

Esteemed PUC Commissioners:

Let me begin by saying I appreciate the Consumer Session being offered. But I was disappointed to find this year only the 6:00 pm session is being offered.

As luck would have it, I have a previously arranged prior commitment at 6:00 pm on September 14 and cannot attend. I most certainly would have attended a 1:00 pm session had you offered it, so I am very unhappy that you removed the opportunity for me to speak in person at a 1:00 pm session.

I also noticed there is a Consumer Session scheduled for Elko on the evening of September 20. Most secular calendars have in tiny print "Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown" on September 20th. This is one of two of the holiest days on the Jewish calendar. A 1:00 pm session would NOT be on a holy day, as the 6:00 pm is. Shame on you for not properly reading the calendar, for eliminating those people in Elko who cannot make the 6:00 pm Consumer Session, but could have made a 1:00 pm session.

Secondly, but most importantly, **I am VERY DISTRESSED to hear you will re-visit raising our rates in the North in January. Didn't we just have a rate increase? I thought we couldn't have rate increases but every 3 years? This newest proposal, taking base rates from \$12.76 to \$21.00 is in excess of a 60% increase!!!! Plus, an increase in kilowatt hours is being considered.**

That is usury, pure and simple. Just because you are not held accountable by the ratepayers (because you are appointed) doesn't mean you can raise rates an unconscionable level to make your monthly nut.

I know there is likely a shortfall in your revenue because of the subsidies to the solar customers. I would like to have solar, but I can't afford to have solar installed, so now I'll be paying for those who can afford solar installations so they can be subsidized????? Plus, solar customers get to sell their power overages back to you?

There is something very wrong with this picture. **I deeply resent another increase**, especially as it would be going to subsidize solar customers. Please reconsider the subsidies you have offered solar customers. Maybe cut those back a wee bit before looking to raise us again.

Or better yet, cut some of your other costs to cover the shortfall. Last I checked, you had an abundance of attorneys, including an attorney with 1 year experience coming in as Senior Counsel at a handsome salary. I suggest you start by cutting there, or at the very least, put a hiring freeze on your staffing.

I do so wish I could attend the Consumer Session in person on September 14 and tell you all of this in person, so it is recorded for the Legislature to view. But that is not possible. Please enter my remarks into the record.

Thank you,
Carole Fineberg
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