

March 29, 2021

RECEIVED

APR 01 2021

WASH. UT. & TP. COMM

Washington Utilities & Transportation
Commission
PO Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504

Re: Expected June 2021 Rate Increase Proposal

Dear Sir/Madam:

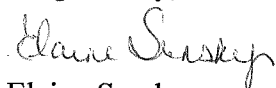
I would like someone to explain to me the process for determining the rate increases by kWh.

I am a senior citizen living on Social Security. All my life I've been conservative in my utility usage no matter the source. I take care of my needs and do my best to live within my budget regardless of what others do. So please explain to me why my bill will be going up the highest. Your Notice of Request Changes shows that my billing will increase 4.15%; not the stated 3.49% the notice tries to make people believe with a skim over review. I try the hardest to conserve the planet and I am punished for it? Where is the fairness in that? This is no different than having to pay more for sugarless food products when they take out the most expensive ingredient – sugar! It doesn't make sense. Why not charge those who aren't conserving the higher rate to penalize them for wastage? Their rate didn't even go up as much as the stated 3.49%--it's only at 3.4%. Let those who are being irresponsible and/or using the product, pay for the product!!! Since when is it my responsibility to take on the bills of others? **This rate increase needs to be denied or adjusted so the majority who are using more pay the price for it.**

Or reduce your profit margins! You ask us to conserve but you're not willing to reduce your profit margins. I'm sure they've even gone up over the years. There is no incentive for me to be conservative, yet I can't stay within my budget if I start wasting utilities. It's getting to be so I can't stay within budget while conserving and I can't conserve anymore without doing without! And even if I did that, you'd raise my prices even more so I'm paying for nothing! Do you get the lack of reasoning in charging those using less than 600kWh more than you charge others?

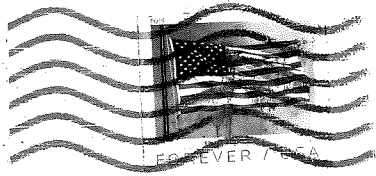
I'm already sitting here in three layers to keep the heating bill down to manageable levels. I conserve my water usage diligently. I even have tubs in the shower & the sink to collect water that is then used for rinsing the shower or watering plants outdoors. Do I need to shut off the lights and the TV and sit in the dark & silence too? And what good would it do? You'd raise the rates even more! So again, I'd be paying for something I'm not even getting. You need to go back to the drawing board and figure out how not to penalize the ones who can least afford this increase. There's a reason we use less.....we can't afford more!

Respectfully,



Elaine Srnsky

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