



PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Re: Complaint

1 message

B Montgomery <bmgreenrat@gmail.com>

Tue, Jan 26, 2016 at 6:11 PM

To: psc@utah.gov

On 10/3/2011 1:45 PM, B Montgomery wrote:

4 Aug. 2011

To The Public Service Commission of Utah,

Docket No. 10-035-124

Sirs,

It has come to the attention many citizens, in the state of Utah and myself, that you are the body that determines what our utility rates are going to be. These utilities, which seem to have the greatest impact on our lives and our incomes as well, being Electric and Natural Gas rates.

Some statements that I keep hearing include a "Small" rate increase of about 11% and that the average household will only be affected about \$9 to \$11 per month. I do not know who or what supplies you with this information but they are WAY out of the ball park. Since you allowed a varying rate on specifically the Electric utility, most of us that must use this utility to survive have seen our rates almost double every summer. Your proposed 11+% will increase my bill over \$35 per month.

When I built my home in 1999 and thru 2004 my electric bill Never went over \$135 per month, at the highest, in the spring, summer and fall. It was a lot then and now that it usually goes well over \$335 per same time frame it has become almost impossible to use. When you wind up on a very Fixed income, for retirement, and then some very large medical bills it does not help either. When you have to add an Oxygen concentrator that draws enough power that another \$50 to \$60 is gone, and that was in winter months and rates, it makes it almost possible not to be able to live anymore. I have done everything I possibly can do to reduce consumption but it actually seems to have increased my usage. I changed 98% of the light bulbs in the house from incandescent to florescent, Added extra insulation to the attic and had all of the windows coated to keep out the sun, and updated appliances, as could be afforded, to energy efficient ones. My bill never went down but always and only up. The biggest thing that I have been able to find that killed most of us the worst was the variable summer rate. It is the most unjust increase I see and the most unfair. When a company sells more of a product it naturally makes more money and should not have to, or be allowed to raise the price of that product.

I have applied for the Heat program but that does not help a great deal. I have also not had a raise

in my retirement for over 4 years. My retirement comes from some SS and Federal Retirement. They both have allowed no cost of living increases for about 4 years. My income does not go up, rates should not be allowed to go up either, at least until the economy gets somewhat better.

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It would be my guess that I could go out and spend money that I will never see and buy a natural gas generator or a wind turbine, or even enough Solar Panels so that I would not have to use electricity and maybe even make it so that the power company would have to buy my excess, but as mentioned with what money. I would like you to consider paying my bill, if it is that you decide to allow any rate hike at this time, so that me and my family might just exist for another year. It would be better that you stay out of our lives and leave well enough alone. There is still one thing you could do to help those on fixed incomes and those that have problems once in a while, and that would be to put the rates back to a fixed rate and not an adjustable rate. Again the more people use the more money they make without messing with rates. You may have a lot of money but many of us no longer or currently have money. There are horror stories that people go without food to pay their utilities bills so that they can stay alive, oxygen use being an example of why.

Thank you for the time you are taking to read this and I hope I have made some sense of a problem that you all helped to create.

Boyd Montgomery

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