

How to File a Complaint: Submission #50

Name

Kevin Plunkett

Account Number

15682-18012

Organization (if applicable)

{Empty}

Address

7 Sunnyside Drive
Westerly, Rhode Island. 02891

Phone

[4019329171](tel:4019329171)

Fax

{Empty}

Email

kplunkett1229@gmail.com

Complaint Filed Against

RI Energy

Date and Time of Incident

Wed, 08/24/2022 - 09:17

Response Method

Send E-mail

Please enter your complaint as detailed as possible below. Also furnish any other information which may be helpful to the investigation.

Dear Sirs,

My question is actually to the RIPUC about the need for a change in the Residential Tariff agreement between RI Energy and those that have Renewable Energy Growth Program Tariff for Residential Customers, RIPUC No. 2151 or Renewable Energy Growth Program.

As you know RI Energy has proposed the temporary electric rate increase from Oct. 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023. The new rate (which is for the cost that RI Energy procures energy for) would be roughly 17.9 cents per kilowatt hour for residential customers, compared to last year's rate of 10.9 cents per kilowatt hour, according to Rhode Island Energy.

Due to this increase I propose that all members of Renewable Energy Growth Program Tariff for Residential Customers, RIPUC No. 2151 or Renewable Energy Growth Program should also be getting an increase to offset the increase that RI Energy Proposes due to the fact that RI Energy is paying more for their supply of energy they should also beholden to those in the Regrowth program to give them more as they are producers of said energy.

If you cannot answer this question or assist me with someone in the department that can I will have to put in a formal complaint with the Attorney General's Office as a public utility cannot propose to increase rates without increasing the amount they reimburse through the Re-Growth program if they are paying more for energy system-wide.

Thank you.

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How to File a Complaint: Submission #33

Name

Margaret Wilson

Account Number

75527-53097

Organization (if applicable)

Rhode Island Energy

Address

189 waterman street apt 2
Providence, Rhode Island. 02906

Phone

{Empty}

Fax

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Email

megwilson93@gmail.com

Complaint Filed Against

Rhode Island Energy

Date and Time of Incident

{Empty}

Response Method

Send E-mail

Please enter your complaint as detailed as possible below. Also furnish any other information which may be helpful to the investigation.

RI Energy has proposed raising per kWh cost from 7.810¢ (summer rate) to 17.785¢ for the winter (a 128% increase for consumers as we enter the fall). Last year's winter rate

was 10.9¢ per kilowatt hour, which would be a 63% price increase. The Providence Journal reported that "...the residential rate would be the highest on record going back at least to 2000. It's more than double the rate currently in effect." Rhode Island residents are already straining under exorbitant rent hikes and general inflation. ABC6 reported that Rhode Islanders need to earn, on average, double the minimum wage to afford a two bedroom apartment. The increase RI Energy is proposing is unacceptable and in bad faith--when RI Energy took over for National Grid, they assured customers delivery rates would not change for the first few years; however, the language was vague and many customers interpreted this to mean NONE of the rates would increase. RI Energy also threatens to shut off electric after 1 month of unpaid bills, whereas National Grid provided a 2 month grace period.

Shorter grace periods coupled with extremely high rate increases when RI is already grappling with increased homelessness stemming from rising costs and stagnant wages makes the proposed cost hike by RI Energy untenable, unsustainable, and immoral. For many, an increase of \$50 (the average cost increase per household according to RI Energy) is devastating. Many have already cut their budgets as much as they can--there is simply no more fat to trim, and those who rely on electric heat may find themselves in an unsafe, potentially dangerous situation simply because they cannot afford the new rate.

RIPUC should either: 1) reject this cost increase outright and have RI Energy use last winter's rate, 2) provide alternative energy suppliers that offer rates that are actually LOWER than RI Energy's, or 3) distribute significant funds towards utility relief for RI Energy account holders making less than \$50,000 per year (the minimum income estimated by ABC6 news Rhode Islanders need in order to afford a modest apartment at fair market rent in the state).

Thank you for your time.

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How to File a Complaint: Submission #17

Name

Arthur Bassett

Account Number

53043-62048

Organization (if applicable)

{Empty}

Address

58 Elizabeth Ave
North Smithfield, Rhode Island. 02896

Phone

[4019652365](tel:4019652365)

Fax

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Email

mydrivec@mac.com

Complaint Filed Against

RI Energy

Date and Time of Incident

Thu, 07/21/2022 - 16:41

Response Method

Send E-mail

Please enter your complaint as detailed as possible below. Also furnish any other information which may be helpful to the investigation.

Just received proposed rate increase for the fall. This will cripple us. We have tenants and will need to raise rent to pay the electric which is included. This will hurt the already

hurting housing market because there is no way in hell I'm paying it.

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