
From: Barb & Don [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2015 4:02:58 PM
To: PUC
Subject: NorthWestern Utility Rate Increase
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**Public Utilities Commission
Review NorthWestern Energy's is EL14-06 (Energy Rate Increase)**

TO: Public Utility Commissioner's

My wife and I received a letter enclosed in our Billing Statement from NorthWestern Energy about a price increase.

It states impart "A typical residential customer using an average of 750 kilowatt-hours (kWh) of power each month will see an increase of \$16.76 per month, or \$.56 per day". But this is not typical, as my billing shows below.

This statement is very misleading. I have a house that is run completely on Electricity. We have a heat pump to save on the energy bill. The following are my readings and costs for the years 2011, 2013, and 2014.

<u>2011</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
<u>Lowest kWh Reading Reading</u>	<u>Lowest kWh Reading</u>	<u>Lowest kWh</u>
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
<u>Highest kWh Reading</u>	<u>Highest kWh Reading</u>	<u>Highest kWh Reading</u>
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
<u>Total Energy Cost</u>	<u>Total Energy Cost</u>	<u>Total Energy Cost</u>

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Total Fuel Charge
Total Fuel Charge
Total Fuel Charge

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Now lets get to this past year and the charges we received. I don't know if the increase is in the Energy usage or the Fuel Consumption cost. But here are my highest charges for several months in 2014.

kWh Used
Month
FUEL Charge
ENERGY Charge

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Note the Fuel charge is HIGHER then the Energy charge...

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

As can be seen from the above billings, the Fuel Charge is what that is killing us.

If they raise the cost of Energy then with the Fuel charge going up (which I don't understand) my bill would sky rocket. Just using their figures of \$16.76 for 750 kWh increase (that' s figured at \$0.0223 per kWh), my increase for this last December would be [REDACTED]. In March it would be [REDACTED] and January [REDACTED], and February [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] on top of the Fuel charge of [REDACTED] and the current Energy charge of [REDACTED], would make my bill [REDACTED].

This increase will cost me and everyone close to \$100 more on our bills. You need more information from NorthWestern Utility and do more calculations to determine the impact this increase will have, especially on fixed incomes like the elderly.

I do have one complaint, why don't we get the energy from the hydroelectric power generated at the dam at Pickstown, SD, Lake Francis Case? It is just 35 miles away and I'm sure the Fuel charge would be very minimum.

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