

PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENT PERIOD

Westar Energy's Rate Case

Westar Energy, Inc. and Kansas Gas and Electric Company (collectively referred to herein as "Westar") filed an Application with the Kansas Corporation Commission ("Commission" or "KCC") seeking approval to make certain changes in its charges for electric services.

Public Hearing

The Commission has scheduled a public hearing concerning Westar's application. This hearing will provide information about Westar's proposed changes in its charges for electric services and provide an opportunity for customers to ask questions and to present testimony or comments for the Commission's consideration.

The public hearing will consist of two parts: During the first part, representatives of Westar, KCC Staff and CURB will be available to answer customers' questions pertaining to the proposed rate changes. In the second part of the public hearing, customers may make formal statements to the Commission concerning the rate changes.

The date, time and place of the public hearing are:

Thursday, June 28, 2018, beginning at 6:00 p.m. (CDT)

Low Auditorium, Wichita State University's Hughes Complex

5015 E. 29th St. N. (29th Street North and Oliver)

Wichita, Kansas

In addition, the Commission will accept written comments from the public until 5:00 p.m. (CDT), July 18, 2018. Comments regarding this case should reference Docket No.18-WSEE-328-RTS. The public can mail their comments to the Kansas Corporation Commission Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection, 1500 SW Arrowhead Road, Topeka, Kansas 66604-4027. The public can also submit comments through the Commission's website www.kcc.ks.gov and click on the "Your Opinion Matters" link or with a toll-free call to 1-800-662-0027.

A complete copy of Westar's application and supporting testimony is available on the Commission's website at:

<http://estar.kcc.ks.gov/estar/portal/ksc/pag/docketdocs/PSC/DocketDetails.aspx?DocketId=f448f637-8f92-4aab-b5a9-253b33a6096d>

The KCC has until September 27, 2018 to make a decision on the proposed rate increase.

Westar's Proposed Rate Changes

In its application (filed on February 1 2018), Westar proposed to implement a rate change in two steps:

1. A rate decrease of \$1.56 million to be effective in September 2018, arising out of the reduced revenue requirement that occurs as a result of the reduction in the federal corporate tax rate as a result of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, and other matters.
2. A rate increase of \$54.2 million to be effective on February 1, 2019, principally arising out of the following:
 - a. The expiration of federal income production tax credits associated with Westar's initial investment in wind generation 10 years ago;
 - b. The expiration of a wholesale electricity agreement; and
 - c. Revenue requirements emanating from Westar's \$417 million investment in its 280 megawatt Western Plains wind farm.

However, the February 1, 2018 rate application predated the KCC's Order Approving Merger that approved the merger application filed by Westar, Kansas City Power & Light Company and Great Plains Energy ("joint applicants"). Thus, the proposed rate increase in the February 1, 2018 application did not take into account merger savings that will reduce the rate increase. Those merger savings, as well as the savings brought about by the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act will be explained at the public hearing.

Westar also proposes a number of rate design concepts. Among these, Westar is proposing to revise its Residential Service Distributive Generation tariff to add a demand charge, reduce the energy charge and eliminate the block structure. Westar also proposes a rate schedule for public electric mass transit, to accommodate charging of metropolitan electric buses during off-peak periods. Westar also proposes a new tariff for electric vehicle charging stations, expecting growth and customer interest in electric vehicles. Westar also proposes a new rate offering called the Residential Peak Efficiency Rate ("RPER"), an optional three-part rate that provides an incentive for residential customers to shift demand to off-peak hours.

Evidentiary Hearing

An evidentiary hearing on Westar Energy's request is scheduled to begin Monday, July 23, 2018, at 9:00 a.m., at the KCC Offices, 1500 SE Arrowhead Road, Topeka, KS.

Additional Information is available from the KCC and CURB

For more information about Westar's proposed changes, the public hearing or the technical hearing, contact the Kansas Corporation Commission Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection at 1-800-662-0027. Any persons requiring special accommodations at the hearing site under the Americans with Disabilities Act must give notice to the Commission at least 10 days prior to the scheduled hearing date by calling 1-800-662-0027.

The Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board (CURB) can also be contacted 785-271-3200 for further information.