

Hartman, Brice C (ATG)

From: Joe Ackerson <joe.ackerson@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 2, 2024 4:04 PM
To: comments@utc.wa.gov; ATG WWW E-mail Public Counsel
Cc: customercare@pse.com
Subject: Proposed PSE Rate Increases

[EXTERNAL]

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing about the proposed PSE electricity increases proposed for January, 2025 and 2026.

The recent PSE proposals include raising the electricity base rate from \$7.49 to \$12.66 per month. I disagree with this rate increase for the base rate before any electricity is consumed. Rate increases should focus on actual energy usage. Increasing the base rate does nothing to encourage users to reduce their energy use or make their homes more efficient. Focusing any rate increase on energy used also allows lower income folks to work to reduce their bill, whereas a larger base rate increase falls equally on small, efficient households as well as large, inefficient ones.

To a lesser extent, I don't understand why kilowatt hour charges are increasing to \$83.68 for each kWh used *under* 600 kWh per month and \$31.78 for each kWh used *over* 600 kWh per month. Doesn't this encourage heavy energy use, especially for the largest, most inefficient consumers and those most able to afford energy? Why not shift the larger increase on the largest users of energy so the cost of energy becomes more fair and those who consume the most shoulder more of the burden of rate increases?

Thanks so much for addressing my concerns,

Joe Ackerson
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