

PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENT PERIOD

Evergy Kansas Central's Rate Design

Evergy Kansas Central (formerly “Westar Energy, Inc.”) (referred to as “Evergy”) filed an Application with the Kansas Corporation Commission (“Commission” or “KCC”) on February 1, 2018 in regards to docket 18-WSEE-328-RTS. The KCC issued an Order Approving Non-Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement on September 27, 2018. On April 3, 2020, the Supreme Court reversed the judgement of the Court of Appeals and the Commission and remanded the matter back to the Commission. On June 16, 2020, the Commission issued its Order Setting Procedural Schedule on Rate Design, which in relevant part directs all jurisdictional electric utilities to enter their appearance in this docket.

Public Hearing

The Commission has scheduled a public hearing concerning Evergy’s rate design. This hearing will provide information about Evergy’s proposed changes to its rate design and provide an opportunity for customers to ask questions and to present testimony or comments for the Commission’s consideration.

The public hearing typically consists of two parts: During the first part, representatives of Evergy, 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. However, the Kansas Corporation Commission may determine how to best accommodate the public participation in this important rate proceeding.

The date and time of the public hearing is:

Thursday, November 5, 2020, beginning at 6:00 p.m. (CDT)

Due to Covid-19 pandemic the hearing will be conducted online via zoom.

Kansans wishing to make a public comment during the hearing should sign up in advance at <https://kcc.ks.gov/vour-opinion-matters> to receive login information and time restraints for presentations.

As there may be limited capacity, registration will be first come, first serve. A live video stream will also be available on the Commission’s YouTube channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-uTcucl0oyHJr-_iOheuuw for individuals to watch, but not comment during the public hearing.

In addition, the Commission will accept written comments from the public until 5:00 p.m. (CDT), December 21, 2020. 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 <https://kcc.ks.gov/vour-opinion-matters>, electronic mail (sent to public.affairs@kcc.ks.gov).

A complete copy of the Commission's Order Setting Procedural Schedule on Rate Design and supporting testimony is available on the Commission's website at:

<https://estar.kcc.ks.gov/estar/portal/kscce/page/docket-docs/PSC/DocketDetails.aspx?DocketId=f448f637-8f92-4aab-b5a9-253b33a6096d>

The KCC has until February 25, 2021 to make a decision on the proposed rate design in this proceeding.

Evergy's Proposed Rate Design

On October 13, 2020, Evergy submitted written testimony that outlined its proposal for an alternative rate design for residential customers that complies with Kansas statutes regarding Distributed Generation (DG) customers. Evergy proposes to replace its current tariff for DG customers that is comprised of a three-part rate structure, including a demand charge, with a Grid Access Charge. This charge would be applied to all residential customer bills. The charge is calculated at \$3.00 per kW of installed DG capacity for each customer. Customers who do not have any DG capacity installed in their homes would see a \$0 Grid Access Charge. DG customers would see this additional charge based on how many kW of installed DG capacity they have.

As an alternative to the Grid Access Charge, Evergy also proposes the use of a minimum bill rate structure. This option would set a minimum bill for each residential customer at \$35. Customers whose bill is more than \$35 in a month would see no changes with this option. Customers with bills below \$35 would see the bill be increased to \$35 for that particular month. Evergy based its minimum bill proposal on data that estimates the cost of serving customers at \$77 per customer. Evergy indicates that it is using this proposal as a starting point to enhance cost recovery.

Evidentiary Hearing

The Kansas Corporation Commission has scheduled an evidentiary hearing on the proposed rate design is scheduled for Wednesday, December 16, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. Central. It has not yet been determined if the hearing will be in-person or virtual.

Additional Information is available from the KCC and CURB

For more information about Evergy's rate design or the public 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.