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P O Box 13326 Austin, Tx 78711-3326 49421

Public Utility Commission of Texas

Hello,

Because we pay some of the <u>highest rates for electricity in the USA</u>, the request for rate change by Centerpoint is of great interest.

While personally I am a residential customer, I can attest to the exorbitant amounts paid by numerous commercial customers. Centerpoint charges, along with various taxes, more than doubles a customer's electric bill. Coupled with "startup-power up" costs (turning on lights/machinery), there is very little incentive to conserve..most commercial customers will just leave the lights on than to pay these amounts.

Some of the red flags of this notice include vague terms such as discretionary spending, investment realized savings, discretionary services. I will admit I have no clue. However, I want to point out how customers haven't realized the savings from "smart meters"...if anything, these devices can used as tools to wreak havoc with a customer (privacy-identity-harassment). While it is good to hear that certain coal fired and nuclear plants have shut down, it is discouraging to learn that renewable power remains under-utilized (so exactly what IS Centerpoint's investments? No mention reduction in advertising costs).

I think my biggest problem is that it appears that Centerpoint stockholders are the beneficiary of any rate increase.

Just saying.

Sincerely, Mary Anderson P O Box 1712 Pasadena, Tx 77532