

Eversource Rate Case (DPU 17-05) - Revised Rate Design submitted 6/1/2017

My name is [NAME]. I am a residential electric rate payer living at [ADDRESS]:

I do not support the proposed Eversource rate increases filed on January 17th, 2017 and the proposal to further increase costs to Eastern Massachusetts residential customers that was filed June 1, 2017. Specifically, I object to the following elements of the Eversource Rate Case, DPU-17-05.

1. I do not support Eversource's June 1st proposal for residential Eastern MA customers to subsidize Western MA customers by shifting an additional \$30 million annually to Eastern MA residential customers. Costs incurred to provide service to Western MA customers should be borne by those customers, not Eastern MA customers. This is cross-subsidization and the DPU should not allow it.
2. I do not support Eversource's June 1st proposal to reduce costs for Eastern MA commercial customers by shifting those costs on to Eastern MA residential customers. Costs incurred to provide service to commercial customers should not be borne by residential customers. This is another case of cross-subsidization that the DPU should not allow.
3. I do not support Eversource's proposal to more than double 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.
4. 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.
5. 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:
 - a. Penalizing customers who install solar/PV, or other renewables starting in January 2018 by imposing new demand charges; and
 - b. Requiring customers with new solar PV (installed in January 2018 or later) to pay even higher fixed customer charges than other residential customers (the customer charge for new PV customers will nearly triple!)

- c. Lowering the Net Metering Credit value for all customers who sell excess energy to Eversource by decreasing per-kilowatt-hour rates

In closing, the DPU should not allow Eversource to force Eastern Massachusetts residential ratepayers to subsidize other ratepayers, and should reject the elements of their rate case that limit customer control over their energy costs, discourage customers from producing their own clean energy, and do not support or promote the goals and objectives of the Massachusetts Green Communities Act and Global Warming Solutions Act.