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Public hearings set for Evergy rate hike

Jason Alatidd
Topeka Capital-Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

Evergy is asking Kansas utility regulators for permission to raise electric rates, increasing how much customers pay to the monopoly each month.

Here's what to know about the rate case ahead of public hearings by the Kansas Corporation Commission.

Will the Evergy rate case affect me?

Evergy is proposing a \$196 million annual rate increase for Evergy Kansas Central customers. Evergy Kansas Metro customers wouldn't be affected.

The Evergy Kansas Central service territory covers about 735,000 custom-



Evergy Kansas Central, headquartered in Topeka, is asking state regulators for a \$196 million rate increase.

JASON ALATIDD/TOPEKA CAPITAL-JOURNAL

ers in central and eastern Kansas. It is headquartered in Topeka and spans from Leavenworth to Salina and Hutchinson to Pittsburg.

The company estimated that an average residential customer — based on an average household usage of about 900 kilowatt-hours per month — would see a \$13.05, or 10% increase, in their monthly bill.

How much would my Evergy electric bill increase?

Of the \$196 million net increase — which is about a 9% net increase in total retail revenues — \$192 million would be from actual base rate changes, according to Evergy's application filed with the KCC in January.

That \$192 million increase in yearly retail revenues — from \$1.41 billion to \$1.60 billion — is about a 14% increase. But some classes have different percentage increases, according to a retail

revenue summary for Evergy Kansas Central.

The main residential service class would pay about 15% more under Evergy's proposal, according to the company's application documents. Those roughly 630,000 residential customers would collectively pay about \$96 million more a year.

For an average customer using 853 kWh per month, that's a monthly increase of \$12.65, from \$84.58 to \$97.23.

Most small businesses fall under the small general service class. Those approximately 89,000 customers would pay about 13% more, for an average of \$34.49 more per month and a collective increase of about \$37 million.

The large tire manufacturer class

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Demonstrators stand on a charred vehicle during a protest following federal immigration operations in the Compton neighborhood of Los Angeles on June 7. RINGO CHIU/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Trump orders National Guard to Los Angeles

Troops to help combat immigration protests

Bart Jansen
USA TODAY

President Donald Trump ordered thousands of National Guard troops to help quell violent protests against immigration enforcement in Los Angeles, where helmeted police in riot gear clashed with concrete-hurling protesters who opposed tougher federal actions against undocumented immigrants.

The clash spanning June 6 and 7 marked one of the most serious confrontations yet between agents carrying out Trump's directives on mass arrests and deportations and local officials who oppose the stricter enforcement measures.

Some protesters hurled large chunks of broken concrete at officers, slashed

tires and defaced buildings, according to the Department of Homeland Security. Police declared an unlawful assembly and responded by firing tear gas, pepper spray and flash-bang concussion rounds toward the crowd.

Trump signed a memo June 7 deploying 2,000 National Guardsmen to address the lawlessness that has been allowed to fester, White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt said. The Trump administration has a zero tolerance policy for criminal behavior and violence, especially when that violence is aimed at law enforcement officers trying to do their job, she said.

"Left-wing radicals waving foreign flags are viciously attacking ICE and Border Patrol agents and obstructing

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Fireworks explode in front of law enforcement as they face off with demonstrators during a protest following federal immigration operations in the Compton neighborhood of Los Angeles early June 8.

ETIENNE LAURENT/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Justice: Trump's win streak 'troubling'

Maureen Groppe
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump is on a winning streak of getting quick assistance from the Supreme Court after lower courts have put the brakes on his policies.

That's prompted one of the three liberal justices to write that the court is sending a "troubling message" that it's departing from basic legal standards for the administration.

"It is particularly startling to think that grants of relief in these circumstances might be (unintentionally) conveying not only preferential treatment for the Government but also a willingness to undercut both our lower court colleagues' well-reasoned interim judgments and the well-established constraints of law that they are in the process of enforcing," Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson wrote.

Jackson was dissenting from the conservative majority's decision to give Elon Musk's Department of Government Efficiency complete access to the data of millions of Americans kept by the Social Security Administration.

Once again, she wrote in a dissent joined by Justice Sonia Sotomayor, "this Court dons its emergency responder gear, rushes to the scene, and uses its equitable power to fan the flames rather than extinguish them."

A district judge had blocked DOGE's access to "personally identifiable information" while assessing whether that access is legal.

Jackson said a majority of the court didn't require the administration to show it would be "irreparably harmed" by not getting immediate access, one of the legal standards for intervention.

"It says, in essence, that although other stay applicants must point to more than the annoyance of compliance with lower court orders they don't like," she wrote, "the Government can

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