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

To:

Subject: Case No. 2021-00214 Re: Atmos Energy Rate Increase Proposal

Date: Thursday, July 1, 2021 10:20:00 AM

Thank you for your comments on the application of Atmos Energy Corporation. 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, 2021-00214, in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2021-00214 (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: Tuesday, June 29, 2021 2:54 PM

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

Subject: FW: Case No. 2021-00214 Re: Atmos Energy Rate Increase Proposal

From: Charles Henderson

Sent: Friday, June 25, 2021 8:00 PM

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

Subject: Case No. 2021-00214 Re: Atmos Energy Rate Increase Proposal

The Honorable Michael J. Schmitt Chairman Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Boulevard Frankfort, Kentucky 40602

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is to register my opposition to Atmos Energy's proposed rate increase generally, but particularly with regard to the company's proposal to increase the residential monthly base charge by 18 percent.

It is understandable, perhaps, that the company would need to be able seek rates that account for fuel cost increases, but it is difficult to understand how the company can justify a monthly residential service fee increase of 18 percent while having done nothing of consequence for the residential customer, and which would result in hardship for many. No service at all is included in that fee, which is already excessive, in my view. For example, water companies usually provide certain amounts of water usage within their base fee. Atmos Energy provides no such benefit.

Atmos Energy's profits have increased not insignificantly during the pandemic, yet they would presume to impose on Kentucky families an excessive residential base fee increase at a time when many are struggling in the midst of sustained economic hardship.

One could speculate that the company is 1) seeking to take advantage of stimulus payments made to many Kentucky families, and/or 2) seeking to lock in service rate increases prior to the proposed corporate tax rate increase that could take effect, so that a further rate increase could be sought if such a tax rate increase were to become effective, but I do not suggest here that these are their motives. Outright greed, perhaps, might be the more likely motive for their request, but that is not singular to Atmos Energy, nor am I suggesting that this should be a consideration here either.

I do ask that the Public Service Commision review critically and carefully Atmos Energy's entire proposal, but especially to consider fully the adverse impact on Kentucky families of the unreasonable, even unconscionable, proposal to increase the monthly residential base charge by an unjustifiable 18 percent, and that you deny their request.

With many thanks, best regards, and all good wishes,

Sincerely, Charles V. Henderson 605 Hidden Meadows Drive Campbellsville, Kentucky 42718-7421 *Atmos Energy Corporation 3275 Highland Pointe Drive Owensboro, KY 42303

*Brannon Taylor Atmos Energy Corporation 810 Crescent Centre Drive, Suite 600 Franklin, TN 37067

*Honorable John N Hughes Attorney at Law 124 West Todd Street Frankfort, KENTUCKY 40601

*Randy Hutchinson Wilson, Hutchinson & Littlepage 611 Frederica Street Owensboro, KENTUCKY 42301

*Eric Wilen Project Manager-Rates & Regulatory Affairs Atmos Energy Corporation 5420 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1629 Dallas, TEXAS 75420