Notice of Public Hearing and Comment Period Concerning Rate Design Remand

The Kansas Corporation Commission is considering a proposed rate design to address the Kansas Supreme Court's April 3, 2020, ruling Evergy Kansas Central's rates for residential distributed generation customers established in Docket No. 18-WSEE-328-RTS are contrary to Kansas law. The Court remanded the rates back to the Commission for further proceedings consistent with the Court's opinion. Evergy has proposed a new rate design that includes a grid access fee of \$3 per month per kilowatt (kW) of installed private generation capacity. The fee would apply to all residential customers, but the charge would be \$0 for customers who do not have private generation. For example, a customer with a 7kW private solar installation would receive a charge of \$21 for the month.

As an alternative, Evergy has proposed a minimum bill of \$35 per month for all residential customers. This charge is equivalent to the monthly customer charge and about 278 kWh of electricity use per month. The minimum bill will only apply to customer bills below the \$35 amount. Customers with bills greater than \$35 will not see any additional charge under this proposal. These rates would replace the residential DG tariffs (Schedule RS-DG) established in Oct. 2018 for customers who installed their own source of electric power generation after Oct. 1, 2018.

Regulatory Responsibility

The Commission regulates public utilities, including home telephone, natural gas, electric and water companies, as well as motor carriers, oil and gas pipelines, and oil and gas producers. The Commission's regulatory oversight of public utilities primarily pertains to rates and terms of service. To ensure that customers of regulated utilities are provided sufficient and efficient service at just and reasonable rates, utilities may not change their rates without Commission approval.

Public Hearing

The Commission has scheduled a public hearing to provide Evergy Kansas Central customers an opportunity to make comments about the proposal. The public hearing is scheduled for **Thursday**, **Nov. 5, 2020 at 6 pm Central** and will be conducted online via <u>zoom</u>. Kansans wishing to make a public comment during the hearing should sign up in advance at <u>https://kcc.ks.gov/your-opinion-matters</u> to receive login information and time restraints for presentations. Registration will be first come first serve, as capacity may be limited. A live video stream will be available on the Commission's YouTube channel at <u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-uTcucl0oyHJr-iOheuuw/featured</u>.

Public Comments

The Commission will accept comments regarding the proposed rate changes through **Dec. 21, 2020 at 5 pm Central.** There are three convenient ways to submit a comment:

- 1. Go to the Commission's website (<u>www.kcc.ks.gov</u>) and click on the "Your Opinion Matters" link to enter your comment.
- Send a written letter to the Kansas Corporation Commission, Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection, 1500 SW Arrowhead Road, Topeka, KS 66604-4027. Be sure to reference Docket No. 18-WSEE-328-RTS
- 3. Send an email to the Commission's Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection (public.affairs@kcc.ks.gov).

Other Information

An evidentiary hearing on Evergy's request is scheduled to begin **Dec. 16, 2020 at 9 am Central.** It has not yet been determined if the hearing will be in-person or virtual.

A complete copy of Evergy's application and supporting testimony is available on the Commission's website at: <u>www.kcc.ks.gov</u>, by searching Docket Filings for Docket No. 18-WSEE-328-RTS. If you need additional assistance regarding the proposed rate design or submission of public comments to the Commission, contact the Commission's Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection at <u>800-662-0027</u>, or at <u>public.affairs@kcc.ks.gov</u>.