

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS & COMMENT PERIOD CONCERNING RATE CONSOLIDATION PROPOSAL

Westar Energy has asked the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) to consider consolidating the rates charged to Westar North and Westar South customers. Westar Energy's proposal is to consolidate the riders and surcharges into a uniform charge and adjust base energy rates in a manner that would be revenue neutral for customers and Westar Energy.

Public Hearings & Comment Period

The KCC has scheduled three **public informational meetings** regarding the consolidation proposal. During the informational meetings, Westar will explain the proposal for consolidation of the Westar North and Westar South rates. KCC Staff, CURB, and other intervenors will provide additional background information. There will be opportunities for questions and answers. The commissioners will not be present at the informational meetings.

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| July 9 | Pittsburg | 7:00-9:00 p.m. | City Memorial Auditorium & Convention Center, Auditorium B7, 503 N. Pine |
| July 14 | Wichita | 7:00-9:00 p.m. | Century II Performing Arts & Convention Center, Room 101AB, 225 W. Douglas |
| July 15 | Topeka | 7:00-8:45 p.m. | Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library, Marvin Auditorium, 101 ABC, 1515 SW 10th Ave. |

The Commission has also scheduled two **public hearings** where members of the public will have the opportunity to make statements regarding the consolidation proposal to the commissioners. There will be a court reporter present.

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| July 16 | Topeka | 7:00-9:00 p.m. | Kansas Corporation Commission, First Floor Hearing Room, 1500 SW Arrowhead Road |
| | Wichita | 7:00-9:00 p.m. | Via videoconference at Kansas Corporation Commission, Finney State Office Building, 230 East William St., 2nd Floor, Room 2078. |
| July 23 | Wichita | 7:00-9:00 p.m. | Kansas Corporation Commission, Finney State Office Building, 230 East William St., 2nd Floor, Room 2078. |
| | Topeka | 7:00-9:00 p.m. | Via videoconference at Kansas Corporation Commission, First Floor Hearing Room, 1500 SW Arrowhead Road. |
- Wichita Parking: On Market, William and Douglas Streets; at the State Visitors Parking lot, S.W. Corner of Topeka and William Streets; and the parking garage, N.E. Corner of Topeka and William Streets.**

The Commission will accept public comments from Westar's customers through August 13, 2009. Comments regarding rate consolidation should reference Docket No. 09-WSEE-641-GIE and be sent to the Kansas Corporation Commission, Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection, 1500 SW Arrowhead Road, Topeka, Kansas, 66604-4027. Comments may also be submitted by e-mail at public.affairs@kcc.ks.gov or by calling 1-800-662-0027. Public comments received after the conclusion of the timely public comment period will be entered into the file in the docket.

The Commission will hold an evidentiary hearing on the consolidation proposal beginning August 17, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. in the KCC Topeka office, 1500 SW Arrowhead Road.

Westar Energy's Proposal

Westar Energy has asked the Commission to consider consolidating the rates charged to Westar North and Westar South customers. Historically, these rates have been different as a result of the merger that occurred in 1992 between Kansas Power and Light Company (KPL) and Kansas Gas and Electric Company (KGE) to form Westar Energy. The difference in cost for electricity between the two territories is a result of different cost structures and market conditions faced by the two companies during their more than 80 years of service as well as the different strategies they employed to provide service to their respective customers. Currently, however, the rates for Westar North and Westar South are very close to the same. Future rate changes for Westar North and Westar South will result from the interaction of numerous factors that impact each company differently, and as a result, it is impossible to say with certainty whether any individual customer's rates will increase or decrease as a result of consolidation. Westar states that because the generating facilities of Westar North and Westar South are used on a combined basis to meet the needs of customers, Westar Energy believes it would be fairer to all customers and consistent with the way in which electric needs are met to have the same rates for both Westar North and Westar South. For additional information regarding the consolidation proposal, please visit Westar Energy's website at www.westarenergy.com. A history of the issue can be found at the Commission's website at kcc.ks.gov.

Accommodations

Persons requiring special accommodations under The Americans with Disabilities Act need to give notice to the Commission at least 10 days before the scheduled hearing date.