From: PSC Public Comment

To:

Subject: RE: KY Utilities rate increase request

Date: Wednesday, September 24, 2025 9:00:00 AM

Case No. 2025-00113

Thank you for your comments on the application of Kentucky Utilities 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, 2025-00113 in any further correspondence. The documents in this case are available at <u>View Case Filings for: 2025-00113 (ky.gov)</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

From:

Sent: Tuesday, September 23, 2025 10:20 AM **To:** PSC Public Comment < PSC.Comment@ky.gov>

Subject: KY Utilities rate increase request



Good morning,

I would oppose granting KY Utilities their requested 11.5% rate increase for a number of reasons which are outlined below:

- 1. Infrastructure Upgrades: Stronger poles and updating substations a) should have already been happening within their current capital budget structure. This is not a one time necessity, but should already be happening within their planned maintenance program. To indicate that somehow this is not currently happening is highly disingenuous also items such as poles and substations are not high dollar capital undertakings. Building a new power plant, etc. would be, and I have not seen nor heard of any plans for these.
- 2. "Hardening the system" what does this mean and what does it involve regarding actual physical costs to do so? If it means items such as trimming trees along power lines, etc., I can tell you from experience that they haven't been to my farm, which has a power line serving this quadrant, in over five years.
- 3. Increased energy needs: Again, what does this mean in terms of hard dollars to be spent? Remember, when there's population growth both in the form of residential and commercial there is a capital outlay, however they recoup that outlay with the income

from utility payments.

They (KY U) indicated that the residential rates for customers would remain "below the national average" even with the proposed rate increase. How is that calculated? I find that to be an extremely self-serving and false equivalence. You cannot compare KY labor rates for lineman/electricians to that of NY – that's apples and oranges – just as you cannot compare fuel costs between KY and NY or KY and California or WV. Labor and fuel costs would be two of the probably largest contributors to the cost of doing business.

There should also be no upward adjustment of their Basic Service charge; they are currently charging \$15.90 for household and \$40.50 for barns, outbuildings, etc. In the case of barns/outbuildings, my service charge exceeds my charge for electricity by a factor of 20!!

Customer Service: I challenge any one of you on the PSC to call in to KY Utilities' customer service line and expect a human to answer in less than 30-45 minutes. Further, they have closed all of their customer service centers so that you may only pay your bill through the mail or at Kroger. Kroger is fine if you have a credit card, but how about those persons who live paycheck to paycheck and have no credit card?

Going back to my days in corporate management and the machinations around budget time, I have a feeling KY U is playing the same game – ask for an 11% increase and hope to get 5%. I would hope that you take a long hard look at this request and respectfully deny their request.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Kim Jedlicki

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