

Kansas Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board

**Presentation to the Kansas
House Committee on Energy and
Environment**

January 18, 2013

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 Chairman 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, 1223

Board

- ▶ **Nancy Scott Jackson: Chair**
 - Third District, expires June 30, 2013
- ▶ **Stephanie Kelton: Vice-Chair**
 - Second District, Expires June 30, 2013
- ▶ **Kenneth Baker**
 - First District, Expires June 2013
- ▶ **Ellen Janoski**
 - Fourth District, Expires June 2015
- ▶ **Robert L. Harvey**
 - Member-at Large, Expires June 2015

Staff

- ▶ David Springe: Consumer Counsel
- ▶ Niki Christopher: Attorney
- ▶ C. Steven Rarrick: Attorney
- ▶ Stacey Harden: Analyst
- ▶ Shonda Smith: Office Manager
- ▶ Della Smith: Administrative Specialist

Website: CURB.Kansas.gov

Funding

- ▶ Annual Budget \$845,000
 - \$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
 - 22 rate cases since 2008, over \$500 million in requests
 - Statutory Cases
 - Regulatory preapprovals
 - Westar Wind, La Cygne Retrofit
 - 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

Recent Cases

- ▶ Kansas City Power & Light
 - Request \$63.5 million, \$33.2 allowed, litigated
- ▶ Kansas Gas Service
 - Request \$32 million new, \$10 million settlement
 - Case Iron Replacement surcharge, rejected
- ▶ Westar Energy
 - Request \$90 million, Staff settlement \$50, CURB contested the settlement
- ▶ Atmos Energy
 - Request \$9.7 million, \$2.8 million settlement

Westar Rate Increases

- ▶ 2009-2012
 - General Increases \$197.1 million
 - Line Item Increase \$170.1 million
 - Wind in fuel charge \$ 70.0 million

- ▶ 2013 (Westar estimates)
 - \$17.4 million transmission line item
 - \$27 million environmental line item
 - \$1.0 million energy efficiency line item
 - \$??? General increase (abbreviated capital update)

Westar Residential Bill Impact

	Westar South	Westar North
900 Kwh Summer bill 2008	\$ 83.00	\$ 74.00
900 Kwh summer bill 2012 (current)	\$ 103.50	\$ 103.50
Percent Increase	24.5%	40%
1500 Kwh Summer bill 2008	\$ 138.00	\$ 123.00
1500 Kwh summer bill 2012 (current)	\$ 175.26	\$ 175.26
Percent Increase	27%	42.4%

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	<u>\$33,156,017</u>

Total \$171,002,219

KCPL Kansas Residential Bill Impact July 1500 Kwh Bill

	2007 Rates	2008 Rates	2009 Rates	2010 Rates	2011 Rates	2012 Rates	2012 Proposed Rates
KWH's	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500
CC	\$5.76	\$7.25	\$7.93	\$9.07	\$9.83	\$9.83	\$10.48
0-1000	\$73.60	\$79.10	\$77.79	\$88.99	\$94.69	\$94.69	\$101.10
1000+	\$36.80	\$39.55	\$38.90	\$44.50	\$47.35	\$47.35	\$50.55
Fuel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20.15	\$21.51	\$27.80	\$32.10	\$32.10
EE Rider						\$1.79	\$1.79
Prop. Tax						\$0.86	\$0.86
Bill	\$116.18	\$125.90	\$144.76	\$164.07	\$179.66	\$186.61	\$196.87
Percent Increase 2007-2011					54.64%		
Percent Increase 2007-2012					60.62%		
Percent Increase 2007-2013					69.45%		

Ranking of Residential Average Rates

168—lowest rates, 1—highest rates

142	Public Service Co. (OK)	8.49
140	KCPL-L&P (formerly Aquila) (MO)	8.64
138	AmerenUE (MO)	8.80
115	Empire District (OK)	9.45
112	OG&E (OK)	9.66
101	KCPL (MO)	9.90
100	Westar-KG&E (KS)	9.92
99	Wesar-KP&L (KS)	9.93
91	Empire District (KS)	10.53
90	KCPL (KS)	10.58
75	Public Service Co (CO)	11.15
72	Empire (MO)	11.22
1	Con-ED (NY)	25.25

Source: EEI: 12 months ending 12/31/11

Contact Information

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