Eversource Rate Case Public Hearing

April 3, 2017 at 7:00 PM

Harborview Room, Barnstable County Complex

Residential Talking Points

My name is [NAME]. I am a residential electric rate payer on Cape Cod and I live at [ADDRESS]:

I do not support the proposed Eversource rate increases. Specifically, I object to the following elements of the Eversource Rate Case, DPU-17-05.

1. I do not support the 214% proposed increase in the fixed customer charge for residential ratepayers. A higher fixed customer charge devalues energy efficiency because it decreases a customers’ ability to lower their electric bill by using less kilowatt hours. This increased customer charge means customers will pay Eversource an additional $50 per year in fixed charges, even if they reduce or maintain their normal electricity usage.
2. I do not support Eversource making a 10.5% return on equity - which is higher than the national average for a regulated utility (according to MA Attorney General, national average is 9.3%) and higher than rate cases in other New England States that were approved in 2016 (9.1% in CT, 9.0% in ME). Eversource is putting the interest of its shareholders over the interests of its customers.
3. I do not support the proposed rate design elements that inhibit customers from reducing their carbon footprint and taking action locally to address climate change by:
	1. Penalizing customers who install solar/PV, or other renewables starting in January 2018 by imposing new demand charges; and
	2. Requiring customers with new solar PV (installed in January 2018 or later) to pay even higher fixed customer charges than other residential customers (new PV customers will face a 278% customer charge increase!);
	3. Lowering the Net Metering Credit value for all customers who sell excess energy to Eversource by decreasing per-kilowatt-hour rates.

Customers on the Cape & Vineyard are also still subject to the Transition Charge, which was imposed nearly twenty years ago as a result of the 1997 electric restructuring act, and was intended to expire after a certain amount of time. However, Eversource proposes to continue imposing this charge, which is higher for the Cape and Vineyard relative to other parts of Massachusetts.

**[Optional: Add any customer specific concerns or issues that you may have had with Eversource]**

In closing, the proposed Eversource Rate Case limits customer control over their energy costs, discourages customers from producing their own clean energy, and does not support or promote the goals and objectives of the Massachusetts Green Communities Act and Global Warming Solutions Act because it discourages energy efficiency and the development of renewable energy.