration

Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601

From: PSC Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 2:29 PM **To:** PSC Executive Director <PSCED@ky.gov>

Subject: FW: Kentucky Utilities Case Number: 2020-00349

CAUTION PDF attachments may contain links to malicious sites. Please contact the COT Service Desk ServiceCorrespondence@ky.gov for any assistance.

From: Steve Kay

Sent: Friday, February 26, 2021 2:57 PM

To: PSC Public Information Officer < PSC.Info@ky.gov **Subject:** Kentucky Utilities Case Number: 2020-00349

CAUTION PDF attachments may contain links to malicious sites. Please contact the COT Service Desk ServiceCorrespondence@ky.gov for any assistance.

Kentucky Public Service Commission,

Please find my comments regarding the Kentucky Utilities Case Number: 2020-00349 and Louisville Gas & Electric Case Number: 2020-00350 attached to this email.

Regards,

Steve Kay

Vice Mayor Urban County Council





THE OFFICE OF STEVE KAY

VICE MAYOR LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL 200 EAST MAIN STREET LEXINGTON, KY 40507



February 27th, 2021

Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd PO Box 615 Frankfort, KY 40602

Kentucky Public Service Commission:

My name is Steve Kay and I am the Vice Mayor of the City of Lexington, Kentucky. I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed rate cases by Kentucky Utilities (2020-00349) and Louisville Gas & Electric (2020-00350). In particular, I am strongly opposed to the increase in the basic service charge as well as the proposed changes to net metering.

Firstly, the increase in the basic service charge during the current economic crisis that has resulted from COVID-19 pandemic will continue to place undue stress on Lexington citizens. This service charge increase will unfairly impact our low-income community as they will be unable to manage their bills through utilizing less energy. In the past nine years, the service charge will have roughly doubled for all customers and our community is already under significant financial strain.

Secondly, the proposed changes to solar net metering will dramatically reduce the accessibility and promotion of solar energy for Lexington households, businesses, and nonprofits. It will prevent this industry from continued expansion and will negatively impact one of the fastest growing job sectors in the country. Additionally, the energy crisis currently unfolding in Texas has demonstrated the need for power grid modernization and decentralized power generation.

In sum, I encourage the Public Service Committee to not approve the Kentucky Utilities and Louisville Gas & Electric rate cases. These cases are inappropriate given current events and will continue to burden our community.

Regards,

Steve Kay Vice Mayor



From: Bruner, Brandon S (PSC) on behalf of PSC Executive Director

To:

Subject: RE: I oppose LG&E and KU"s rate increase (Case #2020-00350 for LG&E / #2020-00349 for KU)

Date: Friday, March 12, 2021 9:36:00 AM

Thank you for your comments on the application of Kentucky Utilities Company and Louisville Gas and Electric Company. Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case numbers in this matter, 2020-00349 and/or 2020-00350, in any further correspondence. The documents in these cases are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00349 (ky.gov)</u> and <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00350 (ky.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Best Regards,

Brandon Bruner Administrative Branch Manager Filings Branch General Administration

Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601

----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 5:25 PM

To: PSC Public Information Officer < PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Subject: I oppose LG&E and KU's rate increase (Case #2020-00350 for LG&E / #2020-00349 for KU)

Dear Kentucky Public Service Commission,

I am Teena Halbig, 6505 Echo Trail, Louisville, KY 40299. Both my husband and I oppose more LGE increases. Our current heating bill was received today and was EXTREMELY HIGH. More transparency and information is needed to be given to the public.

1) It's wrong to raise rates and disconnect fees when so many people are hurting during COVID.

KU's proposal will raise the average residential electric bill by \$12.85 / month, and increase its fees for disconnection by \$9.00. LG&E's proposal will increase the average residential electric bill by \$11.74 / month, and the average residential gas bill by \$6.17 / month. LG&E's disconnect fees will increase by \$4.00 for gas customers and another \$4.00 for electric service. This is the third rate increase sought by LG&E/KU in the last four years.

2) LG&E / KU's proposal is unfair to low-income folks, retirees and communities of color.

The companies propose to increase people's bills mostly by raising the basic monthly service charge,

a flat per-meter fee that customers pay regardless of how much energy they use. For KU customers, the service charge will become \$18.60 per month, around a 15% increase. For LG&E electricity the new flat fee will be \$15.80 per month, and for gas it will be \$23.72 per month. These proposed permeter fees are more than double what KU customers paid nine years ago, and nearly double what LG&E customers paid in 2012.

This approach to rate design – shifting a larger share of each person's monthly bill to the flat charge – means folks' bills rise significantly no matter how little energy they use. It unfairly harms low-income customers, people of color, folks and retirees who live in smaller apartments and homes, and others who seek to manage their bills by using less energy. Putting most of the rate increase on a flat per-meter charge also means that neighborhoods with a higher density of apartments and houses are essentially subsidizing the utility's costs for providing service in suburban or wealthier – and often whiter – neighborhoods, which have fewer meters over a larger area.

3) LG&E and KU also seek to make rules so only they can benefit from low-cost solar.

The utilities' plan threatens the future of locally-owned rooftop solar by slashing by nearly 80% the value of the credit a customer gets for each kWh of solar energy provided to the grid. The justification for this change is not supported by evidence, and would ruin the economic value of rooftop solar for new solar customers. It's part of a larger trend by utilities to re-write the rules so their customers can't benefit from increasingly low-cost solar panels. The Public Service Commission should reject the utility's net-metering proposal and replace it by using a fair methodology and a full accounting of the costs and benefits of distributed energy.

4) The KY Public Service Commission should hold accessible public hearings. Please do hold public hearings.

The PSC should schedule and hold multiple hearings so customers can make their voices heard about LG&E / KU's proposals. The dates and times for these events should be publicized widely and the public should be given at least three weeks of advance notice.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Teena Halbig
6505 Echo Trl Louisville, KY 40299-5103

From: <u>Bruner, Brandon S (PSC)</u> on behalf of <u>PSC Executive Director</u>

To: Subject: 2020-00349 & 2020-00350 Pate: Friday, March 12, 2021 9:12:00 AM

Thank you for your comments on the application of Kentucky Utilities Company and Louisville Gas and Electric Company. Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case numbers in this matter, 2020-00349 and/or 2020-00350, in any further correspondence. The documents in these cases are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00349 (ky.gov)</u> and <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00350 (ky.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Best Regards,

Brandon Bruner Administrative Branch Manager Filings Branch General Administration

Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601

From: PSC Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Sent: Friday, March 12, 2021 8:49 AM

To: PSC Executive Director < PSCED@ky.gov>

Subject: 2020-00349 2020-00350

From: PSC Consumer Web Inquiry < PSC.Consumer.Inquiry@ky.gov>

Sent: Friday, March 5, 2021 12:42 PM

To: PSC Public Information Officer < PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Subject: FW: KY PSC Utility Inquiry

From: KY Public Service Commission cfilings@ky.gov>

Sent: Friday, March 5, 2021 10:57 AM

To: PSC Consumer Web Inquiry < PSC.Consumer.Inquiry@ky.gov>

Subject: KY PSC Utility Inquiry

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Friday, March 5, 2021 at 10:56 AM

Name: Tim Ryan

Address: 1041 Shawnee Dr.

City: Williamsburg

State: KY

Zip Code: 40769

Phone number where you can be reached:

Home phone:

on

Utility Name: KU

State the nature of your concern: Louisville Gas & Electric and Kentucky Utilities are asking state regulators to raise rates on Kentuckians for the third time in four years, resulting in approximately \$334 million in additional revenues for the utility per year. The average residential electric bill would increase about 12% or about \$11.74 per month while the typical residential gas bill would increase more than 9%, or about \$6.17 per month. That's over \$200/year for the consumer electric bill. Here we are in a pandemic that's lasted well over a year and they want to jack up our rates. This is ludicrous! Are these people insane!!??? Please deny the utility companies from increasing our rates.... I'm also filing a complaint with the Kentucky Attorney General's office also.

Have you contacted the utility about the problem: No

From: Bruner, Brandon S (PSC) on behalf of PSC Executive Director

To:

Subject: Comments: Case Numbers 2020-00349, 2020-00350

Date: Friday, March 12, 2021 9:16:00 AM
Attachments: HHCK PSC Rate Increase 2021.pdf

Thank you for your comments on the application of Kentucky Utilities Company and Louisville Gas and Electric Company. Your comments in the above-referenced matter have been received and will be placed into the case file for the Commission's consideration. Please cite the case numbers in this matter, 2020-00349 and/or 2020-00350, in any further correspondence. The documents in these cases are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00349 (ky.gov)</u> and <u>View Case Filings for: 2020-00350 (ky.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Best Regards,

Brandon Bruner Administrative Branch Manager Filings Branch General Administration

Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601

From: PSC Public Information Officer <PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Sent: Friday, March 12, 2021 8:54 AM **To:** PSC Executive Director <PSCED@ky.gov>

Subject: FW: Comments: Case Numbers 2020-00349, 2020-00350

CAUTION PDF attachments may contain links to malicious sites. Please contact the COT Service Desk ServiceCorrespondence@ky.gov for any assistance.

From: Whitney Reynolds

Sent: Monday, March 8, 2021 3:08 PM

To: PSC Public Information Officer < PSC.Info@ky.gov>

Subject: Comments: Case Numbers 2020-00349, 2020-00350

CAUTION PDF attachments may contain links to malicious sites. Please contact the COT Service Desk ServiceCorrespondence@ky.gov for any assistance.

.....

Hello,

Please see attached. Thank you!

--

Whitney Reynolds

Director of Development & Grants Management

?

306 W. Main Street, Suite 207
Frankfort, KY 40601
extension 113
Pronouns: she/her/hers



February 16, 2021

Public Service Commission P.O. Box 615 Frankfort, KY 40602-0615 Via email: psc.info@ky.gov

Re: Case Number: 2020-00349

Case Number: 2020-00350

Dear Commissioners:

The Homeless and Housing Coalition, established in 1987, represents affordable housing developers, homeless service providers, and interested advocates with the mission of eliminating the threat of homelessness and fulfilling the promise of affordable housing. On behalf of HHCK and our housing developer members, thank you for the opportunity to submit the following comments in the rate increase cases.

Louisville Gas & Electric (LG&E) has asked to raise residential electricity bills by 11.8% and residential gas bills by 9.4%, and Kentucky Utilities (KU) is asking to increase residential electricity bills by 10.67%. These asks of the Kentucky Public Service Commission for rate increases are the 3rd asks for LG&E and KU in the last 4 years.

Of the roughly 125 households the Homeless and Housing Coalition of Kentucky is currently serving, approximately 60% are in the LG&E or KU service footprint. Our clients would be directly and negatively impacted by a rate increase because they simply cannot afford an additional \$6.17-\$12.85/month added to their utility bills. The statewide moratorium on utility shutoffs ended on October 20, 2020. Less than three months later LG&E and KU have each reported issuing more than 160,000 disconnect notices due to lack of payment.

Now, in the middle of a global pandemic, is not the time to raise rates. It has become clear by the governor's allocation of \$15 million to the Healthy at Home Utility Relief Fund² in October, 2020 and the additional \$264 million Eviction Relief Fund³ announced in February, 2021 that customers have experienced severe economic hardship as a result of the onset of the novel coronavirus. Further, this rate increase application is regressive, as low-income Kentuckians in persistently impoverished communities will pay more as a percentage of their income than higher-income folks.

stream.aspx?n=GovernorBeshear&prId=422#:~:text=The%20executive%20order%20designates%20%2415,wastew ater%20or%20electric%20service%20disconnection

3https://kentucky.gov/Pages/Activity-stream.aspx?n=GovernorBeshear&prld=604

306 W. Main Street, Suite 207

Frankfort, KY 40601 502.223.1834 www.hhck.org



¹ https://governor.ky.gov/attachments/20201019 Executive-Order 2020-881 Utilities.pdf

² https://kentucky.gov/Pages/Activity-



HHCK is also asking for Kentuckians to be provided tools to better manage energy bills. LG&E and KU must be required to continue the moratorium on disconnections AND late fees for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic and to offer options like reasonable and attainable payment plans or debt forgiveness for customers who cannot afford their accumulating bills. HHCK has directly interacted with and observed Kentuckians who have been placed on payment plans that require monthly payments of hundreds of dollars. This is neither reasonable nor attainable for those who have not been employed at all or who have been underemployed for nearly a year due to COVID-19.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment in this important public decision. Please feel free to contact me should you need additional information.

Sincerely,

Whitney Reynolds Director of Development and Grants Management



www.hhck.org

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