



Control Number: 52195



Item Number: 552

Peter M. Lake
Chairman
Will McAdams
Commissioner
Lori Cobos
Commissioner
Jimmy Glotfelty
Commissioner



Greg Abbott
Governor
Thomas J. Gleason
Executive Director

2022 JAN 25 PM 2:03

Public Utility Commission of Texas

TO: Central Records
FROM: Mark Hovenkamp
Office of Policy and Docket Management
DATE: January 25, 2022
RE: Correspondence related to Docket No. 52195-Application of El Paso Electric Company to Change Rates

Chairman Lake and Commissioners received the attached correspondence pertaining to the above-styled docket.

Please note that a member or employee of a state agency assigned to render a decision in a contested case may not directly or indirectly communicate in connection with an issue of fact or law with any state agency, person, party, or representative of those entities, except on notice and opportunity for each party to participate. See Administrative Procedures Act, Texas Government Code § 2001.061.

Commission Advising is filing the correspondence. Parties will not be served copies of the attached document but can access it through the PUC Interchange at <http://interchange.puc.texas.gov>.

cc: All Parties (without attachment)

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P.O. Box 12068
Austin, Texas 78711
(512) 463-0129



DISTRICT OFFICE:
9440 Viscount Blvd
Suite 205
El Paso, Texas 79925
(915) 595-5955

The Senate of Texas

CÉSAR J. BLANCO

TEXAS SENATOR
DISTRICT 29

January 10, 2022

Chairman Peter Lake
Public Utility Commission of Texas
PO Box 13326
Austin, TX 78711-3326:

Dear Chairman Peter Lake and Commissioners,

I am writing to formally oppose any electric utility rate change to El Paso County rate payers as a result of El Paso Electric's (EPE) Application for Distribution Cost Recovery Factor/Transmission Cost Recovery Factor and Fuel Surcharge filed before the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) on June 1, 2021 and September 15, 2021, respectively.

El Paso County Residents are facing record inflation further amplifying financial burdens created during the pandemic. Understandably, EPE needs to cover costs associated with significant investments into its generation, transmission and distribution systems since its last base rate increase in 2017. However, El Paso County rate payers are witnessing cumulative increased rates for water, electricity, and gas. Texas Gas Service has inequitably placed the financial burden of recovering extraordinary costs from Winter Storm Uri on El Paso County customers when they have not incurred these costs. El Paso Water is also considering rate increases to cover stormwater infrastructure costs. EPE's rate increase would further exacerbate the financial impact on local constituents when our nation has not fully recovered from the pandemic.

I appreciate your attention to this matter and should you have any questions for me, please do not hesitate to contact my office at (915) 595-5955.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "César J. Blanco".

César J. Blanco
Texas State Senator
District 29

CB/jc