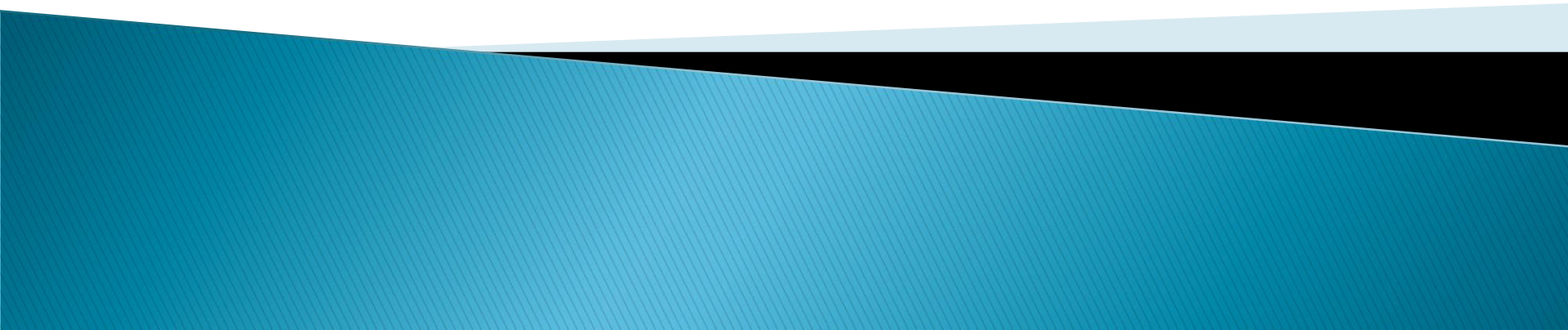


Kansas Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board

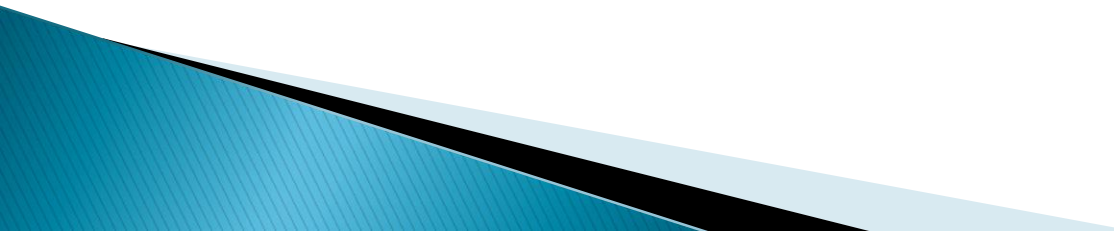
Presentation to the Kansas
House Committee on Energy and
Environment

January 26, 2015

David Springe, Consumer Counsel



Agency Mission and Philosophy

- ▶ Protect the interests of residential and small commercial utility ratepayers
 - ▶ Residential and small commercial ratepayers are entitled to competent, quality legal representation before the KCC, Kansas Courts and the legislature
 - ▶ Board believes its public service mission is a public trust, and as public servants we take pride in the service we perform.
- 

History

- ▶ 1988 Created by Chair of Kansas Corporation Commission
- ▶ 1989 Established as a state agency, but still within the Kansas Corporation Commission
- ▶ 1991 Made independent agency
 - ▶ Due Process: Ability to appeal KCC orders
 - ▶ KCC staff cannot appeal
- ▶ Enabling Statutes: K.S.A. 66–1222 *et seq.*

CURB Board

► Appointed by the Governor

- Robert L. Harvey, Topeka: Chair
 - Member-at Large, Expires June 2015
- Brian Weber, Garden City: Vice-Chair
 - First District, Expires June, 2017
- Bob Kovar, Osawatomie
 - Second District, Expires June 2017
- James L. Mullins, II, Lenexa
 - Third District, Expires June 2017
- Ellen Janoski, Peck
 - Fourth District, Expires June 2015

CURB Staff

- ▶ David Springe: Consumer Counsel
- ▶ Office:
 - 2 Attorneys
 - Analyst
 - Office Manager
 - Administrative Specialist.

Funding

- ▶ Annual Budget \$855,000
 - \$250,000 for outside expert witnesses
 - Budget proviso to roll unexpended consulting dollars from year-to-year
- ▶ Fee Funded
 - Paid for by the utility customers we represent
 - Utility customers pay the utility's costs and Kansas Corporation Commission cost

Board Priorities

- ▶ Case Representation (30–40 open cases)
 - Rate Cases
 - Statutory Cases
 - Regulatory preapprovals
 - Westar Wind, La Cygne Retrofit, TDC Applications
 - Policy Cases
 - Energy efficiency, depreciation, pensions, billing standards
 - Administrative Cases
 - Monthly/Annual flow through of fuel costs, Ad Valorem taxes, transmission costs, environmental retrofit costs, energy efficiency costs, gas safety cost
- ▶ Legislative
 - More than 100 pieces of filed testimony on over 75 bills since 2003
- ▶ Outreach/Media/Constituent Contact/Public Hearings

Recent Cases

▶ Atmos Energy Rate Case

- Request \$7.0 million, \$4.2 million allowed, litigated
- 9.1% ROE, Commission denied infrastructure surcharge

▶ Black Hills Rate Case

- Request \$5.1 million new revenue, plus \$4.47 million existing surcharges
\$764,245 settlement plus surcharges
- Infrastructure surcharges withdrawn

▶ Atmos Energy Incentive PGA

▶ Onegas spinoff from Oneok

▶ Howison Water

Current and Future Cases

▶ KCP&L Rate Case

- \$67.3 million request (12.5% increase), 10.3% ROE
- La Cygne retrofit, Wolf Creek Upgrades

▶ Westar Energy Efficiency Programs

- \$15 million over three years, plus lost margin recovery

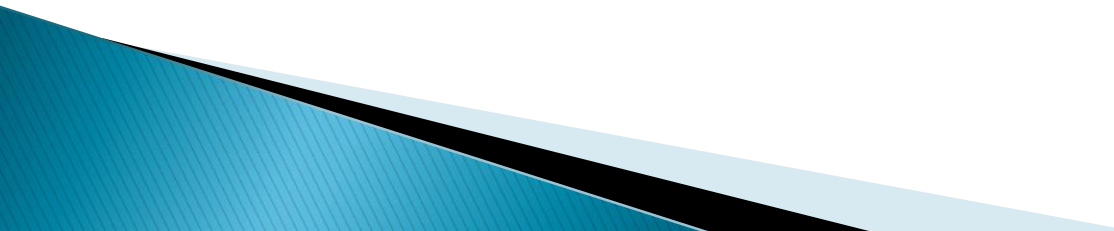
▶ Westar Energy Rate Case

- To be filed March 2, 2015
- La Cygne retrofit, Wolf Creek Upgrades

▶ Empire District

- Surcharge plus 2016 rate case
- Retrofit of Asbury and Riverton coal plants

▶ EPA: Clean Power Plan



Westar Rate Increases

- ▶ 2009–2014
 - 22 Increases, 2 decreases for \$538.9 million
 - General Increases \$227.8 million
 - Line Item Increase \$311.1 million

- ▶ 2015 (Westar estimates)
 - \$19 million transmission line item
 - \$17 million environmental line item
 - \$??? General Rate Case, March 2, 2015

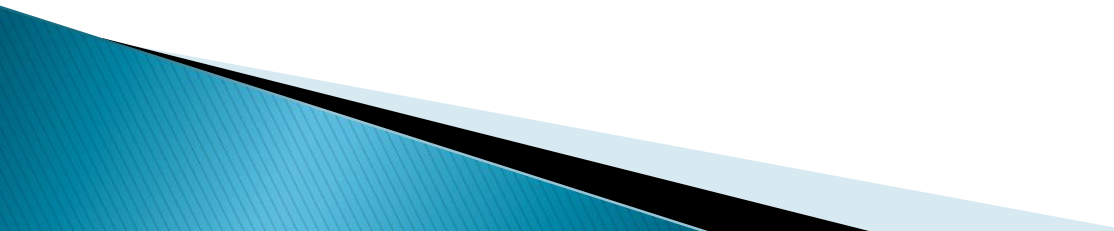
Westar Residential Bill Impact

	Westar South	Westar North
900 Kwh Summer bill 2008	\$ 83.00	\$ 74.00
900 Kwh summer bill 2014 (current)	\$ 114.00	\$ 114.00
Percent Increase	38.0%	54.0%
1500 Kwh Summer bill 2008	\$ 138.00	\$ 123.00
1500 Kwh summer bill 2014 (current)	\$ 189.00	\$ 189.00
Percent Increase	37.0%	53.0%

KCPL Kansas Revenue Increases

06-KCPE-828-RTS	\$29,000,000
07-KCPE-905-RTS	\$28,000,000
09-KCPE-246-RTS	\$59,000,000
10-KCPE-415-RTS	\$21,846,202
12-KCPE-764-RTS	\$33,156,017
14-KCPE-272-RTS	\$11,535,857
15-KCPE-116-RTS (Pending)	<u>\$67,300,000</u>

Total \$249,838,076



KCPL Kansas Residential Bill Impact

July 1 500 Kwh Bill

[illegible]

Website: CURB.Kansas.gov

The screenshot shows the CURB.Kansas.gov website in a browser window. The browser's address bar displays the URL <http://curb.kansas.gov/>. The website's header features the CURB logo, which includes the word "Kansas" in a script font and "CURB" in large, bold, green letters, with "Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board" written in a smaller script font below it. A navigation menu includes links for "Press Releases", "Consumer Alerts", "Helpful Links", and "Site Map".

On the left side, there is a vertical menu with the following links: "Home", "About Us", "Consumer Assistance", "CURBside Newsletter", "Legislative Issues", "Kids' CURB", and "Contact Us". Below this menu are two logos: the "Kansas Citizens' Regulatory Review Board" logo and the "NAsUCA" logo, which stands for the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates.

The main content area is titled "What's New" and lists three items:

- ❖ CURBside News, December 2014
- ❖ Westar Energy, Inc.'s Rate Increase History 2009 thru 2014.
- ❖ You can locate utility assistance programs in your area that are funded through the United Way by dialing 211 in the state of Kansas

Below this list is a section titled "Our Commitment..." which states: "CURB is committed to providing efficient and effective legal and technical representation for residential and small commercial utility ratepayers and to ensure that utilities are allowed to charge only just and reasonable rates to Kansans."

On the right side of the website, there is a table titled "January Fuel Prices".

January Fuel Prices	
Natural Gas Companies	
Atmos Energy	\$0.51033/Ccf
Black Hills Energy (formerly Aquila)	\$0.54005/Therm
KGS	\$6.2354/Mcf
Midwest Energy-K	\$0.590405/Therm
Midwest Energy-M	\$0.558905/Therm
Midwest Energy-T	\$0.447194/Therm
Electric Companies (ECA)	
Empire Electric	\$.03128/kWh
KCP&L	\$0.02071/kWh
Midwest Energy-M	\$0.007500/kWh
Midwest Energy-W	\$0.007500/kWh

The browser window also shows several open tabs: "Docket Details", "estar.kcc.ks.gov", and "Citizens' Utility Ratepayer B...". The Windows taskbar at the bottom of the screen shows the time as 11:47 PM on 1/21/2015.

Contact Information

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