

## **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING & COMMENT PERIOD CONCERNING EVERGY RATE REQUEST**

Evergy has filed an Application with the Kansas Corporation Commission (Commission) requesting a net \$204 million (9.77%) rate increase for Evergy Kansas Central (EKC) customers and a net increase of \$14 million (1.95%) for Evergy Kansas Metro (EKM) customers. If approved, the earliest prices would become effective would be in December 2023. EKC residential customers would have an average monthly increase of \$14.24. EKM residential customers would have an average monthly increase of \$3.47. EKC has also requested inclusion in rates of the costs to acquire and operate Persimmon Creek wind facility on behalf of EKC customers should the acquisition be closed prior to June 30.

Evergy's Application for both EKC and EKM requests updated prices to include lower expenses resulting from the Westar Energy-KCP&L merger and higher expenses related to depreciation and infrastructure upgrades. EKC's Application includes adjustments for the expiration of wholesale contracts that have benefited customers for a decade and the previously established end of a corporate owned life insurance program initiated in 1985.

EKC serves about 736,000 customers in Topeka, Lawrence, Olathe, Leavenworth, Atchison, Manhattan, Salina, Hutchinson, Emporia, Parsons, Wichita, Arkansas City, El Dorado, Newton, Fort Scott, Pittsburg and Independence, among other towns and rural areas. EKM includes approximately 273,000 customers in Lenexa, Overland Park and other communities near the Kansas City metro area.

### **REGULATORY RESPONSIBILITY**

The Commission regulates public utilities, including home telephone, natural gas, electric and water companies, as well as motor carriers, oil and gas pipelines, and oil and gas producers. The Commission's regulatory oversight of public utilities primarily pertains to rates and terms of service. To ensure that customers of regulated utilities are provided sufficient and efficient service at just and reasonable rates, utilities may not change their rates without Commission approval.

The Commission has scheduled three public hearings to provide Evergy Kansas customers an opportunity to learn more about the proposed rates, as

well as ask questions and make comments about the proposal. The public hearing schedule appears below.

**All hearings will begin at 6 pm Central.**

- **Tuesday, July 11** Washburn Institute of Technology Main Conference Center, Building A 5724 SW Huntoon St., Topeka, Kansas 66604
- **Thursday, July 13** KU Edwards BEST Conference Center 12600 S. Quivira Rd., Overland Park, Kansas 66213
- **Thursday, July 27** Wichita State University, Low Auditorium Hughes Metropolitan Complex 5014 E 29th St. North, Wichita, Kansas 67205

Attendees may participate in person or virtually via Zoom. Those opting to participate virtually using Zoom must register at <https://kcc.ks.gov/your-opinion-matters> by noon the day prior to the hearing they wish to participate in. The hearings will be broadcast live on the agency's YouTube channel for those unable to attend. Registration is not required to view only. Any person requiring special accommodations at the hearing site under The Americans with Disabilities Act must notify the Commission at least 10 days prior to the scheduled public hearing by calling 800-662-0027.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The Commission will accept comments regarding the proposed rate changes through Sept. 29, 2023, at 5 pm Central. There are three convenient ways to submit a comment:

1. Go to the Commission's website ([kcc.ks.gov](https://kcc.ks.gov)) and click on the "Your Opinion Matters" link to enter your comment.
2. Send a written letter to the Kansas Corporation Commission, Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection, 1500 SW Arrowhead Road, Topeka, KS 66604-4027. Be sure to reference Docket No. 23-EKCE-775-RTS.
3. Call the Commission's Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection at 800-662-0027.

**EVERGY'S PROPOSAL // OTHER INFORMATION**

An evidentiary hearing on Evergy's request is scheduled to begin Oct. 9, 2023, at 9 am Central, at the Commission's Offices, 1500 SW Arrowhead Rd., Topeka, KS 66604-4027.

A complete copy of Evergy's Application and supporting testimony is available on the Commission's website at: [www.kcc.ks.gov](http://www.kcc.ks.gov), by searching Docket Filings for Docket No. 23-EKCE-775-RTS. If you need additional assistance regarding the proposed rate increase or submission of public comments to the Commission, contact the Commission's Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection at 800-662-0027, or at [public.affairs@kcc.ks.gov](mailto:public.affairs@kcc.ks.gov).