

1420 Jarvis Drive  
Manhattan, Kansas 66502

Kansas Corporation Commission  
Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection  
1500 SW Arrowhead Road  
Topeka, Kansas 66604-4027

Reference Docket No. 15-WSEE-115-RTS

Dear Commissioners and Staff,

I appreciate the opportunity to offer this statement to you as you consider a most important decision in the Westar Rate request.

Bottomline message:

I urge the KCC to deny Westar's request for a "solar tariff" at this time and to encourage independent, objective study of the cost and benefits of rooftop solar.

I am for choice and fairness.

I am not against Westar.

We disagree on how we define "fair."

I am not a "freeloader." I want to pay my fair share.

I want an objective, rational, data-based way to define the costs and benefits of rooftop solar.

Independently conducted studies have concluded that there is a net benefit to distributed generation of renewable energy by rooftop solar.

So, I urge the KCC to deny Westar's request for a "solar tariff" at this time and to encourage independent, objective study of the cost and benefits of rooftop solar.

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/utilities-sensing-threat-put-squeeze-on-booming-solar-roof-industry/2015/03/07/2d916f88-c1c9-11e4-ad5c-3b8ce89f1b89\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/utilities-sensing-threat-put-squeeze-on-booming-solar-roof-industry/2015/03/07/2d916f88-c1c9-11e4-ad5c-3b8ce89f1b89_story.html)]

I appreciate the changes that have been offered in the recent stipulation, including the limit of \$14.50 per month base rate increase without increases for a few years

and the elimination of the proposed Stability and Demand Plans which new solar customers would have been forced to take.

If the recent stipulation agreed upon by Westar and others involved in the process is accepted/approved by the KCC then some of the inequities to future solar customers has been lessened.

However, since we cannot be assured that the stipulation will be accepted, I am including some data regarding the effect of the 3 proposed rate plans in the original Westar rate request.

These are data from my actual utility bills from Jan. 2014 through Dec. 2014 at 1420 Jarvis Drive, Manhattan, Kansas. (The franchise fee, sales taxes, and service fees have been taken out of my 2014 bills so a fair comparison could be made to the cost of the proposed changes. I didn't have the data to add these cost in to the projected rates, so to compare "apples to apples" I eliminated them across the board.)

I was able to compare all 3 plans as I have a demand rating on my bill because I still have a Residential Peak Management Plan.

Please review the attachment to see the costs comparison for the first year and for 2019 when the \$27.00per month base fee would be in effect. For the first year the rates would increase 14.03% to 16.97\$ depending on the plan. Note that in 2019, for the Standard Plan it would be a 27.81% increase over 2014 rates and for the Demand plan it would be a 30.76% increase over 2014 rates.

While much more could be said, much has already been said about these proposed changes. Westar, CURB, and private concerned citizens, both those with and without rooftop solar, have spoken. They have contributed time and effort to be heard on this important issue.

I trust that the KCC staff and commissioners will use due diligence in deciding this important matter that effects so many and the future of Kansas.

Sincerely,

Dr. Cheryl (Cherri) H. Harper

