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PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

**Sally M. Higgins**

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04/13/2021

Public Service Commission  
211 Sower Blvd  
Frankfort, KY 40602

REF: Case Number: 2020-00349/2020-00350


**Dear Board Members,**

As you review the request from LG&E/KU to increase rates for its customers, please keep the following in mind.

LG&E and KU have a significant population on fixed incomes. If you consider that the last increase cost their fixed income customers an average of \$27 per month. The COLA increase that year gave these same customers an average \$39 per month, leaving these customers with a meager \$12 per month to cover other increased prices that year (2020). I am a fixed income customer of KU and therefore concerned with this potential added expense.

Now, there is another increase, only two years later. Who accounts for the use of the funds they determine they need?

Another concern is the decrease in payback for solar customers. If their claim that the actual cost per Kilowatt is decreased from 9.8 cents per KW to 2 cents per KW, that would appear to mean



energy is getting cheaper? More efficient? If going down in cost, why aren't customers seeing any decrease in price? Why aren't savings rolled back into the company from improvements, thereby decreasing the rate increase value? If the cost of electricity is not going down, why aren't they giving solar generator customers the true value of the energy?

Finally, LG&E/KU indicates they need to do improvements each time they request increases. Again, who monitors the use of the funds into improvements? When is the higher costing construction and upgrading completed so that operational costs would return to some normal level? Having worked in industry, costs for improvements and construction occur only at the time of the construction/improvements. They have an end point. However, the utility increases stay on our bills and then get more increases in coming year(s).

With the present debt our country is incurring, taxpayers must foot the bill, and we end up on the short end of all these increases. Now is not the time to allow "annual increases" in our utilities that are so critical to individuals daily life and health.

Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,



Sally M. Higgins

