

ELLEN F. ROSENBLUM
Attorney General



LISA M. UDLAND
Deputy Attorney General

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
GENERAL COUNSEL DIVISION

September 7, 2023

puc.filingcenter@puc.oregon.gov

ATTN: Filing Center
Public Utility Commission of Oregon Dept of Justice
201 High Street SE, Suite 100
Salem, OR 97301-1166

Re: In the Matter of Portland General Electric Company,
Request for a General Rate Revision.
OPUC Docket UE 416

Enclosed for filing is an errata to Staff Exhibit 2909 including additional public comments inadvertently excluded from the original Staff Exhibit 2909.

Sincerely,

/s/ Stephanie Andrus

Stephanie Andrus
Sr. Assistant Attorney General
Business Activities Section
stephanie.andrus@doj.state.or.us

SSA/pjr
Enclosure

CASE: UE 416
WITNESS: MATT MULDOON

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF
OREGON**

STAFF EXHIBIT 2909

**Public Comments
Received After Staff Opening Testimony**

August 22, 2023

From: [SPENST Carissa * PUC](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Anonymous PGE customer - Late Notices
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 10:06:18 AM

Customer called and said he would like to have his comments put on the record regarding receiving urgent late notices in red envelopes from PGE.

He said that he's had service for over 30 years, and over the last year he's noticed that if he's 3 or 4 days late paying his bill, he gets an envelope in the mail with big red letters telling him it's an urgent notice from PGE regarding his account.

He said that he called PGE this morning to ask why they're doing this because he also gets phone calls and feels it's a waste of time and energy and effort for them to do this. PGE told him that it's something that the OPUC requires them to do.

So he called to find out if that's true or not. I explained to him that yes, the regulated utility companies are required by the OAR's to send late notices in the mail to customers as soon as the due date has been missed. The calls are a customer service effort by the company and are not required.

He said he thinks it's a waste of time and shouldn't be done because it's a lot of effort just to keep the people involved in the whole process employed. He said he wants his comments added to the record.

Thank you,

Carissa M. Spenst

Carissa M. Spenst

Compliance Specialist

Oregon Public Utility Commission

Puc.consumer@puc.oregon.gov

1-800-522-2404/503-378-6600

503-378-5743 (fax)

From: [Cierra](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Comments on UE 416 (1)
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 4:56:40 PM

This increase is wrong. The rise of fossil fuel costs should not rely on working families pockets. We are not customers paying for a luxury service, you are not a streaming service, or a gym membership. This is a UTILITY company. Electricity is a right. Parents can lose their children for not having electricity. Rental Management companies can fine families or even take their homes for simply being late on their bill. I find it hard to believe the offset of costs cant be supplemented by the millions of dollars in tax breaks and CEO salaries. For the industry to continue to rely on fossil fuels at the expense of the public is atrocious.

Cierra Coppedge
Ccfrogger87@yahoo.com

From: [Natalia Neal](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Comments on UE 416 (2)
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 4:27:02 PM

Hello,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, a 16% rate increase will have a big impact on my household.

I live in a house, and I'm low income. A \$23 increase is a big deal for me. Inflation has already increased my grocery bills and other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have negative impacts on low-income Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible.

Sincerely,

Natalia Neal

17373 SE Forest Hill Drive

Damascus, OR 97089

From: margiemcclure@comcast.net
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Comments on UE 416 (3)
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 2:28:56 AM

My Food Stamps barely get me 1 week's worth of groceries now days. And i hear you might increase single dwellings more, unless apartments in large buildings qualify us a multiple dwellings? Why do you all keep raising the things we can't really control? Its' not like we can just stop using electricity! I feel like we are being held up - everywhere! First they came for my food stamps, when the federal government stopped that extra \$\$ a few months ago, even as food prices are soaring. Rent is about to go up too and just the overall cost of living. The last thing people like me need, is a ballooning, out of control energy bill on top of everything else. Please reconsider! Thank You! margie

margiemcclure

From: [Kristy Stephens](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Comments on UE 416 (4)
Date: Thursday, June 1, 2023 7:25:08 PM

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Kristy S.
Concerned Oregonian

Docket No: UE 416

Staff/2909
Muldoon/7

From: [Martin McCurdy](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Comments on UE 416
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 4:19:09 PM

Do not raise PGE bill! I am on a low fixed income, live in Multnomah County and cannot afford it.

-Martin McCurdy

-

Sent from my iPhone

From: [SILVIA TANNER](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Cc: [John Wasiutynski](#); [MOSEER Nolan * PUC](#)
Subject: Docket No. UE 416 - Comments by Multnomah County
Date: Wednesday, May 31, 2023 5:08:21 PM
Attachments: [Multnomah County Rate Case Comments 20220526.pdf](#)

Dear AHD staff,

Please see attached the Comments by Multnomah County Chair Jessica Vega Pederson related to PGE's proposed rate increase in Docket No. UE 416.

Please let me know if you have any comments or questions.

Best,

Silvia Tanner

--

Silvia Tanner, JD (*pronouns she/her*)

Sr. Energy Policy and Legal Analyst

Office of Sustainability | Multnomah County

501 SE Hawthorne Blvd., Suite 600, Portland, OR 97214

T: [503.988.4092](tel:503.988.4092) | W: [Office of Sustainability](#)



Jessica Vega Pederson Multnomah County Chair

501 SE Hawthorne Blvd., Suite 600
Portland, Oregon 97214
Phone: (503) 988-3308
Email: mult.chair@multco.us

May 31, 2023,
Via Electronic Filing

Oregon Public Utility Commission
201 High St. SE, Suite 100
Salem, OR 97301-3398
Attn: AHD-UE 416

Re: UE 416 - Portland General Electric's Request for a General Rate Revision

Dear Administrative Law Judge Lackey,

I am writing to express my concern with Portland General Electric's proposed rate increase and to ask the Public Utility Commission to reduce the increase where appropriate. Too many in our community live with, or at the verge of, energy insecurity. The proposed rate increase, the largest proposed rate increase in 20 years, would disproportionately impact them at a time of increased financial vulnerability, at a time when our systems to prevent additional energy insecurity still have many gaps. As a result, we encourage the Commission to consider energy justice principles when reviewing this proposal, and to limit its approval to elements in it that are in service of community members.

Our community is hurting. Multnomah County plans for the needs of a dynamic community, provides leadership to ensure quality services, prioritizes the needs of our most vulnerable and promotes a healthy, safe and prosperous community for all. We do that in part through our programs that provide energy assistance and weatherization services to community members in need. As a result, we can see that people in Multnomah County continue to experience a high need for energy assistance. Indeed, as of early May our energy assistance program had distributed almost 76% of PGE Oregon Energy Assistance Program funds. We worry about the additional strain that the proposed rate increase would place on already vulnerable households.

The proposed rate increase also worries us in light of how we do not yet have systems in place to support those who would be most impacted. PGE's Income-Qualified Bill Discount Program (IQBD) is an important tool to address the impacts of higher rates, yet it is not sufficient. Multnomah County was deeply involved in the design of IQBD and so we are keenly aware of its limitations. First, this program is available to those making 60% of state median income or below, yet energy burden does not begin or end at this income level. A family with income above that threshold, living in housing that is not well weatherized and with inefficient appliances, may very well experience energy burden, yet would have no access to the IQBD. Also, it will take time for the program to cover as much of the qualifying population as the program can realistically reach, and that will likely still not be everyone who qualifies or needs access to this program.

For these reasons, we encourage the PUC to look carefully at what elements in PGE's proposal are in service of the communities that PGE serves. An increase will create additional strain on community members while our changing climate and the need to decarbonize are leading them to rely more on their electric utility service. For that reason we encourage the PUC to look critically at elements of the proposal that would seek to shift costs and risks to customers at a time when they are feeling the pressure of inflation and of a cooling job market. Examples include PGE's proposed adjustments to the Power Cost Adjustment Mechanism and its request for an increased return on equity. We also encourage the PUC to center the realities of under-resourced communities in any discussions about issues that may impact them strongly while they have limited ability to respond (i.e. price signals). We encourage you to consider energy justice in your assessment of this proposal, and appreciate the work of organizations like the Citizens Utility Board, Community Action Partnership of Oregon, and the Community Energy Project are doing to bring resources and expertise to this process.

Thank you for your attention and consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jessica Vega Pederson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jessica" being the most prominent.

Jessica Vega Pederson
Multnomah County Chair

From: [PUC CONSUMER PUC * PUC](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: FW: Request for Automatic Support for Low-Income Households in PGE Rate Changes
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 9:54:51 AM

From: T.J Graven <tjgraven7773@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 10, 2023 7:44 PM
To: PUC CONSUMER PUC * PUC <puc.consumer@puc.oregon.gov>
Subject: Request for Automatic Support for Low-Income Households in PGE Rate Changes

You don't often get email from tjgraven7773@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Tiffany Graven
Portland, Oregon 97215
Tjgraven7773@gmail.com
971-307-7829
June 2023

Oregon Public Utility Commission
P.O. Box 1088
Salem, OR 97308-1088

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed price increases by Portland General Electric (PGE) and to request your consideration for implementing automatic support for low-income households in the rate changes.

As a resident of Portland, Oregon, I am deeply concerned about the impact these price increases may have on the affordability of housing for low-income families. It is crucial that we ensure access to essential services, such as electricity, for all residents, regardless of their income level. I believe that by introducing separate billing and automatic support for low-income households, we can address this pressing issue and mitigate the burden on vulnerable communities.

Separate billing for low-income households would allow for a more equitable distribution of costs, ensuring that those who are already struggling to afford housing are not burdened further by increased electricity prices. By implementing a system where families can provide proof of their low-income status, they can be automatically enrolled in a support program that helps alleviate the financial strain of their utility bills.

I kindly request that the Oregon Public Utility Commission thoroughly consider this proposal during the review of PGE's rate changes. By incorporating automatic support for low-income households, we can uphold the principle of fairness and work towards creating an inclusive and supportive

community for all residents.

Additionally, I would like to express my interest in participating in any public hearings or submitting written comments regarding this matter. Please inform me of any upcoming opportunities for public input, as I am committed to voicing my concerns and contributing constructively to the decision-making process.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I trust that the Oregon Public Utility Commission will diligently consider the impact of these proposed price increases on low-income households and take necessary steps to ensure affordability and accessibility of essential utilities.

Yours sincerely,

Tiffany Graven

Tjgraven7773@gmail.com

971-307-7829

May 31, 2023
Via Electronic Filing

Oregon Public Utility Commission
201 High St. SE, Suite 100
Salem, OR 97301-3398
Attn: AHD-UE 416

Re: UE 416 - Portland General Electric's Request for a General Rate Revision

Dear Administrative Law Judge Lackey,

We are writing as city leaders to express significant concern with Portland General Electric's proposed rate increase. We also write to ask that the Oregon Public Utility Commission (PUC) work with Portland General Electric to limit the amount of the increase.

If passed, the 14% average rate increase proposed by PGE would be the largest rate increase in 20 years, totaling \$338 million of additional revenue. Meanwhile, this comes when PGE appears to be seeing record revenue. Electric rates impact people differently depending on their housing type, rate class and utility usage. Citizens' Utility Board (CUB) estimates a 16.3% cost increase for the average multifamily customer, and 15.9% for the average single family residential customer¹. Moreover, rate increases are cumulative. Considering the 7% rate increase that already took effect January 2023, the total increase in average multifamily energy costs from 2022 to 2024 would be over 24%. In addition to this major increase requested, PGE has the ability to pursue bill surcharges for single-issue cases.

While we have concerns on the impacts this rate increase would have throughout the PGE customers in Portland, we are particularly concerned about the disproportionate impact the proposed rates would have on low-income households. Currently, over 77,200 households in Multnomah County are defined as energy burdened by the state of Oregon². Increasing electric rates so steeply now, when there are also upward pressures on housing costs, food, and transportation, will push struggling families toward further housing instability. While PGE has income-based discounts, the maximum amount available is only 25%, in comparison to other electric and gas utilities that provide discounts of up to 40%. We know that low-income households are disproportionately more likely to be communities of color and are concerned that these communities will be hardest hit by these rate increases.

¹CUB rate impact table: <https://oregoncub.org/news/blog/pge-customers-can-weigh-in-on-rate-increase-on-may-3/2802/>

² Multnomah County Energy Facts, Oregon Department of Energy : <https://energyinfo.oregon.gov/2020-counties/2020/11/1/multnomah-county>

The rate increase will also directly impact City operations as a customer and electricity user. Throughout numerous Bureaus, the City of Portland holds over 800 PGE accounts that provide services to the public, from street lighting to provision of water and sewer services, to keeping parks facilities operating. At a time when Portland City Council is working to limit fee and rate increases in our control, this PGE rate increase would cause significant burden to City bureaus that are already cost-constrained. Utility rates increases of this historic magnitude would also cause additional inflationary pressures throughout the regional economy, as local businesses, corporations, and manufacturers pass on those costs in the goods and services that they sell.

The City of Portland shares PGE's goals toward a decarbonized, resilient, and efficient utility system and recognizes that many of the investments that are part of this rate case move us toward those collective goals. However, the PUC should take a critical look at the costs and individual drivers of rate increases throughout the UE 416 rate case. Specifically, the City of Portland urges the PUC to consider:

- Rejecting the increased rate of return on equity (from 9.6% to 9.8%) sought by PGE. Especially at this moment, it is not appropriate for the PUC to approve an increase in returns for PGE shareholders.
- Reconsidering the cost factors and burden of responsibility in utility customers paying for cost-overruns for generation assets that were previously planned.
- Deeply evaluating cost allocation among customer groups, including cost causation factors, demand management opportunities, and ability to bear additional energy costs.
- Using legislatively approved revenue deferral mechanisms to limit the current rate increase, and instead adjust rates as needed based on actual cost impacts and power market prices.
- Encouraging PGE to seek additional Federal grant opportunities through the Inflation Reduction Act, Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, and partnership with national labs and research institutions to reduce the costs borne by utility customers for decarbonization, grid resilience, and wildfire mitigation.

We encourage the PUC to consider company revenues, energy burden and cost causation in your deliberations of this rate case. The City of Portland appreciates the work of PUC staff, as well as the many community organizations, advocates, and other municipal governments who are providing their expertise and perspectives to this docket.

Respectfully submitted this 31st day of May,

Sincerely,



Mayor Ted Wheeler



Commissioner Carmen Rubio



Commissioner Dan Ryan

From: [Kathleen Bisom](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Impact -PGE
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 8:13:01 PM

You don't often get email from katwilson0i812@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello & thank you for caring what the public, Your Customers think. Any rate increase would have a negative impact on me & my family. With the food prices have doubled since the beginning of the covid pandemic has & is taking a toll on our family & our saving we once had is now gone just to continue eating healthy home cooked meals. We cannot & we do not eat out , we are unable to afford such plus eating out is not too healthy of a choice. My family & I live on a fixed budget and as soon as government got their citizens excited about getting a raise the highest raise ever given, the government raises food products , necessities for living, & existing doubling in price. So you see we are barely staying afloat. Rent increase property tax increase, gas price increase, increase prices for water, sewer, garbage services, list continues but I'm its the same impact for everyone. Trying to live on a below poverty level income is challenging. And we'll get by with God's help paying any increase PGE may enforce. We, my family uses less energy than neighboring homes so we'll have to be more frugal in usages of power. Thank you for your time, & understanding. Good luck

Kathleen Bisom

From: [Oliveira, Donnie](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: INFO: Docket No. UE 416 Public Comment
Date: Wednesday, May 31, 2023 4:29:10 PM
Attachments: [City of Portland-Docket No. UE 416.pdf](#)

Please see attached.

Donnie Oliveira, he/him/his
Director
City of Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability
Phone: 503.593.1869
www.portlandoregon.gov/bps | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#)

The City of Portland is committed to providing meaningful access. For accommodations, modifications, translation, interpretation or other services, please contact at 503.823.7700 or use City TTY 503.823.7700

From: [RICHTER Brandy * PUC](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Klaus Pagel - PGE public comment UE 416
Date: Tuesday, June 27, 2023 1:11:26 PM

Klaus Pagel worked for Yamhill County for 30 years. He is requesting to submit his public comment about PGE rates.

He would like to see the rates determined off income rather than based on usage. Older people such as himself have a static income, and when the rates increase, it is not something that they are able to adjust and account for in their income. Especially when the rate increase comes in the winter months. Older people would be able to manage it easier if the rates were based off income. He knows that California has made an effort to charge based on household income, which results in a reduction of the billable amount for lower income households.

If he gets a say, he would like to vote for no increases at all, but he is really requesting a shift in the billing practices.

I let him know that PGE has a relatively new income qualified bill discount program. He was not aware of the program and said he was going to check if he qualified. He has not spoken to them since before the program was brought online.

Thank you,

Brandy Richter

Compliance Specialist

BRANDY.RICHTER@PUC.OREGON.GOV

503-378-6600/1-800-522-2404

This e-mail may contain information that is privileged, confidential, or otherwise exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If you are not the addressee or it appears from the context or otherwise that you have received this e-mail in error, please advise me immediately by reply e-mail, keep the contents confidential, and immediately delete the message and any attachments from your system.

From: [Francine Kaufman](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: NO ON THE PGE RATE INCREASE
Date: Saturday, May 27, 2023 7:41:30 AM

I strongly oppose the proposed PGE rate increase for the following reasons:

1. It would effectively cancel out the low income discount for residential customers like me and others like me.
2. The Community Energy Project recommends opposing this.
3. It's very poor timing for all customers and might have a negative impact on the low income discounts residential customers receive from the Community Solar Program and discourage residential renewable energy efforts in Oregon
4. It would hit residential low income customers the hardest.
5. PGE would be better off saving money by doing away with it's free gift card drawing programs to encourage residential customers for taking service related surveys. That I am sure generates unnecessary expense to PGE that passes along those costs to its customers that aren't the fortunate few who win them. It is an irresponsible use of funds and an unfair and misleading ploy for a PGE pr and marketing program that is unethical and takes advantage of many of it's customers.

[Sent from Frontier Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Mara Monroe](#)
To: [PUC CONSUMER PUC * PUC](#)
Subject: PGE 14% Rate Increase Proposal
Date: Wednesday, May 31, 2023 1:36:34 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in regard to the proposal by PGE to raise rates up to 14% in 2024. We're PGE customers and do not support any rate increase.

A rate increase would impact our family by making it harder to balance our budget and have any money for unexpected monthly expenses.

Our employers are not offering raises that would offset any rate increases, and inflation has made it so everyday expenses overwhelm our bank account.

We're in the Milwaukie area and experienced a 5 day power outage in 2021 due to an ice storm. We're aware that power providers may face more threats due to extreme weather and climate change.

Just two days ago, on Memorial Day 2023, our area experienced an outage lasting 5.5 hours. This affected over 1000 households according to the PGE outage map.

We had just purchased groceries that morning and because of the power loss, most of our perishable items had to be discarded. We understand that emergencies come up, but it's the end of the month and rent is due in three days. We cannot afford to re-purchase food and have to pay rent. These type of choices could become more typical if electrical bills continue to rise, along with costs for other utilities that also incur rate increases, such as our monthly water bill.

I understand that power cannot be free, and PGE has been reliable, but I don't think consumers should bear the challenge of paying for it. I'm sitting here trying to figure out what to feed my family because we have to stretch and scrape because something unexpected came up.

I strongly urge PGE to look to find other ways to meet the costs of providing power.

Signed,

Michelle Perry, Milwaukie, Oregon

From: [Travis Geist](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: PGE rate increase (1)
Date: Thursday, May 4, 2023 4:34:11 PM

I'm against this, especially when they're asking for 14% and I already pay a premium after switching to a heat pump. Not to mention their monopoly on power. This is stupid

From: [Emma Keller](#)
To: [PUC CONSUMER PUC * PUC](#)
Subject: PGE Rate Increase 2024
Date: Wednesday, May 31, 2023 1:07:52 PM

Hello,

I'm contacting the Oregon Public Utility Commission regarding the proposed PGE rate increase of 14% for 2024. I'm a PGE customer and currently live in a rental apartment. I'm strongly opposed to this rate increase and feel that it would place additional challenges on households currently struggling to make ends meet. My family of three currently gets by on a single income. Even with the assistance of the PGE discount program, our monthly bill is between \$150-\$170 a month. We're spending more on utility bills than our food, and each year we await an expected rent increase. For 2023, landlords were allowed a maximum rent increase of 14.6%. Our lease, which renews in August, went up by \$150.

We're facing a crisis of rising prices and wages that haven't been raised to meet them. PGE's proposal will add an extra burden to households and increase our bills. Each month someone might have to do the balancing act of either paying the bills or providing food or medical needs for their family.

PGE needs to work to find a better solution to meet energy needs. Placing the cost on the customers is not just financial; it encompasses mental health, basic needs, and an infrastructure that has little assistance to those who need help.

Sincerely,

Emma Kellar

From: [Mark Habib](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: PGE rate increase comment
Date: Wednesday, June 21, 2023 1:10:13 PM

You don't often get email from markdhabib@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi,

I am a PGE customer. I strongly disagree with a rate increase. Previous rate increases have been justified by increased natural gas prices. Natural gas prices have fallen dramatically this year, to a level not seen since 2021. Multiple rate increases have already occurred between 2021 and now, so not only is a current rate increase unreasonable, what would actually be appropriate is a rate decrease. I beg upon the PUC to reject this rate increase. This rate increase would further subject PGE customers, such as myself and my family, to hardship in order to increase PGE's profits. People over profit. Again, a rate decrease is in order, and ideally PGE would be subject to punitive action for this unjustified money grab, but I know you won't actually do that. I don't have much more to say, but please consider the facts and the delicate financial situation that many Oregonians are already in.

Thank you,
Mark Habib
6403 SE 92nd Ave
Portland, OR 97266

From: [morteza rezaee babak](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: PGE rate increase
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 8:26:57 PM

Hello,

As a PGE customer, I feel frustrated and powerless. I understand the need for rate increase from time to time. But this is second year in a row that we have rate increase. PGE is already has the highest rates in the state despite having the smallest network. Maybe they should lower the greed and higher the efficiency.
Please consider that many of us are currently facing financial hardship due to inflation.

Thank you,
Morteza

From: [CONNEY BEAUDRY](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: PGE rate increases docket #UE 416
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 4:32:25 PM

You don't often get email from conneyb@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

It is a terrible idea for PGE to increase rates on the public. We already had an increase this past year of 7 percent and now to ask people to pay more again is ridiculous!
I did not get a pay increase this year so how can you expect people to keep up with their utility bills.

It is a greedy money grabbing way and instead of helping the public this is their answer?
The cost of everything is so bad. We are not poor but middle income and are struggling.
The utility commission needs to stand up and say no!
C Beaudry

From: [sueb](#)
To: [PUC CONSUMER PUC * PUC](#)
Subject: Pge request
Date: Thursday, May 4, 2023 12:32:15 PM

No way they need 14%. That is beyond inflation to start with. It's beyond what is affordable. Let's look at higher administrative salaries and their salarieswith bonuses. This cannot be approved in any way
Susan Brewer

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S21+ 5G, an AT&T 5G smartphone

From: [Rebecca B](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Proposed PGE Price Increase (1)
Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023 2:47:40 PM

I would like to submit my opposition to the proposed PGE rate increase taking effect this January 2024.

Consumers are being squeezed enough with inflation - which is mostly caused by corporations increasing prices just because they can. Our electricity company should not fall into that category.

Thank you,
Rebecca Britton

From: [Rebecca B](#)
To: [PUC CONSUMER PUC * PUC](#)
Subject: Proposed PGE Price Increase
Date: Wednesday, May 31, 2023 1:04:08 PM

I would like to submit my opposition to the proposed PGE rate increase taking effect this January 2024.

Consumers are being squeezed enough with inflation that we know is mostly caused by corporations increasing prices just because they can. Our electricity company should not fall into that category. PGE can raise rates after inflation goes down.

Thank you,
Rebecca Britton

From: derek.sanborn7@gmail.com
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Proposed PGE rate increase
Date: Thursday, May 4, 2023 4:58:50 PM

To whom it may concern:

Why would residents pay more than industrial users? We just had a rate increase of 7% last year and now already looking at 14% more? \$233mm net income last year isn't enough? This is a money grab that I disagree with being instituted and will make it harder for people to cover their bills that are still dealing with persistent inflation and rising rents, among others.

Sent from my iPhone

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Julie Blackman CTC](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Proposed PGE Residential Rate Increase
Date: Wednesday, May 31, 2023 11:39:28 AM

-

As a residential customer of PGE I strongly oppose the proposed substantial increase in residential rates - particularly for those in single-family housing.

PGE has received rate increases in ever increasing amounts. This most recent proposal, which is projected to add about \$22 per month to the typical household, is just about the last straw for many households. It comes on top of a non-negligible increase in 2022.

While we work diligently to limit our power usage, there is only so much that can be done. At a certain point safety, security and comfort are sacrificed in order to hold the line on utility bills. An increase of 16% will be a burden for many households.

I understand and applaud PGE's attention to improved maintenance and particularly prevention of wildfire via technology and maintenance.

However, said expenses could easily come from shareholder dividends and some of the enormous salaries enjoyed by PGE officers. Said officers earn enough that they don't understand the impact on the typical household on the increases. They could probably manage if their bonuses and salaries were slightly lower this year rather than shifting all the expense to their captive customers.

The requested increase is roughly twice the rate of inflation. PGE has not demonstrated the reasonableness of such a large rate hike.

I urge the PUC to do its job and deny this increase.

Thank you for your attention to these concerns.

Sincerely,

Julie Blackman

From: [Admin](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: protest of proposal - PGE
Date: Saturday, June 17, 2023 9:28:55 PM

You don't often get email from danielle.robillard@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

PGE wants to raise my rate because they were operating so badly that they caused wildfires?

I do NOT think so -

I and a lot of my fellow Oregonians live paycheck to paycheck - and funding a corporate foul-up - no matter how awful it was, is simply not in my budget!!!

Please do not make me cut back on my minuscule food budget because PGE is unaware of its job and responsibilities.

Thank you for reading my comment,

Danielle Robillard
Troutdale OR

From: [Hale, Matthew](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (13)
Date: Friday, May 26, 2023 1:42:50 PM

Comments on Proposed Rate Increase by PGE – UE 416

Oregon Public Utility Commission
Attn: AHD – UE 416
PO Box 1088
Salem, OR 97308

I strongly recommend that before deciding on PGE's 14 percent proposed rate increase affecting ratepayers, that the OPUC consider all the taxes and fees the average ratepayer pays on their monthly PGE electric bill. On our monthly bill, those "regulatory charges, taxes and fees" account for a 17.9% additional charge on our "energy charges." According to the Federal Reserve study released this Monday, "American families did worse financially last year than they did the year before, as inflation and the evaporation of federal stimulus money began to weigh on household budgets." In addition, the study found that "More than one-third of respondents—or 35%—said they were worse off financially in 2022 than in 2021, marking the highest level since the Fed began asking the question in 2014."

Are there any potential cost savings that the OPUC could consider to assist ratepayers, specifically the monetary value of the Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) PGE has been accumulating since Oregon enacted the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS)? I understand that sometime in 2011 or 2012, PGE and Pacific Power benefited from a decision to award them RECs as their renewable generators were registered in the Western Renewable Energy Generation Information System (WREGIS). These initial RECs were at the time called stranded generation, as described in a report commissioned by the Center for Resource Solutions (CRS). The report "arranged for WREGIS to create RECs retroactively for stranded electricity. Under this arrangement, all RECs created through this process must be exclusively used for Oregon RPS compliance."

Perhaps these RECs, and their corresponding monetary value, could be used to offset the 14% proposed rate increase and provide some much-needed financial relief to rate payers?

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Matt Hale

Docket No: UE 416

Salem, OR

Staff/2909

Muldoon/32

From: anna.gonzales80@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [anna.gonzales](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (1)
Date: Saturday, May 20, 2023 9:57:12 AM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
anna gonzales
15928 NE Fremont St Portland, OR 97230-5120
anna.gonzales80@yahoo.com

From: anna.gonzales80@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [anna.gonzales](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (2)
Date: Saturday, May 20, 2023 9:57:25 AM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
anna gonzales
15928 NE Fremont St Portland, OR 97230-5120
anna.gonzales80@yahoo.com

From: anna.gonzales80@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [anna.gonzales](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (3)
Date: Saturday, May 20, 2023 9:58:29 AM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
anna gonzales
15928 NE Fremont St Portland, OR 97230-5120
anna.gonzales80@yahoo.com

From: ser.myhome@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [In Ser](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (4)
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 3:44:30 PM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
In Ser
16265 SW Mason Ln Beaverton, OR 97006-5579
ser.myhome@gmail.com

From: oweisahed@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Ahed Oweis](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (5)
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 3:47:09 PM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

We hope not to increase the bills because that will have very bad impact on our family.

Sincerely,
Ahed Oweis
10837 SE Cherry Blossom Dr Portland, OR 97216-3107
oweisahed@gmail.com

From: lilalee@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lila Lee](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (6)
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 3:50:36 PM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Lila Lee
900 SW Cheltenham St Portland, OR 97239-2606
lilalee@teleport.com

From: careydog@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Carey Lee](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (7)
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 4:04:56 PM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

I am already on a very limited budget, and this huge rate increase will be devastating. Climate change is already significantly affecting the Willamette Valley and we will need to rely even more on electricity to deal with the severe climate/weather consequences. Rate payers have a legitimate need to access affordable service. Our food costs are rising and will surely keep increasing as the Colorado river (& other water sources) continue to dry up.

While shareholders/capitalism makes the world go round, the proposed rate increase is way too much! We are looking at huge temperature changes and profiting off this surely not moral.

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Commissioners. Please reduce this increase to reflect the needs of all of us.

Sincerely,
Carey Lee
3202 Bluff Ave SE Apt 17 Salem, OR 97302-3284
careydog@gmail.com

From: ethanvoon@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [ETHAN VOON](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (8)
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 4:18:47 PM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm deeply concerned about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing an almost \$23 per month increase. My family lives in a house and we are middle income, a \$23 increase is a big deal for us. Inflation has already increased our grocery bills and many other household expenses.

I can only imagine how detrimental this will be on those with even less income than my household. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
ETHAN VOON
1621 N Church St Portland, OR 97217-4514
ethanvoon@outlook.com

From: tjzendlessobsessions@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Travis Johnston](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (9)
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 1:38:23 PM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Travis Johnston
4707 SE Boardman Ave Apt 19 Portland, OR 97267-5937
tjzendlessobsessions@gmail.com

From: Natasha_vdn@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Natalia Neal](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (10)
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 4:24:38 PM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Natalia Neal
17373 SE Forest Hill Dr Damascus, OR 97089-2751
Natasha_vdn@yahoo.com

From: Natasha_vdn@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Natalia Neal](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (11)
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 4:24:39 PM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Natalia Neal
17373 SE Forest Hill Dr Damascus, OR 97089-2751
Natasha_vdn@yahoo.com

From: ruthierocha10@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Ruth Rocha](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (12)
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 4:27:02 PM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Ruth Rocha
4815 Bayne St NE Salem, OR 97305-3589
ruthierocha10@yahoo.com

From: jrocha1289@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Joshua Rocha](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (14)
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 4:29:21 PM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Joshua Rocha
5119 Countryside St NE Apt 104 Salem, OR 97305-4164
jrocha1289@yahoo.com

From: ccfrogger87@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Cierra Coppedge](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (15)
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 4:54:09 PM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

This increase is wrong. The rise of fossil fuel costs should not rely on working families pockets. We are not customers paying for a luxury service, you are not a streaming service, or a gym membership. This is a UTILITY company. Electricity is a right. Parents can lose their children for not having electricity. Rental Management companies can fine families or even take their homes for simply being late on their bill. I find it hard to believe the offset of costs cant be supplemented by the millions of dollars in tax breaks and CEO salaries. For the industry to continue to rely on fossil fuels at the expense of the public is atrocious.

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Cierra Coppedge
8043 SE Monroe St Portland, OR 97222-1169
ccfrogger87@yahoo.com

From: aex3@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [David Abraham](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (16)
Date: Saturday, May 27, 2023 9:10:44 AM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact me personally.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

My PGE rates have more than doubled in the last year, and I am not using any more power. Most months I am using less to try and reduce cost. I am a single individual living alone, yet even with 40% low income discount and additional utility aid, my monthly bills exceed \$100. Now PGE wants to raise rates even more.

With rotting power poles and crumbling insulation on power lines in my neighborhood, there are no visible improvements being made to the infrastructure in my area.

I am barely making it month to month. I only heat my home to 64 degrees and have no air conditioning to endure the summer heat. An increase will put me into the negative even further.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible and take a hard look at exactly how PGE is spending their funds. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
David Abraham
1615 SE Oak Shore Ln Oak Grove, OR 97267-3627
aex3@outlook.com

From: lepermag@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [LeAnn Pinniger Magee](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (17)
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 5:04:42 PM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
LeAnn Pinniger Magee
6607 SW Florence Ln Portland, OR 97223-9223
lepermag@gmail.com

From: sky.karen@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Karen Sky](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (18)
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 5:26:27 PM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

My Single-family home is facing a \$22.71 per month increase. I am a Senior who lives alone and am on Social Security. This much cost added to my electric bill means this much less I have for food each month. Food prices have sky rocketed and it is difficult to find sales on groceries and still find food that is healthy for my advanced age. Adding this much money to electric bills will force me to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, water, medication, and food.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Karen Sky
3805 SE Drake St Portland, OR 97222-5850
sky.karen@gmail.com

From: erzulie7@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [andrea flores](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (19)
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 6:19:16 PM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
andrea flores
9463 N Saint Louis Ave Portland, OR 97203-2272
erzulie7@aol.com

From: erzulie7@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [ursula flores](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (20)
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 6:20:52 PM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household. We struggle to pay our utilities now and receive help every year. How will we afford this?!

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
ursula flores
9463 N Saint Louis Ave Portland, OR 97203-2272
erzulie7@aol.com

From: marytfree@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Mary Freeman](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (21)
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 6:57:56 PM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

Regarding rate increase with UE 416 I am writing to submit comments on how this would affect my household. I am a single (widowed) disabled parent. My daughter (in my household) is 17yr. She plans on living with me while going to college and we will only have my social security money to pay bills and rent and every other bill you can imagine it will be so difficult in paying a large portion of our already tight budget towards increased rates - electricity.

I already freeze all winter because I can't afford to keep our unit as warm as I'd like it to be which affects my medical conditions but I honestly don't have a choice, I struggle in paying the bill as it is and being extremely frugile on usage. Please don't raise our rates so high with the PGE rate case (UE 416). I worry so much about food costs as it is, the rate of inflation is out of control. I get limited food stamps. I can't afford any luxury like cable. I cut corners all the time due to necessity. I go to food banks as often as allowed.

Please consider the low income families and the retired the elderly and the disabled. I already freeze due to the bill and how hard it is to pay.

I heard this would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians. Very negative.

I understand the homelessness issue, I don't judge them. With rents skyrocketing and electricity and gas and food. People simply can't afford to make it.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Mary Freeman

Sincerely,
Mary Freeman
1412 N Deborah Rd Apt 38 Newberg, OR 97132-2073
marytfree@gmail.com

From: ggb503@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Gary Brown](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (22)
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 11:31:30 PM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Gary Brown
2127 SE 155th Ave Portland, OR 97233-3459
ggb503@gmail.com

From: ggb503@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Gary Brown](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (23)
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 11:31:42 PM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Gary Brown
2127 SE 155th Ave Portland, OR 97233-3459
ggb503@gmail.com

From: ggb503@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Gary Brown](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (24)
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 1:00:24 AM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Gary Brown
2127 SE 155th Ave Portland, OR 97233-3459
ggb503@gmail.com

From: sherryjo29@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Charles Jones](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (25)
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 7:25:50 AM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Charles Jones
2340 SW 15th St Gresham, OR 97080-9703
sherryjo29@msn.com

From: hladikgh@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Gabrielle Hladik](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (26)
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 7:53:09 AM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

I live in an apartment and I'm low income. A \$15/mo increase is a big deal for me. Inflation has already increased my grocery bills and other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible because continuously abusing our wallets and livelihoods is horrid. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Gabrielle Hladik
6134 SW 18th Dr Portland, OR 97239-1993
hladikgh@gmail.com

From: hladikgh@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Gabrielle Hladik](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (27)
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 7:53:38 AM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Gabrielle Hladik
6134 SW 18th Dr Portland, OR 97239-1993
hladikgh@gmail.com

From: elizabethpochardt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Elizabeth Pochardt](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (28)
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 10:16:39 AM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416).

As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household. I'm a first time homebuyer, living paycheck to paycheck-an additional \$22 a month would be an entire hour's wage for me. I'm already in debt with medical bills, etc. & have barely bought groceries in a month. This is a very hard time for many of us.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Maybe offering more off-grid solar options for low income households? Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Pochardt
7530 SW Barnes Rd Portland, OR 97225-6232
elizabethpochardt@gmail.com

From: taylor.stephenson28@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Taevon Reyna](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (29)
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 11:09:21 AM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

I live in an apartment and I'm low income. A \$15/mo increase is a big deal for me. Inflation has already increased my grocery bills and other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

Sincerely,
Taevon Reyna
247 SE 160th Ave Apt A207 Portland, OR 97233-3589
taylor.stephenson28@gmail.com

From: taylor.stephenson28@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Taevon Reyna](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (30)
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 11:10:04 AM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

I live in an apartment and I'm low income. A \$15/mo increase is a big deal for me. Inflation has already increased my grocery bills and other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Taevon Reyna
247 SE 160th Ave Apt A207 Portland, OR 97233-3589
taylor.stephenson28@gmail.com

From: taylor.stephenson28@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Taevon Reyna](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (31)
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 11:10:21 AM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Taevon Reyna
247 SE 160th Ave Apt A207 Portland, OR 97233-3589
taylor.stephenson28@gmail.com

From: billiard58@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [William Dodge](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (32)
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 11:34:19 AM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This proposed increase will make it more difficult for me to pay bills. For a disabled person with a low, limited income like myself, being expected to pay more for electricity would be a hardship that is unjust and unfair during difficult times.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
William Dodge
5342 SE 17th Ave Portland, OR 97202-4812
billiard58@yahoo.com

From: random@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Alezah Torell](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (33)
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 12:01:33 PM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

I live in a house, and I'm low income, disabled, and a single parent. A \$23 increase is a big deal for me. Inflation has already increased my grocery bills and other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, mortgage, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Alezah Torell
7468 SE 50th Ave Portland, OR 97206-8373
random@zliberation.mozmail.com

From: will@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Will Newman](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (34)
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 2:12:41 PM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416).

I am on a limited income, and am unable to work, so little chance of increasing my income.

As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase will impact my household.

I have already done as much as I can to reduce my bill, including enrolling in the solar program and receiving energy assistance.

I am facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Adding this much money to my electric bill will force me to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Will Newman
11124 S Bremer Rd Canby, OR 97013-6707
will@naturalharvest.us

From: tjzendlessobsessions@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Travis Johnston](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (35)
Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023 1:38:04 PM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Travis Johnston
4707 SE Boardman Ave Apt 19 Portland, OR 97267-5937
tjzendlessobsessions@gmail.com

From: jorgs10@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michael Jorgensen](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (36)
Date: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 11:36:59 AM

[You don't often get email from jorgs10@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing for something different. If we really want to have a bigger impact on PGE and helping homeowners then we should be helping homeowners who qualify with going solar.

I work for Purelight Power; Oregon largest and highest rated Residential Solar Installer.

I want to offer homeowners free consultations on what have a personal solar system will do for homeowners that qualify.

Solar for homeowners allows them to take the money would have otherwise paid to PGE and instead pay it towards their monthly Solar bill. There is no money down; and the payments will be fixed. Plus, they now have the option to pay off their power bill. Help connect me to these homeowners so we can protect as many as we can from PGE's rising rates; but also the fact their house will pay PGE forever!

Sincerely,
Michael Jorgensen
4372 Coloma Dr SE Salem, OR 97302-5076
jorgs10@gmail.com

From: susanaddison@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Susan Addison](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (37)
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 10:39:07 AM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

I am a single mom and also struggling with a disability, so I do absolutely everything possible to keep my essential monthly bills low. This increase would be a hardship.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Susan Addison
3721 SE 35th Pl Portland, OR 97202-3367
susanaddison@hotmail.com

From: jduan318@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jon Duan](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (38)
Date: Saturday, May 27, 2023 9:30:09 AM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

Especially for my family, we have some elders living with us with no income. Any additional cost added will impact us our capacity to take good care of the elders.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Jon Duan
2115 NW Jessamine Way Portland, OR 97229-8549
jduan318@gmail.com

From: c7h3l0b8@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Peter Hsi](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (39)
Date: Saturday, May 27, 2023 11:57:57 AM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

We've already cut our expenses to the minimum but my limited income does not cover our essential monthly bills -- utilities, home, and food. I've exhausted our savings, leaving nothing for contingencies. Specifically, though we have good insurance, my house recently suffered storm damage that isn't 100% covered by insurance. I'm also paying off medical bills from 2 years ago, and still have additional untreated medical needs.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between utilities, housing, medical, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Peter Hsi
14625 SW Bonnie Brae St Beaverton, OR 97007-3614
c7h3l0b8@duck.com

From: jessicadinsmore@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jessica Dinsmore](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (40)
Date: Monday, May 29, 2023 9:13:04 AM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Jessica Dinsmore
1051 Oak St Silverton, OR 97381-1965
jessicadinsmore@icloud.com

From: ldmc44@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Larry D McAulay](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (41)
Date: Tuesday, May 30, 2023 11:00:04 AM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

Sirs,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416).

As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to my electric bill will force me to choose between other household expenses.

No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on low income Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Larry D McAulay

10045 SW 85th Ave Apt 16 Portland, OR 97223-8898

ldmc44@gmail.com

From: editxprs@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Candace Stewart](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (42)
Date: Tuesday, May 30, 2023 4:57:54 PM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food, and I definitely would have to do that, in spite of working daily to reduce my use of electricity as much as possible.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Candace Stewart
314 SE 15th Ave Portland, OR 97214-1415
editxprs@gmail.com

From: kskristy2002@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kristy Stephens](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (43)
Date: Thursday, June 1, 2023 7:23:29 PM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm appalled how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

I struggle to afford food after I pay for my mortgage and utilities. I don't go on vacations or buy nice things. I live very frugally. I save energy and turn off lights and conserve water constantly.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years and inflation, putting strain on middle class which in turn, devastates economies that is made up primarily of middle class.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Kristy Stephens
32137 S Shady Dell Rd Molalla, OR 97038-9484
kskristy2002@yahoo.com

From: cmichaelhalsey@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Chad Halsey](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (44)
Date: Sunday, June 4, 2023 3:44:23 PM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force my family to choose between other household expenses. I'm on a limited income through SSI. I shouldn't have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Chad Halsey
4065 Market St NE # 21 Salem, OR 97301-1906
cmichaelhalsey@gmail.com

From: cadie.hennig@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Candace Vessels](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (45)
Date: Thursday, August 3, 2023 1:49:43 AM

[You don't often get email from cadie.hennig@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Candace Vessels
3215 SW Doschdale Dr Portland, OR 97239-1157
cadie.hennig@gmail.com

From: Natasha_vdn@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Natalia Neal](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 4:24:39 PM

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Natalia Neal
17373 SE Forest Hill Dr Damascus, OR 97089-2751
Natasha_vdn@yahoo.com

From: cadie.hennig@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Candace Vessels](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Public Comments on UE 416 (46)
Date: Thursday, August 3, 2023 1:49:54 AM

[You don't often get email from cadie.hennig@everyactioncustom.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

Dear Oregon Public Utility Commission,

I am writing to comment on the PGE rate case (UE 416). As a PGE customer, I'm worried about how a 16% rate increase for residential customers will impact my household.

Single-family homes are facing a \$22.71 per month increase. Multifamily homes are looking at a \$15.81 monthly increase. Adding this much money to electric bills will force many families to choose between other household expenses. No one should have to choose between electricity, rent, medication, and food.

This would be the largest rate hike in 20 years, since the Western Power Crisis. At a time of continued historic inflation, raising bills this much will have real impacts on Oregonians.

I urge the Commission to reduce this increase wherever possible. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Candace Vessels
3215 SW Doschdale Dr Portland, OR 97239-1157
cadie.hennig@gmail.com

From: [Lois Foster](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: rate hike
Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 6:25:22 PM

I am alarmed at the proposed rate hike from PGE. Even a "small" rate increase of 15 \$ would impact my life in a very negative way. PGE doesn't need to increase rates on the backs of everyday seniors.

From: [Rachel Watsky](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Rate increase
Date: Monday, June 19, 2023 5:15:02 PM

You don't often get email from rachelwatsky@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello,

I am extremely concerned about PGE's proposed rate increase. This is the second increase in a row and honestly I don't know how I'd be able to afford it. I, like many others, was laid off and am struggling to get by as is.

The lack of transparency on what "capital investments" our money would be going towards is concerning. Additionally, I'm having a hard time believing a company like PGE needs this money so badly. NW Natural has enough capital on hand to attack Eugene's ordinance with a costly campaign and lawsuit, why should we believe PGE is using their money appropriately? If they are to be a government sanctioned monopoly, where is the financial oversight?

I strongly oppose this rate hike.

Best,
Rachel Watsky

From: [Erin Coyne](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Rate increases
Date: Saturday, June 17, 2023 9:21:28 PM

You don't often get email from erincoyne01@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I am very opposed to this increase. It's too much when families are struggling to make ends meet. I'd understand 2%, 3%..... 14% could be DEVASTATING to some families who will have to choose between paying their electricity bill or buying groceries or gas for their car to get to work.... Please do not do this.

Erin Coyne

From: [Marjorie Cameron](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Re: OREGON PUC RESPONSE: RE:
Date: Friday, May 26, 2023 5:57:04 PM
Attachments: [image001.wmz](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Thanks for the response to my email regarding the increase in rates. It is PGE and I live in Beaverton. I am 78 years old and still have to work part time because of very high rent and all the other expenses due to the current inflation rates. Unfortunately I am low income making it even more hard for me to manage the forever ending increases.

Thank you,
Marjorie Cameron

On Fri, May 26, 2023, 12:22 PM PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC
<PUC.PUBLICCOMMENTS@puc.oregon.gov> wrote:

Good afternoon,

Thank you for taking the time to contact the Oregon Public Utility Commission with your comments in opposition to a pending rate increase request. The Commission currently has several open general rate cases. May I please have the name of the company your comments are intended for? This will ensure your comments are directed to the appropriate staff and docket.

Thank you,

Deanna Rios

Senior Compliance Specialist (Lead)

Hours: Tuesday-Friday 7:00-5:30



Oregon Public Utility Commission

Consumer Services Section

Tel: 503.378.6600 ☐ Toll free: 1.800.522.2404

deanna.rios@puc.oregon.gov

This e-mail may contain information that is privileged, confidential, or otherwise exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If you are not the addressee or it appears from the context or otherwise that you have received this e-mail in error, please advise me immediately by reply e-mail, keep the contents confidential, and immediately delete the message and any attachments from your system.

From: Marjorie Cameron <marjoriecameron1945@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:27 AM
To: PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC <puc.publiccomments@puc.oregon.gov>
Subject:

I am a 78 low income senior and because of the significant inflation I have to work weekends and that still isn't enough. A rate increase of \$15.00 is a lot for me. Please don't raise rates on low income seniors.

Thank you,

M.Cameron

From: [me wong](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: Stand against Portland General Electric's large rate increase
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:22:27 PM

The 14% proposed rate increase is outrageous! This large increase will burden many low-income elderlies that lives only on the small amount of Social Security check, and if inflation doesn't slow down by next year, it would create an even greater financial burden. Maybe PGE should decrease their CEO and upper management earnings and multi-million-dollar bonuses to fund a percentage of their projects and request for a smaller, affordable increase.

Thank you for listening to the concerns of the many "Voiceless" low-income elderlies!
They should not have to choose between using electricity or put food on the table.

From: [melly belly](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: The higher cost of energy
Date: Wednesday, May 31, 2023 11:03:59 AM

Dear Commissioners,

Hello, and thank you for this opportunity to comment on what will force further energy insecurity on me. I already barely use my energy in my home. Typically in the Winter, I layer up and there's no heat even when it snows. In the Summer, I try to use as little energy as possible. The hike that is being thought of for power will effectively have me trying to not use any power meaning most days I will be surrounded by walls and not using electricity except for a fridge that I cannot turn off. PGE's prices are high because it's a monopoly not because the new hike is necessary and Oregon should truly be looking for a public utility service that will compete with it. As stated this price hike in energy that is currently happening and the new one harms me currently and futuristically. Wages are not in line with needs and energy thanks to climate change that corporations have not done enough about, have left human beings to suffer the consequences and energy is now not a want but a need. The new hike treats energy like only the wealthy should have it and that means many people like myself and FAMILIES will have to figure out how to live without its use. I hope you will agree it's a great injustice coming out of the pandemic, heat domes, and freezing weather. People have died because they didn't have access to energy relief. Please save some lives and reconsider this decision to raise the energy bills in Oregon. Thank you again for your time on such an important matter at hand.

Sincerely,
Mel S.

--

“It’s not for you to call me resilient. It is for you to make sure that I don’t have to continue to be resilient under inhumane circumstances.”

From: [SILVIA TANNER](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Cc: [Maria Dolores Torres](#); [MOSEER Nolan * PUC](#)
Subject: UE 416 - Comentarios de Maria Dolores
Date: Wednesday, May 31, 2023 5:30:18 PM
Attachments: [Maria Dolores Testimonio Tarifas de PGE \(1\).pdf](#)

(Español abajo)

Dear AHD Staff,

Please see attached the comments from Maria Dolores regarding PGE's proposed rate increase in Docket No. UE 416. I am helping Maria Dolores submit these comments. She is CC'd in this email.

Best,

Silvia

(English above)

Querido personal de AHD,

Por favor vean adjuntos los comentarios de Maria Dolores sobre la propuesta de incremento de tarifa de PGE en Docket No. UE 416. Estoy ayudándole a Maria Dolores a enviar estos comentarios. Ella está copiada en este correo.

Gracias,

Silvia

--

Silvia Tanner, JD (*pronouns she/her*)

Sr. Energy Policy and Legal Analyst

Office of Sustainability | Multnomah County

501 SE Hawthorne Blvd., Suite 600, Portland, OR 97214

T: [503.988.4092](tel:503.988.4092) | W: [Office of Sustainability](#)

Mayo 31, 2023

Me llamo Maria Dolores, vivo en el condado de Washington, y he sido una cliente de PGE por 28 años.

Identifique su conexión personal a este incremento de la tarifa.

Yo estoy preocupada porque este incremento de tarifa impactará a miembros de mi comunidad y a familiares. Yo vengo de vivir situaciones donde \$20 te hacen la diferencia. Puedo entender cuando se te cierran los caminos y que por servicios tan básicos tengas que suplicar a veces apoyo. Y muchas veces no encuentras esas puertas que harían la diferencia de que a tu familia y tus hijos puedas evitarles esos traumas de sentirse no escuchados y abandonados. Porque es una realidad. Por un sistema injusto y poco equitativo. Para eso voy a incluir algunas preguntas y respuestas que les ayudarán a entender porque me solidarizo con mi comunidad en estos momentos.

★ **¿Hubo un momento en que te sentiste vulnerable o defraudado por el sistema energético?**

R: Si, cuando llegaba a casa para tener el pago o cortar la energía eléctrica, sabía que ya no había posibilidades para mi familia de evitar el corte de luz.

★ **¿Cómo se sintió?**

R: Me sentí impotente pues sabía de su inflexibilidad, sin importar cuánto podría yo explicar o suplicar, ellos procedían si no tenían el pago en sus manos en ese momento.

★ **¿Cómo te gustaría que eso cambiara?**

R: Me gustaría que hubiese más opciones para las personas que no califican para programas de gobierno o por su estatus legal y que sean menos requisitos cuando hay niños en un hogar.

★ **Reflexiona sobre un momento en el que lidió con un corte de energía o cualquier momento de falta de confiabilidad de la energía.**

★ **¿Qué sucedió?**

R: Me destrozo ver a mis hijos en edad de escuela elementaria, no poder hacer sus tareas por falta de energía. Verlos con frío por no poder usar un calentón. Sentí la falta de empatía por parte del Departamento de energía.

★ **¿Perdiste alimentos o tuviste que ir a otro lugar para acceder a la energía?**

R: En ocasiones cuando pude evitar cortes de luz, tuve que dar parte de lo que era para la renta y enfrentar cargos por pagos tarde por no tener el dinero completo.

¿Algo en riesgo?

R: Sentir que podíamos perder la comida del refri por falta de luz, como leche y otros lácteos. Perder las pocas reservas de comida para la quincena. Sólo de recordar se me parte el corazón por mis niños que aunque ahora ya son adultos, no quisiera que ninguna familia pasara por esa situación.

¿Qué se debe mejorar?

R: Tener en consideración las necesidades básicas de los niños en esos lugares, ancianos o personas con discapacidades y tener programas especiales fáciles de acceder sin tanta burocracia.

★ **¿Cómo se relacionan otros problemas con la carga de energía o la falta de confiabilidad de la energía? (justicia social, justicia racial, justicia de discapacidad, justicia de vivienda, justicia climática, etc.)**

R: Se causa un efecto dominó cuando se hacen cortes eléctricos en familias de bajos recursos o de poco o nulo acceso a programas de ayuda, como; pierden salud física y/o mental al pasar estas necesidades y frustraciones, se ven afectados por los cargos extras por desconexión y re-conexion. Se pierden los pocos recursos, se causan traumas a nivel familiar, ect,ect.

★ **¿Hay alguna pregunta que necesita respuesta?**

R: Si. ¿Dónde está la equidad?, ¿Cómo se puede ser tan inhumano?, ¿Cómo puedo recibir ayuda si no cumplo con requisitos la mayoría de veces absurdos?, ¿A dónde acudir si no tengo un seguro válido o talones de cheques para comprobar mis ingresos?, ¿Si no califico para ayuda cuando sólo me separan \$20 dólares de las tablas de calificación para bajos recursos? Y muchas otras preguntas por enumerar.

★ **¿Alguna estadística o hecho que pueda fortalecer su posición?**

R: Por ejemplo: en el Condado de Washington el 37% de la población está por debajo de la línea de pobreza y son latinos.

Gracias por su tiempo,

Maria Dolores

From: [SILVIA TANNER](#)
To: [PUC PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Cc: [Sushmita Poddar](#); [MOSER Nolan * PUC](#)
Subject: UE 416 - Comments by Ms. Sushmita Poddar
Date: Thursday, June 1, 2023 6:37:29 PM
Attachments: [20230523 - Sushmita Comments \(1\).pdf](#)

Dear AHD staff,

Please see attached the comments by Ms. Sushmita Poddar for consideration in the PGE Rate Case, Docket No. UE 416. Ms. Poddar (CC'd) is a small business owner and community leader who keeps a really busy schedule and had not had an opportunity to finalize her comments until this evening. As a result, I am helping Ms. Poddar send her comments just now.

We would appreciate your flexibility and consideration of Ms. Poddar's comments even though you asked to have comments in by May 31, 2023.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Silvia Tanner

--

Silvia Tanner, JD (*pronouns she/her*)

Sr. Energy Policy and Legal Analyst

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T: [503.988.4092](tel:503.988.4092) | W: [Office of Sustainability](#)



This email was encrypted for your privacy and security

June 1, 2023

Dear Administrative Law Judge Lackey,

My name is Sushmita Poddar and I live in Hillsboro OR. I have been a PGE customer since 2002. (22 years) I am also a small business owner who has a commercial location and has been severely impacted by the pandemic. I rent my home and business spaces.

As a small business owner that is not able to recover from the pandemic how am I supposed to keep adding more expenses to my bill?

As a community member with disabilities that has been exacerbated by covid how am I supposed to work more than 80 hours to make ends meet?

As a civic leader, I spent months advocating for discounts for community and support so what am I supposed to do with that wasted time and energy?

We are tired of begging. We tell you we do not have money for food, for rent, for medications, and you all still keep raising the cost to EXIST.

What is it going to take?? How many times do we have to beg? I feel irritated about the inadequate measures and discounts. A 15% discount was put in place and now PGE is proposing a higher raise, THUS canceling the discount.

The utilities need to work with the state government and federal funds to cover these costs.

Suggestions for consideration

- Raise rates by income: could the utilities only raise rates for people who can afford it?
- Leverage state and federal funds/support to avoid continuously raising rates.

I am just exhausted and tired of begging for self, business and community. All of you who are in positions of power that are supposed to manage community funds and money (taxes) for our benefit are failing at coming up with visionary ideas about supporting us and instead are adamant about punishing us. It's like you give people pennies and then take it back for the crumbs you offer after that. Just stop this. We are sick of feeling like we are stuck in a hamster wheel.

Sincerely,

Sushmita Poddar

From: [Mary Bender](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: UE 416 (1)
Date: Friday, May 26, 2023 2:07:47 PM

As a single family household on a fixed income, this increase of approximately \$22 per month would highly impact our food budget! Choosing between good nutrition versus heating/cooling our home will be the outcome! I understand PGE improvements were needed, but we just had an increase in electricity prices last year of roughly 13%!

We are doing our part to be wise and conserve by replacing an inefficient heat pump.
Please reconsider and or reallocate where the impact of increased costs occurs.

From: [Marjorie Cameron](#)
To: [PUC.PUC.PublicComments * PUC](#)
Subject: UE 416
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:27:30 AM

I am a 78 low income senior and because of the significant inflation I have to work weekends and that still isn't enough. A rate increase of \$15.00 is a lot for me. Please don't raise rates on low income seniors.

Thank you,
M.Cameron

DANNY KERMODE
Certified Public Accountant – Retired
5326 75th Ct SW
Olympia, WA 98512

Oregon Public Utility Commission
PO Box 1088
Salem, OR 97308-1088

RE: Portland General Electric
UE 416 General Rate Increase

Commissioners,

I would first like to thank the Commission for the opportunity to comment on a proposed rate increase that, if approved, will have a major impact on small businesses served by Portland General Electric (PGE).

I am writing on behalf of the Oregon chapter of the Small Business Utility Advocates or SBUA. I reviewed the recent filing made by Portland General Electric (PGE) where it asks for increased revenues of \$338 million, or a 14.47% increase over current levels.

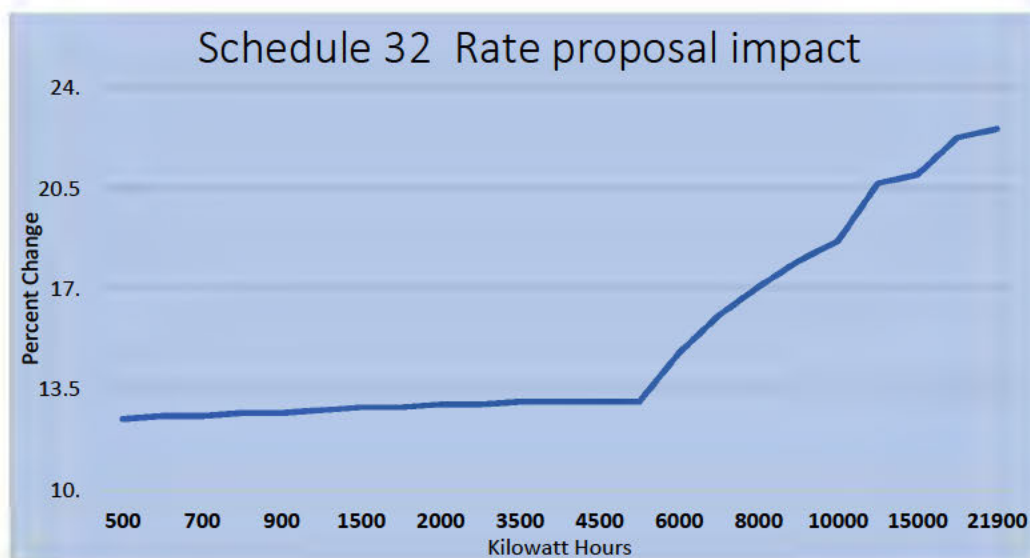
I will address the following:

- The size of the increased cost burden of the rate proposal on small nonresidential customers.
- The extraordinary increase in the cost of distribution charges to small nonresidential customers under both schedule 32 customers and schedule 532, small nonresidential and small nonresidential – Direct Access Service respectively, in excess of 5,000 kWh.
- Small business in Oregon, including those served by PGE, are still recovering from the economic impact of COVID-19.
- Need for a small business workshop to discuss and understand the needs of small businesses being serviced by Oregon's public utilities.

- **The size of the increased cost burden of the rate proposal on small nonresidential customers.**

Under the Company's proposal, small businesses will pay \$34.6 million more for service, a 15.9% increase for service.¹ This sizable increase on to small business is the highest increase over test-year amounts than any other class of service.

For the small nonresidential ratepayers (rate schedule 32) the proposal increases the average small business energy bill by 12.6%.² What is even more concerning is the proposed increase for small business customers using above 5,000 kWh. For these customers the change in proposed rate climbs to an average of 18.1% for usage from 6,000 to 15,000 kWh and continues to climb as usage increases (see chart below).



- **The extraordinary increase in the cost of distribution charges to small nonresidential customers under both schedule 32 customers and schedule 532**

The climbing costs of energy above 5,000 kWh is due to a proposed 140.5% increase in the company's distribution charge above 5,000 kWh for small commercial consumers.

The current charge of 1.416 cents per kWh skyrockets to 3.406 cents per kWh, under the company's proposal, more than doubling! Effectively a two-cent increase.³ Though

¹ Exhibit 1302 page 1

² Using 500 kWh to 5,000 kWh

³ Schedule 532 small nonresidential – Direct Access Service has even a greater impact with the second-tier rate increasing 155%, going from 1.253 per kWh to 3.195.

some of this rate change appears to be associated with higher costs, the company admits that some of the 3.406 cent rate increase is simply to “provide a transition to” the large nonresidential rates schedule (Schedule 83) for customers whose loads exceed 30 kW⁴ at least twice during the preceding 13 months.⁵

It is important that the Commission and Commission Staff be aware of this arbitrary adjustment to the small nonresidential rate schedule. Not only is there no testimony discussing why PGE believes there is a need for a rate that mitigates the impact of moving from one class to another, there is no testimony providing discussion on how often a migration to the large-user class happens and indeed if it is even a problem. In his historic discussion of the criteria of a sound rate structure, James Bonbright discusses the need of fairness in rates, there is no discussion of rates that mitigate any class migration.⁶

The increased rate as proposed which is designed to ease transition to a different customer class, simply results in small commercial customers providing either an intra-class or cross-class subsidy to other customers with no other benefits to the small commercial customers that would be burdened with the 140.5% increase in its distribution charges.

A 140.5% increase is unsupportable and must be rejected if not for any other reason than simply rate shock. For every kWh used above the 5,000-kWh level, many small business owners will have their distribution rates more than double, paying 3.4 cents per kWh for a service that currently costs 1.4 cents per kWh!

A Company witness says it best. “It is important to maintain relative consistency with prior cost studies and temper the amount of change introduced....”⁷ We agree, and we ask the Commission to apply this very principle to this case. Finally, the “ease of migration” reasoning is a solution looking for a problem; a problem that, to our knowledge, has not been raised in prior cases.

⁴ kW – Kilowatt (load measure)

⁵ See PGE 1300, Macfarlane – Pleasant at 19:14-18.

⁶ James C Bonbright, *Principles of Public Utility Rates* (Virginia: Public Utilities Reports, Inc., 1988), 382-84.

⁷ See UE 416, Macfarlane-Keene at 4:2-4.

- **Small business in Oregon, including those served by PGE, are still recovering from the economic impact of COVID-19.**

Although most, if not all, of the health related COVID mandates are no longer required, small business is now addressing COVID's consequences. Not the least and central to small business is rising costs due to high inflation. Add to that the difficulty many small businesses are having in finding employees. In short, this sector remains fragile.

Affordability of utility rates for small business is integral to their survivability. Rising rates can be associated with rising costs. For example, the recent settlement of parties, including SBUA, approved by the Commission spread a share of the deferred costs of COVID to the small business class.⁸ As we have noted in previous dockets, this customer class did not directly benefit from most of the Commission approved COVID-19 programs and had little or no indirect benefit.

With this filing, the small nonresidential class may end up absorbing a 15.9% increase in its total electric bills; the largest change of any of the other rate classes.⁹ We would ask the Commission to recognize the importance of small business to the communities where they are located and to adjust the proposed rates to help them fully recover from the lingering economic impacts of the recent pandemic.

- **Need for a Small Business workshop to discuss and understand the unique needs of small business to allow Oregon's public utilities to better serve them.**

Finally, my involvement with recent rate filings has convinced me of the need to convene a Commission supported small-business workshop. A workshop would provide a forum allowing in-depth discussions with Commission Staff by local small business owners. The workshop would allow parties to better understand what challenges the different parties have, including Staff, and what distinguishes small business from other ratepayer classes, especially from the larger industrial and

⁸ PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC: See Docket No. ADV 1474/Advice No. 22-45 PGE COVID-19 Deferral Amortization; Effective date: April 1, 2023

⁹ Some rate classes such as the large direct access ratepayers are actually seeing total bill reductions. (*See total bill changes for rate schedules 489 and 689*)

commercial ratepayers.¹⁰ Commission Staff mentioned being in support of such a workshop at the Commission's March 21, 2023, public meeting¹¹.

The workshop agenda could include discussion of those rates and rate structures currently provided only to residential ratepayers, which may be appropriate for small businesses. Or the creation of new rate mechanisms to aid small businesses, e.g., an arrearage forgiveness program for those small commercial customers with a high Environmental Justice Indicator.

Also, unique needs of the small commercial could be discussed by business owners which could be innovative and help develop community growth. Finally, there may be benefit in a discussion on how uniform the methods of cost allocation to small business sector and whether it is something that requires Commission review.

In summary, the small business community served by PGE is concerned about the size of the overall increase and more specifically, how those costs related to the small nonresidential customers are recovered in rates.

Again, I would like to thank the Commission for this opportunity to provide comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Danny Kermode', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Danny Kermode CPA - retired

¹⁰ Although small businesses have characteristics closer to the residential rate class, they still are businesses and require a special understanding.

¹¹ OPUC 3/21/23 Public Meeting link:

https://oregonpuc.granicus.com/GeneratedAgendaViewer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=1128 (last accessed 5/3/23).