



JOE LOMBARDO
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

HAYLEY WILLIAMSON
Chair

TAMMY CORDOVA
Commissioner

RANDY BROWN
Commissioner

STEPHANIE MULLEN
Executive Director

October 9, 2023

Brenda Erdoes, Director
Legislative Counsel Bureau
401 S. Carson St.
Carson City, Nevada 89701-4747

Re: Docket Nos. 23-06001, 23-06002 & 23-06003

Dear Director Erdoes:

Pursuant to NRS 704.069(2), the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (PUCN) conducted consumer sessions of general interest in Washoe and Clark counties. The sessions were conducted August 23, 2023, for Washoe County and August 30, 2023, for Clark County. Sessions were conducted for each county and copies of the transcripts for those sessions are included on the enclosed USB Flash Drive. Also included on the USB Flash Drive are submitted written comments provided by consumers.

Pursuant to NAC 703.164 (1), the PUCN also conducted a general consumer session in Elko County (Docket No. 23-06003) on September 19, 2023.

The sessions were publicly noticed in newspapers of general circulation and advertised in utility bill inserts as well as in press releases issued by the PUCN.

If you or any members of the Legislative Commission have questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me at (775) 684-6177.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Mullen
Executive Director

Encl.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

4pm

CONSUMER HEARING

that your comments at the consumer session can be made part of the official record in this case,
ask you to fill out this card.

Name Dan Daily (Please Print)
Address 1645 Canyon Terrace DR
Number Street
SPARKS 89436
City Zip Code
Telephone (775) 626-0793

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

1

1pm

CONSUMER HEARING

that your comments at the consumer session can be made part of the official record in this case,
ask you to fill out this card.

Name MILDRED ROSEN (Please Print)
Address 4050 Goldfinch DR
Number Street
RENO 89575
City Zip Code
Telephone _____

LOPM

CONSUMER HEARING

that your comments at the consumer session can be made part of the official record in this case,
ask you to fill out this card.

Name TING-HUI HSIEH
(Please Print)

Address 15020 Redmond Loop
Number Street
Reno 89511
City Zip Code

Telephone 775-686-3511

②

LOPM

CONSUMER HEARING

that your comments at the consumer session can be made part of the official record in this case,
ask you to fill out this card.

Name Kobbin Palmer
(Please Print)

Address 4430 Fairview Rd
Number Street
Reno 89511
City Zip Code

Telephone 853-8572



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STATE OF NEVADA
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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Commissioner

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Executive Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Date: Aug. 16, 2023

Contact: Peter Kostas,
Communications Director,
(775) 684-6118

Public Utilities Commission of Nevada schedules annual consumer sessions in Reno

Reno, Nev. – The Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (PUCN) has scheduled two general consumer sessions to hear comments from the public regarding the utilities regulated by the PUCN.

Additionally, comments may be filed electronically through the Electronic Filing System on the PUCN's website or at either of the Commission's offices on or before the date of the consumer sessions. The consumer sessions are scheduled as follows:

Wednesday, Aug. 23, at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Washoe County Commission Chambers
1001 E. 9th Street, Building A
Reno, NV 89512

The annual general consumer sessions allow the public to provide input about any topic concerning utilities regulated by the PUCN, including NV Energy, Southwest Gas and some telecommunication, railroad and water companies. The PUCN does not regulate the Truckee Meadows Water Authority.

The PUCN is statutorily required to conduct at least one annual general consumer session in the Nevada county with the second largest population, which is currently Washoe County.

In addition to members of the PUCN Regulatory Operations Staff, representatives from the Nevada Bureau of Consumer Protection (BCP) and the utilities will be available to respond to concerns about their companies. Public comment may be limited to three minutes per speaker. Individuals with questions regarding the consumer sessions may contact the PUCN at (775) 684-6101.

The public notice for the consumer sessions in Docket No. 23-06001 can be found on the PUCN's website: puc.nv.gov. Go to the home page under the "Consumers" heading and select "Consumer Sessions."

The record from the consumer sessions will be provided to the Legislative Commission.

NORTHERN NEVADA OFFICE
1150 East William Street
Carson City, Nevada 89701-3109
(775) 684-6101 • Fax (775) 684-6110

<http://puc.nv.gov>

SOUTHERN NEVADA OFFICE
9075 West Diablo Drive, Suite 250
Las Vegas, Nevada 89148
(702) 486-7210 • Fax (702) 486-7206

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

Public Utilities Commission of Nevada-sponsored)	
Consumer Session to be held in Washoe County,)	Docket No. 23-06001
Nevada, pursuant to NRS 704.069(2).)	
_____)	

NOTICE OF CONSUMER SESSION

Pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes (“NRS”) 704.069(2), the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (“Commission”) is required to hold at least one general consumer session in the county with the second largest population within the state of Nevada each calendar year. Washoe County is currently the county with the second largest population within the state of Nevada. The Commission has designated this matter as Docket No. 23-06001.

Pursuant to NRS 704.069(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Commission has scheduled CONSUMER SESSIONS for this Docket to be held as follows:

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2023
1:00 p.m.
Washoe County Commission Chambers
1001 E. 9th Street, Building A
Reno, Nevada 89512

and

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2023
6:00 p.m.
Washoe County Commission Chambers
1001 E. 9th Street, Building A
Reno, Nevada 89512

Interested persons may appear and be heard on any topic concerning a public utility regulated by the Commission. Public comments may be limited to three (3) minutes per speaker at the discretion of the Commission. If within fifteen (15) minutes after the start of the Consumer Session, no member of the public has appeared to participate or comment, the Consumer Session may be adjourned. To accommodate individuals who enter the meeting

chambers who are sensitive to fragrance and chemical products, please use the following sparingly or not at all: perfumes, colognes, perfumed body lotions, aftershave, hair products, etc.

Interested persons may also file comments electronically through the Electronic Filing System on the Commission's website or at either of the Commission's offices on or before WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2023.

This Notice is available for public viewing on the Commission's website: <https://puc.nv.gov>; and at the Commission's offices: 1150 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada 89701 and 9075 West Diablo Drive, Suite 250, Las Vegas, Nevada 89148.

By the Commission,

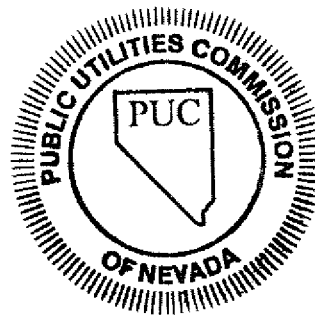


TRISHA OSBORNE,
Assistant Commission Secretary

Dated: Carson City, Nevada

6/1/23

(SEAL)



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-
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23-06001

Public Utilities Commission of Nevada
Electronic Filing

Submitted: 8/27/2023 10:30:27 AM

Reference: 715b19a8-fca3-4d43-919e-beda6c1e618

Payment Reference: 43-919e-beda6c1e618

Filed For: Silver State Court Reporters

In accordance with NRS Chapter 719,
this filing has been electronically signed and filed
by: /s Rick Stefani

By electronically filing the document(s),
the filer attests to the authenticity of the electronic signature(s) contained therein.

This filing has been electronically filed and deemed to be signed by an authorized
agent or
representative of the signer(s) and
Silver State Court Reporters

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

-oOo-

Public Utilities Commission
of Nevada-sponsored Consumer
Session to be held in Washoe
County, Nevada, pursuant to
NRS 704.069(2).

DOCKET NO. 23-06001

_____/

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

CONSUMER SESSION

1:04 p.m., Wednesday
August 23, 2023

Washoe County Commission Chambers
1001 East 9th Street
Building A
Reno, Nevada

Reported by:

DEBRA J. BARTGIS, CCR #56
FIRM #002F

SILVER STATE COURT REPORTERS, LLC (775) 329-6323

APPEARANCES:

Utilities Hearing Officer: SAM CRANO

For PUCN Regulatory Operations Staff: DON LOMOLJO
Staff Counsel
ROST OLSEN
Assistant Staff Counsel
1150 East William Street
Carson City, Nevada 89701.

For Office of Attorney General Bureau of Consumer Protection: WHITNEY DIGESTI
Deputy Attorney General
100 North Carson Street
Carson City, Nevada 89701

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RENO, NEVADA

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2023

1:04 P.M.

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HEARING OFFICER CRANO: The record will reflect that this is the time and place set before the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada for the Commission-sponsored consumer session to be held in Washoe County, Nevada pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes 704.069 Sub (2).

This matter has been designated by the Commission as Docket No. 23-06001.

The record will further reflect that on June 1st, 2023 the Commission published, on the Internet Website of the Commission, and as otherwise provided by NAC 703.160, the notice of this consumer session for this time and place.

Is there anyone present who has any questions about the noticing?

(No Response)

HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Okay. Hearing none, the Commission deems that this matter has been duly and properly noticed for a consumer session at this time and place.

My name is Sam Crano. I'm the

1 Presiding Officer in this Docket.

2 The Commission's Regulatory Operations
3 Staff is also present, along with the Bureau of
4 Consumer Protection, or the BCP, which is out of
5 the Nevada Attorney General's Office, and they're
6 all here, as well as myself, to hear any comments
7 pertaining to local public utilities.

8 To begin today's consumer session, I
9 would first ask Mr. Lomoljo, of the Commission's
10 Regulatory Operations Staff, to introduce himself
11 and his role and the Staff's role today. Thank
12 you.

13 With that, I will turn it over to
14 Mr. Lomoljo.

15 INTRODUCTION AND STATEMENT

16 MR. LOMOLJO: Thank you, Mr. Crano.

17 Again, my name is Don Lomoljo. I am
18 the Staff Counsel for the Regulatory Operations
19 Staff of the Commission.

20 To my right is Rost Olsen. He is an
21 Assistant Staff Counsel.

22 We're both attorneys with the
23 Regulatory Operations Staff.

24 The Regulatory Operations Staff of the
25 Commission is an independent investigatory branch

1 of the Commission, which means that we appear
2 before the Commission and provide evidence to the
3 Commission on every docket that comes before the
4 Commission.

5 And as part of that, it is important to
6 hear from consumers as to what issues they are
7 facing, and that oftentimes helps us to formulate
8 our testimony in dockets that come before the
9 Commission.

10 We do have various experts on Staff,
11 including accountants, engineers, economists,
12 pipeline safety inspectors, engineers, and we also
13 have a Consumer Complaint Division.

14 Miss Nichols, who is in the back of the
15 room and who took your names down if you want to
16 speak today, is the Manager of our Consumer
17 Complaint Division, and if you have specific issues
18 to your service that you are facing, we are more
19 than happy to speak with you after the consumer
20 session is over to help you with those issues.

21 At this point, I'll turn it back to
22 Mr. Crano. Thank you.

23 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Thank you,
24 Mr. Lomoljo.

25 Now I will introduce Whitney Digesti

1 with the Attorney General's Bureau of Consumer
2 Protection, and I will ask Ms. Digesti to introduce
3 herself and the role that the BCP plays before the
4 Commission.

5 INTRODUCTION AND STATEMENT

6 MS. DIGESTI: I'm making sure that the
7 light is on. Can everyone hear me?

8 All right. Well, good afternoon,
9 everyone. I'm Whitney Digesti, and I'm an attorney
10 from the Nevada Attorney General's Bureau of
11 Consumer Protection.

12 The Bureau of Consumer Protection, or
13 the BCP, as we call ourselves often, is an office
14 that was established decades ago to protect the
15 interests of consumers and small businesses in the
16 utility forum.

17 The role of the BCP is to represent
18 Nevada residential and small business ratepayers
19 at proceedings like this one.

20 Ratepayers deserve reliable utility
21 service at the lowest reasonable cost.

22 The BCP has a team of highly qualified
23 and dedicated accountants, engineers, economists,
24 experts, and attorneys that are reviewing cases as
25 submitted by the Nevada regulated public utilities.

1 We analyze the position of the Companies, and then
2 present our case to the PUCN for its consideration.
3 We ask formal questions of the companies, retain
4 experts, and present that case.

5 Today our priority is to hear from you,
6 the Nevada ratepayer, regarding what impact this
7 case, if adopted, would have on you. As such, we
8 look forward to hearing your concerns.

9 Thank you.

10 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Thank you,
11 Miss Digesti.

12 Are there any other persons who would
13 like to make their presence known to the Commission
14 for the purpose of this consumer session?

15 (No Response)

16 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Okay. Hearing
17 none, we'll get started.

18 GENERAL COMMENTS

19 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: The purpose of
20 this consumer session is to solicit comments from
21 the public on issues concerning public utilities.

22 The consumer session is an annual
23 opportunity for Nevadans to communicate directly
24 with the Commission and with representatives of
25 the utility industry about issues you may have.

1 As Mr. Lomoljo indicated, we do have
2 members of the Commission's Consumer Complaint
3 Division here. There are also representatives
4 from various utilities available in case you have
5 direct questions for them.

6 But we will now take comments from
7 members of the public.

8 I know the notice said you have up to
9 three minutes, but there aren't all that many
10 people here, so if you go a little bit longer, so
11 be it.

12 When your name is called, please state
13 your first name and your last name for the record
14 because we have a Court Reporter who is trying to
15 take down everything so we can go back and look at
16 it again if we need to.

17 And the first card I have is from
18 Mildred Ross.

19 Miss Ross, if you want to step up to
20 the microphone, and give us your comments, please.

21 (No Response)

22 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Is Mildred Ross
23 here? Miss Ross, please.

24 (No Response)

25 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Oh, Rose. I'm

1 sorry. I did not bring my glasses; I apologize.

2 Yes, you can go ahead and pull that
3 down.

4 MILDRED ROSE

5 a public commenter

6 commented as follows:

7 MS. ROSE: Thank you. Please bear with
8 me. I'm kind of nervous in situations like this.

9 I'm here today to voice a complaint
10 against NVEnergy and their PowerShift program. I
11 believe that the program is acting in a fraudulent
12 manner, especially towards me, and if you would
13 allow me to explain the circumstances, I would be
14 more than happy to.

15 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Please.

16 MS. ROSE: A year ago February my
17 refrigerator malfunctioned, and so therefore I
18 applied to NVEnergy, their PowerShift program,
19 for a replacement refrigerator. I sent in the
20 application about the first, around the first of
21 March.

22 I didn't hear from them, I waited
23 almost three weeks, and then I called the number
24 that I had on their advertising flier, and they
25 told me that they did not receive my application,

1 and I should reapply.

2 So they sent me one. I filled it out,
3 and sent it back in.

4 Another two weeks went by before I
5 heard from them, and they said that they had
6 approved my application for a replacement
7 refrigerator free of charge, and then they would
8 be taking care of it and deliver it to me. This
9 was about the last of March, first of April of
10 last year.

11 Therefore, I waited and waited, and
12 about a month later I contacted someone from the
13 PowerShift number, and they told me that I would
14 be eligible to receive one, and as soon as they
15 could arrange a delivery it would be brought to
16 me. Okay?

17 Again, I waited a couple of more
18 months, and this was close to September, and then
19 I contacted them again.

20 And they said that, well, they couldn't
21 right now bring the unit over because they had to
22 come from, I assumed Las Vegas, but no, they told
23 me they had to come from California, and because
24 of our inclement weather, they couldn't make a
25 delivery.

1 So I waited another month. I contacted
2 them again.

3 And they said, well, they were not
4 making any deliveries over the winter months,
5 and then I would have to wait until spring.

6 Okay. I waited until spring.
7 February, March came around, and I contacted them
8 again.

9 And they said that they would be making
10 deliveries. They gave me a date of May 4th that
11 they would deliver.

12 I waited May 4th. No one showed up.

13 And then in June I contacted someone,
14 and they told me that -- they gave me an
15 appointment time that they would deliver sometime
16 in June. They did not come.

17 I received a telephone call from
18 someone from PowerShift with an unknown number -
19 I mean, a blocked number, excuse me - a blocked
20 number, so that I could in no way call them back
21 if I hadn't received that telephone number. So
22 they gave me another date, and they said that they
23 would be out.

24 Well, they came, and they said that --
25 the two delivery drivers that came to my house said

1 that they were only supposed to take pictures of
2 the location of where the refrigerator was going
3 to go.

4 And I lost my cool. I said: Your
5 group is nothing but excuses, excuses, excuses.
6 All I hear from you is excuses as to why you cannot
7 deliver me a unit.

8 Well, they said that their boss told
9 them that all they were supposed to do is take
10 pictures.

11 So one came in the front door, and I
12 showed him the location where, an alternate
13 location where the refrigerator was to go, and he
14 plugged a little, some kind of unit into the
15 electrical socket, and he left it there, and he
16 took a picture.

17 And my dog, which was in the other part
18 of the house, started barking at him. So he
19 feigned being afraid of my dog.

20 And I said: My dog is in the other
21 room. He won't come in here. He is blocked from
22 coming in here.

23 So he says: I've got to take a picture
24 of your kitchen.

25 And I said: Okay, come.

1 So while he was going around from the
2 front door to the back door, I blocked my dog into
3 a bedroom so that he couldn't get out.

4 The guy started to come in the back
5 door, and he looked at my dog, and he got feigned
6 and he got scared. I have a seven-year old male
7 German Shepherd. Okay?

8 And then he went back out to his truck
9 to the other party, and they were conversing there,
10 and I went to them and I said: Okay, if you want
11 to take pictures; this other guy come in and take
12 pictures. Well, he did, he came right in. And he
13 didn't say anything about my dog, or anything like
14 that.

15 Well, at that time he says: Well, we
16 have to remove your other existing refrigerator.

17 I says: Well, I wasn't prepared for
18 that because nobody told me that they were going
19 to do that, and I have some items in the entryway
20 from the back door into my kitchen that I had to
21 remove.

22 And he says: Well, we're not here to
23 deliver you anything right now; we're just here to
24 take pictures.

25 So they left, and they said that they

1 would contact me again.

2 Well, I waited a couple of more weeks,
3 and I didn't hear from them. And I called the
4 number that I had and got ahold of someone that was
5 with PowerShift, and he told me that for safety's
6 sake they couldn't deliver the unit because of
7 something, that I don't remember what he said, but
8 he also said that, you know, that it was for
9 safety's sake.

10 And I tried to explain to him about the
11 situation, and he said he would get back to me.
12 And this was in July; this was in July. And I
13 haven't heard from them yet.

14 It's my belief that this PowerShift
15 program is a fraudulent program, and they're acting
16 that way towards me, and I would like to have it
17 resolved one way or another as to whether or not
18 I receive a refrigerator.

19 I am 86 years old, and I have been
20 without a refrigerator for over a year-and-a-half.

21 And I would like to know if anyone
22 here has any authority to help me to resolve this
23 situation.

24 And I thank you very much for the time.

25 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Thank you, Miss

1 Rose.

2 I can't do anything from here right
3 now, but if you talk to Ms. Nichols in the back
4 there, who gave you the card, she can help you file
5 a formal complaint. And then once there's a formal
6 complaint filed, then the Commission can act.

7 MS. ROSE: I'm not very knowledgeable
8 about all that kind of stuff.

9 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: And Kellie is
10 very nice, and she'll walk you through everything,
11 if that's okay.

12 MS. ROSE: Okay. Thank you for your
13 time.

14 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: You bet. Thank
15 you for coming out.

16 (Public Commenter Excused.)

17 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: And that is the
18 only card I have. If there is any ne else here who
19 wants to -- oh, I've got another card coming up.

20 Thank you. Mr. Dan Daily.

21 DAN DAILY

22 a public commenter

23 commented as follows:

24 MR. DAILY: Yes, my name is Dan Daily.

25 Good afternoon, Commissioners.

1 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Good afternoon.

2 MR. DAILY: I just had a couple of
3 quick questions on the recent rate hikes,
4 electrical and the gas.

5 The natural gas rate hike went from
6 like 75 cents to over a dollar a therm, and I was
7 wondering, was that contingent on Southwest Gas
8 also getting approved on their rate increase just
9 recently?

10 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: No, that's
11 actually based on the wholesale costs of natural
12 gas world-wide that's gone up.

13 And both utilities basically pass that
14 cost through, so they're not earning a profit on
15 it, they're just recovering the cost of the natural
16 gas that they pass on to you for running the power
17 plants, and so that's what happened with that.

18 Southwest Gas did raise their rates a
19 tiny bit in the North about five months ago, but
20 the larger increases in both the electric and the
21 gas are due to just the wholesale price of natural
22 gas on the worldwide market.

23 MR. DAILY: Okay. So evidently it
24 fluctuates rates a little bit so there is the
25 possibly it could go down --

1 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Yes.

2 MR. DAILY: -- or up. It depends on
3 the demand of natural gas --

4 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Yes.

5 MR. DAILY: In the area?

6 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Yes. The way
7 they do it, it's basically a one-year rolling
8 average, and so if it goes down for a few months
9 in a row, then every quarter the electric company
10 changes their rates based on their cost of natural
11 gas. And so if it goes down for a few months, the
12 rates will go down a little bit based on the lower
13 cost of natural gas.

14 MR. DAILY: Okay. And then on the
15 electrical end of it, we had an increase in
16 January, and then another one in July. Was that
17 like prorated, so all of them don't come in at
18 once?

19 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Yes, that's the
20 same deal. It changes quarterly. It can go up and
21 down every quarter based on the costs. They're
22 called deferred energy costs. It's the costs of
23 natural gas, or the costs of renewable energy that
24 the Company pays.

25 And again, it's a 12-month rolling

1 average, so whatever that average does based on the
2 last year, it will go up a little or down a little,
3 and that will change every three months.

4 MR. DAILY: Okay. So the utility comes
5 in about every three months for a rate increase or
6 a decrease?

7 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Yes. For the
8 deferred costs, the costs of natural gas, and
9 things like that, those just sort of -- well, they
10 file every month - or every three months, sorry,
11 every quarter - and that changes a little, and once
12 a year there is a big hearing to make sure the last
13 year's were fair, and there weren't some other
14 things the Commission should not allow them to
15 recover, and if that's the case then we make
16 adjustments in those, and it's called the annual
17 deferred energy case.

18 And they just had some hearings on this
19 year's earlier in this week. Miss Digesti was one
20 of the parties, on behalf of the Bureau of Consumer
21 Protection. So there will be an Order on that out
22 in about a month; probably three weeks or a month.

23 MS. DIGESTI: The actual hearing to
24 finalize that is actually delayed until the end
25 of September.

1 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Okay.

2 MS. DIGESTI: But I believe all of the
3 other rates, except for the little part that is not
4 finished yet, will start at the effective date.

5 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: So yes, so
6 every three months the Company files their
7 quarterly deferreds, and the rates will go up or
8 down a little bit. If it's less than 10 percent
9 they go automatically; if it's more than
10 10 percent, they have to have a hearing on it. And
11 then once a year it's trued-up, basically, by the
12 annual deferred case, and those rates, the credit
13 or debit, go into effect the first of October.

14 MR. DAILY: Okay. Thank you very much
15 for explaining that. That's all I have.

16 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Okay. Great.
17 Thank you, Mr. Daily.

18 (Public Commenter Excused.)

19 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Okay. Is there
20 anybody else who had any comment or questions
21 that wanted to address them here this afternoon?

22 (No Response)

23 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Okay. I'm
24 not hearing any. But we will be back at 6 o'clock
25 today, in case anyone thinks of any questions

1 before then and wants to come back, and we'll
2 probably be around for a bit after if you have an
3 informal question you wanted to ask off the record.

4 But if there is nothing further?

5 (No Response)

6 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: I would like
7 to thank everyone for their attendance this
8 afternoon. Your comments that we receive are
9 valuable, and the Commission appreciates the
10 opportunity to hear from you.

11 And this consumer session is adjourned.

12 Thank you.

13 (At 1:25 p.m. the Consumer
14 Session was Adjourned.)

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STATE OF NEVADA,)
)
COUNTY OF WASHOE.) ss.

I, DEBRA J. BARTGIS, Certified Court
Reporter #56 do hereby certify:

That on Wednesday, August 23, 2023, at
1:04 p.m., at 1001 East 9th Street, Building A, Washoe
County Commission Chambers, Reno, Nevada, I was present
and took stenotype notes of the Consumer Session held
before the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada, and
thereafter transcribed the same as herein appears;

That the foregoing transcript is a full,
true and correct transcription of my stenotype notes of
said Consumer Session.

DATED: At Sparks, Nevada, this 24th day of
August 2023.

/s Debra J. Bartgis

Debra J. Bartgis, CCR #56

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23-06001

Public Utilities Commission of Nevada
Electronic Filing

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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

-oOo-

Public Utilities Commission
of Nevada-sponsored Consumer
Session to be held in
Washoe County, Nevada, pursuant
to NRS 704.069(2).

DOCKET NO. 23-06001

_____/

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

CONSUMER SESSION

6:01 p.m., Wednesday
August 23, 2023

Washoe County Commission Chambers
1001 9th Street
Building A
Reno, Nevada

Reported by

DEBRA J. BARTGIS, CCR #56
FIRM #002F

APPEARANCES:

Utilities Hearing Officer:	SAM CRANO
For PUCN Regulatory Operations Staff:	ROST OLSEN Assistant Staff Counsel DON LOMOLJO Staff Counsel 1150 East William Street Carson City, Nevada 89701
For Office of Attorney General Bureau of Consumer Protection:	WHITNEY DIGESTI Deputy Attorney General 100 North Carson Street Carson City, Nevada 89701

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RENO, NEVADA

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2023

6:01 P.M.

-oOo-

HEARING OFFICER CRANO: All right.

Good evening.

This consumer session will come to order.

The record will reflect that this is the time and place set before the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada for the Commission-sponsored consumer session to be held in Washoe County, Nevada pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute 704.069 Sub (2).

This matter has been designated by the Commission as Docket No. 23-06001.

The record will further reflect that on June 1st, 2023 the Commission published, on the Internet Website of the Commission, and as otherwise provided by NAC 703.160, the notice of this consumer session for this time and place.

Is there anyone present that has any questions about the noticing?

(No Response)

HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Okay. Hearing

1 none, the Commission deems that this matter has
2 been duly and properly noticed for a consumer
3 session at this time and place.

4 My name is Sam Crano. I'm the
5 Presiding Officer in this docket.

6 The Commission's Regulatory Operations
7 Staff is also present, along with the Attorney
8 General's Bureau of Consumer Protection, or the
9 BCP, to hear any comments pertaining to local
10 public utilities.

11 To begin today's consumer session, I
12 would first ask that Mr. Olsen, of the Commission's
13 Regulatory Operations Staff, introduce himself and
14 the role that Staff plays in the Commission's
15 proceedings.

16 Mr. Olsen?

17 INTRODUCTION AND STATEMENT

18 MR. OLSEN: Good evening. My name is
19 Rost Olsen. I am here with my colleague,
20 Don Lomoljo. We are both attorneys. We represent
21 the Regulatory Staff of the Public Utilities
22 Commission.

23 The Regulatory Staff is an independent
24 entity that investigates rates and other issues
25 pertaining to the delivery of public utilities.

1 And the Staff consists of economists, accountants,
2 and engineers, and other professionals who will
3 testify before -- who will testify before the
4 Commission in various matters.

5 And we are here to listen and to
6 receive public comment to help and assist us in
7 formulating our various testimonies in other --
8 and assist us in preparing us for presentations
9 of matters before the Commission.

10 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Great. Thank
11 you, Mr. Olsen.

12 And I'm going to ask Ms. Digesti, from
13 the Bureau of Consumer Protection, to introduce
14 herself and explain the role that the BCP plays in
15 Commission proceedings.

16 INTRODUCTION AND STATEMENT

17 MS. DIGESTI: Yes. Thank you.

18 Good evening. I'm Whitney Digesti,
19 and I'm an attorney from the Nevada Attorney
20 General's Bureau of Consumer Protection, or as
21 we call ourselves often, the BCP.

22 The BCP is an office that was
23 established decades ago to protect the interests
24 of consumers and small businesses in the utility
25 forum.

1 The role of the BCP is to represent
2 Nevada residential and small business ratepayers
3 at proceedings like this one.

4 Ratepayers deserve reliable utility
5 service at the lowest reasonable cost.

6 The BCP has a team of highly qualified
7 and dedicated accountants, engineers, economists,
8 experts, and attorneys that are reviewing cases
9 as submitted by Nevada regulated public utilities.

10 We analyze the position of the Company,
11 and then present our case to the Public Utilities
12 Commission for its consideration.

13 We ask formal questions of the Company,
14 retain experts, and present that case.

15 Today our priority is to hear from you,
16 the Nevada ratepayer, regarding what impact this
17 case, if adopted, would have upon you. As such,
18 we look forward to hearing your concerns.

19 And this is a general consumer session,
20 so not "this case," any case before the PUC.

21 Thank you.

22 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Thank you,
23 Miss Digesti.

24 Are there any other persons who would
25 like to make their presence known to the Commission

1 for the purpose of this consumer session?

2 (No Response)

3 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Okay. Hearing
4 none, we will get right into the consumer comments.

5 GENERAL COMMENTS

6 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: The purpose of
7 this consumer session is to solicit comments from
8 the public on issues concerning public utilities.

9 This consumer session is an annual
10 opportunity for Nevadans to communicate directly
11 with the Commission and representatives of the
12 utility industry about issues you may have.

13 We also have members of our Consumer
14 Complaint Resolution Division. If you would like
15 to speak, fill out a card, and Kellie will bring it
16 up to me.

17 And we also have some members from a
18 couple of the utilities here with us in case there
19 are questions for them.

20 But we will now take comments from
21 members of the public. I know the notice said
22 you would only have up to three minutes, but there
23 aren't all that many folks here, so if you go a
24 little longer, then that's fine, too.

25 When your name is called, could you

1 please come up to the microphone here. State your
2 first and last name for the record. We do have a
3 Court Reporter taking down everything we say, so
4 it's important so we are able to look back at the
5 transcript later in case we have anything we need.

6 So the first card I have is Mr. Hsieh.
7 Please.

8 TING-HUI HSIEH
9 a public commenter
10 commented as follows:
11 MR. HSIEH: Hello, everybody. My name
12 is Ting-Hui Hsieh. I'm an gastroenterologist. I'm
13 a doctor. You can call me Robert, just for
14 convenience.

15 I want to say a little bit about my
16 rate. And I actually never look into my rate until
17 here last month and this month. I have net
18 metering, I have electric cars, I have solar
19 panels, I have power walls, but when I look into
20 the details of NVEnergy rate, it just doesn't make
21 sense to me. I'm here to express my concern, and
22 I want to make sure that's what NVEnergy wanted to
23 send a message to me is what I perceive.

24 No. 1, I want to make a comment that
25 the rate is very un-transparent. That NVEnergy has

1 not a population of most current rate on their
2 Website. I just pulled this out, and I actually
3 called your customer service before on your
4 NVRF-4052123, this rate was April of 2022, if you
5 click on the link. And if you go onto NVEnergy
6 Website if you want to see the most current rate,
7 you can't find it.

8 And the only reason I know the current
9 rates, I look at my bill, and that's after the
10 fact, which is not there for the customers. You
11 should always have the most current rate, maybe on
12 the first page, for everybody who wants to know the
13 rate. And I have called customer service so many
14 times.

15 And then regarding the bills. There
16 were a bunch of funny moneys over there. I'm just
17 curious why the bill doesn't say that this is how
18 much you pay per kilowatt hour, and then you can
19 put in like an asterisk, or something like this
20 includes every kilowatt hour, you have all this
21 renewable money, or they have four or five things
22 inside, energy efficiency charge, green power
23 service charge, and what surprised me is that there
24 is a deferred energy bill there that I never paid
25 attention to.

1 But as a solar-powered generator, plus
2 Powerwall that I have at home, and when I look at
3 the pure rate I say, well, it's probably good that
4 I sell that during the daytime to NVEnergy, and so
5 not at night, but that's not the case, even for the
6 most current rate.

7 The most current rates shows that I
8 still pay, during the daytime, it's 7 cents and
9 something, but I actually have to pay 8 cents and
10 something at night to take it out to charge my car.
11 And I'm Tier 3. From public utility and NVEnergy
12 purpose, do you want everybody on the Tier 3, or
13 lower, just use the energy at home and not send
14 any of it back to the grid? Is that what you guys
15 really want to send the message to us? Because I
16 would be a fool to sell you cheap, and buy it high
17 at night. Is that right?

18 So on top of that, there is a deferred
19 energy charge, and I understand that the three
20 months has been paused for now, but that's quite a
21 bit if you put it on every kilowatt hour I have to
22 pay at night. You throw it out to charge my EV
23 car, which is a significant amount of electricity
24 I pull every night. And I actually have two
25 EV cars.

1 So that's what I want to express.

2 And also, there was a notice sometime
3 in May in saying that the peak hours last year was
4 from 1 to 6 p.m. This year it was changed to
5 3 to 9 p.m. My first obstacle that is that I
6 called them, and I say last year it was a Friday,
7 is it every day or not? And it took me several
8 phone calls to realize that 3 to 9 p.m. is every
9 day, which is fine. Finally, I got the answer.
10 But then whose solar panel generates any power
11 after 5 p.m.?

12 And I understand 3 to 5 p.m. is the
13 peak time usage from your perspective, but how does
14 that translate to me as a power generator? Should
15 I just be independent myself; keep the power
16 myself? Probably.

17 Because this also is another
18 significant rate change last year when I roughly
19 can get seven times of credit back; now I barely
20 get four times of credit, with less hours starting
21 at 3 p.m., instead of between 1 and 3 when the sun
22 is out and it is brighter at that time. How would
23 that make sense to consumers like me, when my first
24 knowledge when I try to purchase all these
25 expensive things, my impression is that NVEnergy

1 does not want me to be independent. They want the
2 power back. They want me to help on the grid
3 during the day now. They want me to use cheaper
4 energy at night.

5 But if you look at the rate, it's
6 totally not transparent. It is the daytime and get
7 it more expensive at night.

8 And when I call the consumer hotlines
9 for whatever this that I need, obviously a
10 supervisor said, well, you can go back to the
11 regular rate, which is not very helpful to
12 consumers who have greater rates per kilowatt hour.

13 So that's why I make my attempt to come
14 here.

15 Also, the change of the nighttime
16 charging rate also went up, and the daytime
17 purchase price came down. I wasn't noticed. I
18 didn't get any email. I couldn't find it on the
19 Internet.

20 The only thing I can do is just start
21 the rate, and I can adjust how my power is going
22 to flow through my house, or go back to NVEnergy.

23 So I understand that not many people
24 have so many of these things at home, but I also
25 want to know from public utility perspective, is

1 this really what you guys want us to do? And if
2 this is the message you are sending out to us,
3 that's okay, but I just want to make sure from what
4 I read of these, that this is what all the public
5 utility, how you guys make a decision, and how the
6 rate is set up, and that's how you guys want people
7 to know.

8 Now one last thing about NVEnergy.
9 Sorry. I, me and myself and my friends, when they
10 set up the solar, and if you guys may know, usually
11 it takes about a month for NVEnergy's solar to come
12 and get activated. I started with that. I
13 actually have to send an email to the president
14 and CEO of NVEnergy three years ago. If you have
15 someone who pays the system, and you let the
16 solar sit there and not integrating it for a
17 whole month - and I have more than one friend
18 experiencing this - this is not what we want for a
19 renewable energy system. That one month has a lot
20 of solar being wasted, and we cannot turn it on
21 ourselves, unless someone to come and swap the meter.

22 That's it. Thank you.

23 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Thank you very
24 much.

25 (Public Commenter Excused.)

1 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: The next card I
2 have is Robbin Palmer.

3 ROBBIN PALMER
4 a public commenter
5 commented as follows:

6 MS. PALMER: Good evening,
7 Commissioners. My name is Robbin Palmer. That is
8 R-o-b-b-i-n P-a-l-m-e-r.

9 I live in rural Washoe County on the
10 traditional lands of the Washoe Northern Paiute and
11 Western Shoshone people.

12 I'm very concerned about climate
13 change, and resolving extreme weather events. This
14 summer we've seen record-breaking heat waves across
15 the country, flooding in the Northeast, deadly
16 fires in Hawaii, and an unprecedented tropical
17 storm in Southern California just in the last two
18 weeks. We've been pretty lucky here in Nevada so
19 far this summer, but who knows what weather-related
20 catastrophes are in Nevada's future as a result of
21 our changing climate.

22 Laudably, our State's Renewable
23 Portfolio Standard calls for 50 percent of Nevada
24 electricity sales from renewable sources by 2030.
25 Nevada has committed to carbon-free power, a

1 carbon-free power grid by 2050, with zero net
2 greenhouse gas emissions. I'm wondering if we're
3 on track, or if anyone is keeping track of whether
4 we're on track.

5 The Federal Clean Energy Plan, the
6 Inflation Reduction Act, and bi-partisan
7 infrastructure law provides for resources for us
8 to develop clean, more affordable energy, and
9 accelerate transition away from fossil fueled
10 energy. Nevadans deserve clean, reliable,
11 dependable, affordable energy.

12 PUCN has a role in protecting
13 consumers. We depend on the PUCN to safeguard us
14 from profit-sharing energy utilities.

15 Please, I encourage the Commission to
16 prioritize clean energy and consumer interest.

17 We need a balancing of Nevada's energy
18 supply, and move to more local clean power. We
19 need strong action to diversify the State's energy
20 mix, move away from natural gas, and increase use
21 of local clean energy sources, and with more stable
22 costs.

23 A high priority for many consumers is
24 utility costs. Our power companies rely heavily
25 on natural gas imported from out-of-state. Natural

1 gas prices are volatile and fluctuate wildly.
2 Nevada Energy passes all fuel costs onto consumers.
3 Utility bills are unpredictable and unaffordable
4 for many Nevada families.

5 I ask you to scrutinize proposals from
6 our utility companies that will result in consumers
7 paying high fossil fuel costs, and to limit our
8 utility's excessive profits, when Nevada families
9 are reeling in the wake of unaffordable utility
10 bills.

11 Natural gas is a fossil fuel. The
12 primary component of natural gas is methane.
13 Methane is a more potent greenhouse gas than carbon
14 dioxide, and traps more than 80-fold more heat.
15 Extracting natural gas involves a process that
16 damages our environment. Extracting, transmitting,
17 and burning natural gas leaks methane into our
18 environment. Climate scientists say we can avoid
19 the worst consequences of climate change by
20 limiting methane emissions.

21 Additionally, natural gas is a major
22 source of air pollution, and contributes to
23 respiratory illness.

24 We do think fossil fuel production and
25 use and mitigating climate change has immediate

1 health effects -- health benefits, I should say.

2 Consumers also pay the costs of
3 building gas plants. Your recent approval of a new
4 gas peaker plant is shortsighted. The approval
5 was rushed through, with little transparency, and
6 without full consideration of Nevada's energy,
7 economic, and environmental future. That decision
8 does not move us toward a cleaner more sustainable
9 environment.

10 I'm encouraged by the signing of
11 Assembly Bill 524 into law. I'm not an expert on
12 the details, but Assembly Bill 524 seems to include
13 provisions for encouraging development of in-state
14 energy generating resources, requiring our State's
15 utilities to engage in more frequent analysis and
16 long-term resource planning, limiting the utility's
17 ability to make amendments that will cost
18 consumers, increase the State's energy production,
19 making Nevada less dependent on the energy market.

20 I want to thank the PUCN for providing
21 this consumer session, and allowing me to express
22 my comments.

23 Thank you.

24 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Thank you,
25 Miss Palmer.

1 (Public Commenter Excused.)

2 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Okay. That is
3 the last card I have.

4 Is there anyone else out there who
5 would like to speak tonight?

6 (No Response)

7 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Okay. Well,
8 thank you all very much for your attendance
9 tonight.

10 Your comments are valuable, and the
11 Commission appreciates this opportunity to hear
12 from you.

13 If you have any off-the-record
14 questions or comments, we will be around for a
15 few minutes after.

16 Unless anyone else has anything they
17 wanted to say?

18 (No Response)

19 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: This consumer
20 session is adjourned.

21 Thank you.

22 (At 6:21 p.m. the Consumer Session was Adjourned.)

23 -oOo-

24

25

STATE OF NEVADA,)
)
COUNTY OF WASHOE.) ss.

I, DEBRA J. BARTGIS, Certified Court
Reporter #56 do hereby certify:

That on Wednesday, August 23, 2023, at
6:01 p. A.m., at 1001 East 9th Street, Building A, Washoe
County Commission Chambers, Reno, Nevada, I was present
and took stenotype notes of the Consumer Session held
before the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada, and
thereafter transcribed the same as herein appears;

That the foregoing transcript is a full,
true and correct transcription of my stenotype notes of
said Consumer Session.

DATED: At Sparks, Nevada, this 26th day of
August 2023.

/s Debra J. Bartgis

Debra J. Bartgis, CCR #56

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case,
we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Angel DeFazio
(Please Print)
Address 7015 29th
Number Street
LV NV 89126
City Zip Code

Telephone _____



2

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Ivan Carlos Guardado
(Please Print)

Address 4514 Palencia Avenue
Number Street

Las Vegas NV 89121
City Zip Code

Telephone 702.326.4499.



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

3

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case,
we ask you to fill out this card.

Name HAROLD BARTON
(Please Print)

Address 246 HONEWARD WY
Number Street

HENDERSON 89011
City Zip Code

Telephone 702-274-1827



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Jorge Costa
(Please Print)

Address 1500 E Tropicana Ave
Number Street

Las Vegas 89119
City Zip Code

Telephone 702-758-0151



5

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Kasie Loren
(Please Print)

Address 1500 European Ave
Number Street

Las Vegas 89119
City Zip Code

Telephone 702-945-8112

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Christian Salmon
(Please Print)

Address 9060 W. Washburn Rd
Number Street

LV W 89149
City Zip Code

Telephone 702 903 2555



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name KENNETH BROADBENT
(Please Print)

Address 1943 HALLWOOD DRIVE
Number Street

LAS VEGAS NEVADA 89119
City Zip Code

Telephone 716 783 1887



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

8

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Isabel Klein
(Please Print)

Address 6440 Silent Son Av
Number Street

Las Vegas 89142
City Zip Code

Telephone 702-350-4418



9

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Sandi DeGiudice
(Please Print)

Address 6183 Katella Ave 7
Number Street

Las Vegas, NV 89118
City Zip Code

Telephone 702) 480-0084



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

10

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Aria Flores
(Please Print)

Address _____
Number Street
City Zip Code
89110

Telephone 702-703-4060



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Tony P. Simmons
(Please Print)

Address PO Box 571300
Number Street

LV LV 89150
City Zip Code

Telephone 702 592-5687

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

12

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name JOHN BRANDT
(Please Print)

Address 2302 BRIDLEWOOD DR
Number Street

LV 89119
City Zip Code

Telephone 847 274 7013



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

13

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Jesus Lizarraga
(Please Print)

Address 7248 Whispering Tree St
Number Street

Las Vegas 89118
City Zip Code

Telephone 7256664602



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case,
we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Linda Buckardt
(Please Print)

Address 1664 Rockcrest Hills Dr
Number Street

Henderson NV 89052
City Zip Code

Telephone 702-586-0328



15

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Amelia Moore-McCullis
(Please Print)

Address 5817 Country Lake Lane
Number Street

N. Las Vegas 89081
City Zip Code

Telephone 702-659-1403



lpm

1

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Angel DeFazio
(Please Print)

Address _____
Number Street

City Zip Code

Telephone _____



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Diana Diaz
(Please Print)

Address 5800 Bromley Ave Apt 29
Number Street
LV NV 89107
City Zip Code

Telephone 702-801-7710

3

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Laura E. Pulido - Acosta
(Please Print)

Address 6805 Ruby red cir
Number Street

Las Vegas NV 89108
City Zip Code

Telephone (702) 752-8092



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name

Laemito Ayala V.

Address

4925 Churchill ave

Las Vegas NV 89107

702 750 0000

Telephone

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Manuel Cazares
(Please Print)

Address 2038 Palm St
Number Street

Las Vegas NV 89104
City Zip Code

Telephone 702 917 5516



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Marina Bahena
(Please Print)

Address 2038 Palm St
Number Street

Las Vegas NV 89104
City Zip Code

Telephone 623 4992184



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

7

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Marlon Anderson
(Please Print)

Address 1713 Ronzard Ave
Number Street

W Las Vegas 89032
City Zip Code

Telephone 804-283-3393

8

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name

Sheila Stirling

(Please Print)

Address

4132 S. Rain Bow Blvd #405

Number

Street

LV

NV

89103

City

Zip Code

Telephone

7024994408

9

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

DR Mary House

Name

(Please Print)

Address

4616 W. Sahara #436,

Number

Street

Las Vegas

City

89102

Zip Code

Telephone

(702) 908-5753

10

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name ROBERT KASPER
(Please Print)

Address 9045 PATINAGEM AVE
Number Street

LAS VEGAS NV 89143
City Zip Code

Telephone 651-955-6441

11.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Jeanette Matthews
(Please Print)

Address 8003 Alpine Pine Ave
Number Street

Las Vegas NV 89117
City Zip Code

Telephone 702 497-3632

12-

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Paulette Henriod
(Please Print)

Address 10779 Hobbiton Ave
Number Street

LV NV 89135
City Zip Code

Telephone 702-254-3905



13.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Duke Ayala
(Please Print)

Address _____
Number Street

City Zip Code

Telephone 702-5761662

14

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Sel Solar
(Please Print)

Address _____
Number Street

City Zip Code

Telephone _____

15

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name FERMIN RAMIREZ
(Please Print)

Address 27 PAGE ST
(Number Street)

LAS VEGAS NV 89110
City Zip Code

Telephone (702) 350 8100

16.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name JOSE LUIS CITAVER
(Please Print)

Address 8606 LIVERMORE VALLEY AV
Number Street

LOS VEGAS NV 89178
City Zip Code

Telephone 702 613 3384

17

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Ms Tonya Ross
(Please Print)

Address 1030 Center Street Apt 6J
Number Street

Henderson Nevada 89015
City Zip Code

Telephone I don't have a phone



18

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Yajaira Rimendes
(Please Print)

Address 4348 Hatch Street
Number Street

North Las Vegas 89030
City Zip Code

Telephone 702-439-5204

19.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Robert Garcia

(Please Print)

Address 6905 Greenery Ct

Number

Street

Las Vegas 89130

City

Zip Code

Telephone (502) 418-6925



20

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Abuando GARCIA & Michael HOFOWITZ
(Please Print)

Address 4810 Lone Grove Dr.
Number Street

Las Vegas 89139
City Zip Code

Telephone 702-238-9358

21.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Tony Simmons
(Please Print)

Address PO BOX 571300
Number Street

LV NV
City Zip Code

Telephone 702 592 5687

23

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Shaun Navarro
(Please Print)
Address 8100 Rock Fort Circle
Number Street
LAS VEGAS 89128
City Zip Code
Telephone 805 765-7038

22.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Maria Sanchez
(Please Print)

Address 2221 W. Houghby Ave.
Number Street

Las Vegas 89104
City Zip Code

Telephone 702-759-7819



24.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Angel Lazcano
(Please Print)

Address 6100 Carl Ave
Number Street

Las Vegas 89108
City Zip Code

Telephone (702) 481-0224

25

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Elsbeth Cordova
(Please Print)

Address 12834 Point Sierra St
Number Street

LV 89138
City Zip Code

Telephone 702-659-2811



26.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Gloria Guardado
(Please Print)

Address _____
Number Street
Las Vegas NV 89121
City Zip Code

Telephone 702 4883445

27.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Neusea Rames
(Please Print)

Address _____
Number Street

City Zip Code

Telephone 702 948 4160

28.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Audrey Peral
(Please Print)

Address 5615 Oxbow St
Number Street

Las Vegas 89119
City Zip Code

Telephone 818 256 4348

29.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name D'Andrew Harrington
(Please Print)

Address 4800 E. Tropicana Ave Apt 1002
Number Street

Las Vegas 89121
City Zip Code

Telephone 702 488-1275

30.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Matthew V Hernandez Z
(Please Print)

Address 753 Weathersford Dr
Number Street

Las Vegas 89110
City Zip Code

Telephone (702) 423-4136

(31.)

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Mercedes McKinley
(Please Print)

Address 245 S. Gibson Rd #2101
Number Street

Henderson NV 89012
City Zip Code

Telephone 702 523 7770



32.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Angelina Jalkanen
(Please Print)

Address 5600 Ruessel Rd. #811
Number Street

Las Vegas 89122
City Zip Code

Telephone 702-715-0245

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

23

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name ROSARIO Moreno
(Please Print)

Address 1341 N Gateway
Number Street

89010 Las Vegas NV
City Zip Code

Telephone 702 583 0394

Christian Salmon

(702) 903-2555

FreedomLibertyNevada@gmail.com

General Consumer Session

8/30/2023 lym

North on South

- Both power companies need to say separate. Not just for the ^{disaster} preparedness Expenditures, but for the cost in the event of a disaster
- NV Power requires Solar Customers to have a 2nd meter. Why is this? This ~~makes~~ systems that are installed more expensive. This practice needs to be halted. This is an invasion of privacy.
- NV Power ^{net metering} Customers are not afforded an Analog Net meter. This goes against a previous docket decision. Smart meters are unhealthy, an invasion of privacy, and needs to be changed. NV ^{Power} needs to afford all Customers an Analog meter.
- ~~Who~~ On which Commissioner is going to work with me on the issues I raised?
- Why are the North & South in this meeting? Where are the other commissioners? Why are the ut

Christian's V 2 comments

Monday the PUC wrongly approved NDPP, as NVE failed to "adequately assess or quantify the socialized benefits associated" with these costs. Commissioner Cordova said subsidies "were not supported by the evidentiary record."

Chair Williamson lied "I want to assure Nevadans who are struggling to pay utility bills, we are listening to you," she sits and stares at you until its time for the next commenter, not listening at all.

Apparently, Jeremy Aguero of Applied Analysis, which attempts to justify saddling Southern Nevada ratepayers with the utility's disaster prevention costs – mostly related to wildfires, BCP said "failed to properly assess and quantify and overly simplistic", "PUC finds that the method used does not adequately assess or quantify the socialized benefits associated with NDPP costs,"

The 2019 law makes no mention of the need for a statewide rate.

NV Energy argues it's providing a statewide benefit via its preparedness efforts, but admitted a **disaster in the north would have no measurable effect on local economies elsewhere**. SO WHY ARE THEY REPEATING THAT IT WILL IMPACT ECONOMIES?

Recovery of 37.2 mill from last year, 84.7% or 35.4 mill were related to OMAG. 88% of 35.4 mill were for the north, resulting in \$1.45 increase to the north! They can afford it.



JOE LOMBARDO
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

HAYLEY WILLIAMSON
Chair

TAMMY CORDOVA
Commissioner

STEPHANIE MULLEN
Executive Director

August 21, 2023

VIA EMAIL

Tony Simmons
PO Box 571300
Las Vegas NV, 89157
7025925687
X@TonyPSimmonsPE.com

Re: Records Request

Dear Mr. Simmons:

Chapter 239 of the Nevada Revised Statutes ("NRS"), specifically NRS 239.0107(1), requires a governmental entity to respond to public records requests within five business days. Accordingly, the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada ("Commission") responds to your August 14, 2023, request for "... an electronic copy of the Commission's employee training manual on NRS Chapters 703 and NRS 704."

Please be advised that the Commission was unable to locate any records directly responsive to your request. However, if you seek more information regarding Commission proceedings, the Commission provides such materials on its website at the following links:

https://puc.nv.gov/Consumers/Be_Informed/PUCN_Fact_Sheets/

<https://puc.nv.gov/Utilities/Electric/>

https://puc.nv.gov/Utilities/Natural_Gas/

<https://puc.nv.gov/Utilities/Telecommunications/>

<https://puc.nv.gov/Utilities/Water/>

<https://puc.nv.gov/Utilities/MHP/>

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Haggarty".

Daniel Haggarty
Assistant General Counsel
Public Utilities Commission of Nevada

3 Min Copy

Docket # NO-06002

Hello, Commissioners. My name is Pastor Marlon Anderson and I am the Clean Energy Community Organizer for Faith Organizing Alliance, where our mission is to increase civic participation through faith-based and civic organizations within the Las Vegas Valley to advance a community and government that is more caring, just, and equitable.

As an NV Energy and Southwest Gas customer and a member of the Las Vegas community, I am highly disappointed with skyrocketing energy bills. We went from soaring winter Southwest Gas bills to shocking summer NV Energy bills. The utilities tell us that this happened because the price of methane gas spiked over the last year. They also tell us that they make no profit off this gas, but that they do pass 100% of the cost onto us, the customers, like this is supposed to make us feel better.

But, I want the utilities to tell us what they will do about it. If the cost of gas is to blame for families having less money for necessities like food, child care, medication prescriptions, household savings, and more — what will they do so that they are less dependent on gas?

You and the utilities have known for a long time that gas prices can spike easily because they are subject to world events. So, I'm here to urge all of you to provide real rate relief, to invest in more local clean energy that will stabilize energy prices, and to stop expanding the gas systems that led to this year's devastating utility bills.

I have solar panels on my house and benefit from lower, more stable electricity bills than many of my friends, neighbors, and community members.

Commissioners, please do more to help others benefit from clean energy as I do, especially renters and those with high energy burdens. Clean energy, energy

efficiency, and weatherization programs will help stabilize electricity bills while making our homes more comfortable.

"I've spoken with a few more community members these past few days and they told me they got their bill and it was \$500 and another person \$800. Ladies and gentlemen, I have a rhetorical question. How are people suppose to budget for these types of blind siding expenses? What if their budgets just can't afford it? What should they do? Just go in debt? Decide to live on the street? Please take our voices serious. Thank you for listening today.

Thank you for this opportunity to speak today. God bless.

Pastor Marlon Anderson

A stylized, handwritten signature in blue ink, likely belonging to Pastor Marlon Anderson, consisting of several fluid, connected strokes.

August 30, 2023 Clark County Annual Consumer Session, Angel De Fazio, BSAT, BCNHP

1:00 pm

IS NVE OUT OF THEIR FRIGGING MINDS? ACCORDING TO VOLUME 1 OF 5TH AMENDMENT TO IRP pg 239! FILING A GRC EVERY YEAR UNTIL 2028 THEN ITS A JOINT ONE!

SCREW THIS GREEN LINK BS, WE CAN'T AFFORD A GRC POTENTIAL RATE INCREASE EVERY YEAR!

Major financial modeling assumptions for NP & SP. SP next GRC effective 1/1/25, NP GRC is 1/1/24, with inflation rate over forecasted horizon 2.3%. NP has roe of 9.4%, SP 9.5%

Greenlink is going to provide a link to transfer the Green in Nevadan's wallets to the coffers of BH. NP and SP by filing annual GRC to get the Greenlink plant-in-service into rate base ASAP, so BH is enriched by unnecessary transmission investments mandated by SB 448, written by NVE, given to Chris Brooks to whore it out. Brooks final screw to ratepayers

As of June of 2023, we had the 13th highest residential rates according to the U.S. Energy Info Admin Electric Power Monthly for August 2023. Nevadans can't afford 17.24 cents per kWh electricity.

Now, the power shift bs, running ads with Dougie boy dressed in his baby blue chambourg shirt, trying to subliminally conveying he is one of the blue collars and understands their concerns over energy. Failed ad, no one is buying into this marketing 101 scheme. Stop bloviating, either put your 9.5 mill profit towards the 373 mill NDPP debt or shut up

In the Sphere filing forcing NP customers to shoulder 60% NO WAY Sanchez touted NVE's renewable portfolio standard is on target to 50% by 2030. BALANCED OUTCOME in what alternative dimension?

You have the whacked out dems/greenies, billionaires and zombie president who think we need to block out the sun.

Do these pseudo-scientists realize that if you block out the sun, ergo, solar panels won't work, so where is the power going to come from, once your battery storage is depleted? IDIOTS

6:00 pm

In 2002, there was a Clark County advisory question 14, regarding authority for a locally controlled not for profit electric company

We need to SERIOUSLY revisit this, NVE is out of control and puke is not ruling with concern for southern Nevada

In 2002, customers experienced rate increases of more than 500 million from August 2000 to 2002. That's chump change compared to current increases

299,574 voted with 172,012 yes votes 57.42%, if revisited, I would suspect at least 85% approval with a 95% CI

Hayley should have recused herself on the NDPP, she PREVARICATED claiming she could be unbiased. YEAH RIGHT, ESPECIALLY SINCE SHE IS VICE CHAIR OF THE TAHOE RPA, CONFLICT OF INTEREST Puke is top heavy with northerners who skew things to their benefit.

Sam Crano proved himself to be a spineless, cryptorchidism commissioner. Too chicken to upset Hayley and Tammy, so he comes up with the most asinine, ass kissing recommendation. Pay for the next 3 years, rather than making sure charges are valid before ruling. ANOTHER RUBBER STAMPING to appease NVE And to think I endorsed him for utility hearing officer, major mea culpa

I want it on the record, NVE is now trying to suppress my ability to comment on their dockets and I will not be SILENCED and forced to give up my right to comment. CAPISE DOUGIE et al?! Welcome to the disproving of Newton's third law of motion.

In closing: The 2019 law makes no mention of the need for a statewide rate. NVE argues it's providing a statewide benefit via its preparedness efforts, but admitted a disaster in the north would have no measurable effect on local economies elsewhere. **SO PUC/NVE STOP SAYING A DISASTER UP NORTH WILL IMPACT SOUTHERN! IT WON'T!**

August 30, 2023 Clark County Annual Consumer Session, Angel De Fazio, BSAT, BCNHP

Additional comments to be appended to transcript for the Legislature.:

Those who appear here at the PUC have to be respectful etc., trust me, a lot of Oscars and Emmys should be awarded, to those who are parties to dockets. I on the other hand, don't give a damn, I'm saying what I see and what is being done to the ratepayers with no sugar coating.

Hayley Williamson upon hearing that Sam Crano had a modification, asked if it had been made public, he acknowledged that it hadn't. She called for it to be posted, made public and called for a recess until completed.

Here is where I feel Williamson violated the OML. Williamson allowed public comment prior to the start of the meeting. When the new filing was introduced and there were people in the audience who commented, with this new informational filing, Williamson, should have called for another comment period. As the information contained in the new filing could have impacted the prior comments. Why call for a break for the public to read the filing, if you basically have a gag on further comment/s until the closing comment opportunity period? Is this the intended spirit of the OML? Half-ass application of OML is not acceptable, especially with a contested docket of this magnitude.

Your ongoing overt, concerted, mendacious suppression of public comment afforded under the OML IS NOT ACCEPTABLE!

Refusing to allow corporate entities to speak has a chilling effect upon the so called spirit of participation.

Today's Consumer Session, has no telephonic appearances, no broadcasting and only three minutes. Your DETERMINATION to control public opinion that could impact the impression you want to portray as being fair, open, willing to interact with the public, etc. When with specific dockets, the above are SOP, and irrefutable.

Your erratic allowance of public participation is bordering on suppression. .

You just voted for 'socialized' contributions to the NDPP, but, you refuse to allow both areas to hear what other ratepayers have to say during certain consumer sessions.

Washoe's Annual Consumer Session uses the County Commission Chambers and they personally told me that they have telephonic appearances and video conferencing, which PUC refuses to utilize.

August 30, 2023 Clark County Annual Consumer Session, Angel De Fazio, BSAT, BCNHP Continued

Both Vegas and Carson City have the ability for telephonic appearances, but, restrict them, according to their whim, participants yes, ratepayers-when their urge strikes.

Telling the public they can file a comment is ostracizing the elderly, infirmed, those who are out of town etc., who want to be physically heard, not appearing as pixels on a screen. They have every right to have their voices heard not tacked on to some Docket, or appended to some minutes summary.

Here is an analysis for a years worth of consumer sessions and how it's being selectively chilling and restrictive.

DATE OF MEETING	TIME	DOCKET #	UTILITY	PHONE ACCESS	MINUTES FOR COMMENT	VIDEO CONFERENCE/ INTERNET VIEWING	GENERAL CONSUMER SESSION	CASE SPECIFIC SESSION
6/13/2022	6:00 PM	22-03001-3	NVE	YES	5 MINUTES	YES		X
8/15/2022	1 & 6 PM	22-06001		NO	3 MINUTES	WASHOE/RENO	X	
8/24/2022	6:00 PM	22-06011	PHONE	YES	5 MINUTES	LIVE STREAM		X
8/25/2022	6:00 PM	22-06003		NO	3 MINUTES	ELKO	X	
9/13/2022	6:00 PM	22-06014-6	SP	NO	5 MINUTES	LIVE STREAM		X
9/20/2022	1 & 6 PM	22-06002		NO	3 MINUTES	CLARK/NO LIVE	X	
2/21/2023	6:00 PM	22-11017	SWG	YES	5 MINUTES	VIDEO & LIVE STREAM		X
6/20/2023	6:00 PM	23-03005-7	NVE/SP	YES	5 MINUTES	VIDEO & LIVE STREAM		X
7/11/2023	6:00 PM	23-03004	NVE/SP	NO	5 MINUTES	VIDEO & LIVE STREAM		X
8/23/2023	1 & 6 PM	23-06001		NO	3 MINUTES	RENO NO VIDEO	X	
8/30/2023	1 & 6 PM	23-06002		NO	3 MINUTES	CLARK NO VIDEO	X	
9/19/2023	6:00 PM	23-06003		NO	3 MINUTES	ELKO	X	

Williamson is not qualified to be commissioner, her buddy Jessica Diss got her boss Sisolac or Michelle White to get her on the dais.

This ongoing attitude of 'go along get along' is not in the public interest. This, one lies and the other swears to it, is not acceptable.

Too many people are afraid to be HONEST when generating work product.

It has been disclosed that during the smart meter docket, a certain 'supervisor' wanted the 'finding' to be revised to reflect the company's position and not be supportive of what the ratepayers were presenting.

Then you have Danny Haggarty response to public requests, providing half ass responses is not acceptable. When confronted that the information was not fully provided his response is to stick his head back in the sand and won't provide the balance of the request.

COMMISSIONERS SHOULD BE ELECTED NOT APPOINTED.

Honorable members of the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada

- My name is Laura Pulido Acosta, promoter for **Chispa Nevada**, and I am here today representing many families in our community who are facing overwhelming financial hardship. As a parent with several [family] members who depend on me, I want to express our deep concern regarding the possible further increases in the rates for the electricity provided by Nevada Energy.
- We live in times when economic challenges have become more burdensome. Despite working hard and in a dedicated manner, our wages are no longer sufficient to cover the basic expenses necessary to support our families. The growing gap between our income and current living expenses is a real and pressing problem affecting many families in our community.
- Constant inflation has added additional financial pressure to our lives. Prices for housing, food and essential services have increased significantly, and this situation has left us struggling to find a balance between our wages and daily expenses. It is no exaggeration to say that many families are living on the edge, trying to stay afloat in the midst of these challenging circumstances.
- On behalf of our community, I urge this Commission to consider the difficulties working families face before making decisions that will have a direct impact on our lives. Authorizing further increases in electricity rates will become one more obstacle on our path to financial stability.
- The PUCN must continue to be a voice for consumers and pressure NV Energy not only to pause during the summer, but to continue to pause rates in the fall and look for ways to reduce energy bills.

Thank you.

Laura Pulido Acosta

Comments of Tony P. Simmons, PE

Submitted to the August 30, 2023, 6PM consumer session of the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (PUCN) Docket No. 23-06002

1. Letter from Tony P Simmons to the March 30 , 20023 meeting of the Assembly Committee on Growth and Infrastructure
2. Letter of Intent dated August 4, 2023, from Tony P. Simmons to the Nevada Legislature Commission
3. Public Records Request to the Nevada Office of the Attorney General Dated August 14,2023
4. Office of the Attorney General's acknowledgement dated August 30,0203 to the Public Records request submitted on August 14,2023
5. Public Records Request dated 14 submitted to the Office of Governor.
6. The Office of the Governors Response the Public Records Request dated August 14, 2023
7. PUCN Response to Data Public Records Requested dated August 14, 2023.
8. Lists of relevant legislation, PUCN proceedings and court order.

Conditional Support for Assembly Bill 315 (SB 315)
Submitted to the March 30, 2023
Meeting of the Assembly Committee on Growth and Infrastructure
by Tony P. Simmons, PE

Legislators:

I am a professional electrical engineer (electrical PE) with expertise in the design of electrical systems, cost-benefit analysis, and utility rate design. Since 1997, I have been authorized by the State of Nevada to design electrical power and communication systems when the National Electric Code (NEC) is not applicable. More importantly, I understand the importance of diversified and reliable sources of electricity to the welfare of my infirmed elderly sister, her six minor grandchildren, and other Nevadans.

Most importantly, I am not constrained by the prohibitions against bills of attainder, ex post facto laws, and laws that impair the obligations of contracts that are enshrined in Article 1 Section 15 of the Nevada Constitution. I can say what the Legislature cannot enact.

2013 Assembly Bill 428 created the Legislative Committee on Energy to provide a forum for a citizen unconstrained by the prohibition against bills of attainder to explain a statement made by Duane Nelson to the Nevada Assembly Select Committee on Energy on April 10, 2001.

Mr. Nelson, an executive for Sierra Pacific Power Company (SPPC), revealed that the customer-owned distributed generation (DG) experiment—known as “net metering”—had failed. Specifically, he acknowledged that he had never performed the requisite cost-benefit analysis of net metering systems, and that SPPC was not charging DG customers for the cost of providing voltage-control service.

Four years earlier, in 1997, at the inception of net metering, the cost of voltage control service accounted for 83% of an SPPC residential customer’s annual bill. Based on the record of 1997 Senate Bill 255 (SB 255), an optimally sized net metering system could only reduce residential customers’ electric bills by 17%. The simple payback period for a photovoltaic (PV) system was 234 years. DG was a novelty for the affluent.

2005 AB 236 affirmed that 1997 SB 255 expressed aspirational, unrealistic goals. 2015 SB 374 reaffirmed that 1997 SB 255 expressed aspirational, unrealistic goals.

Providing an expensive service at a greatly reduced charge was unsustainable. Furthermore, it corrupted the DG experiment, and patently violated the plain language intent of the federal Public Utilities Regulatory Policy Act of 1978 (PURPA) and the just and reasonable requirements of Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 704.040.

August 4, 2023

Jordan Haas, Commission Secretary
Nevada Legislative Commission
Nevada State Legislature Building
401 S. Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701

RE: Notice of intent to submit recommendations for revising NRS Chapters 228, 625, 701, 703, and 704, and a recommendation to investigate the training protocol regarding these chapters for employees of the State of Nevada who participate in Public Utilities Commission (PUCN) regulatory proceedings or advise the Governor on energy policy.

Dear Commission Secretary Haas:

NRS 218E.175 §2(b)(2) states: "In addition to the powers conferred and duties imposed by this title or any law or resolution, the Legislative Commission, in order to carry out its general objectives and functions:

- (b) May receive recommendations and suggestions for legislation or investigation from
(2) Individual citizens."

Pursuant to this statute, I will submit two recommendations to the Legislative Commission by October 15, 2023. The first recommendation proposes revising Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapters 228, 625, 701, 703, and 704 to strengthen the engineering rigor (attention to detail) of the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (PUCN) regulatory processes and of the Governor's Office of Energy.

The second recommendation proposes an investigation of the training protocols for employees of the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (PUCN), the Bureau of Consumer Protection (BCP), the Office of the Governor, and the Governor's Office of Energy regarding the NRS chapters cited above.

The proposed legislation and investigation are within the purview of the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Growth and Infrastructure, as specified by NRS 218E.815 §1(a)(4) and NRS 218E.815 §1(b).

Please include this letter in the record of the August 9, 2023, meeting of the Legislative Commission.

Respectfully,



Tony P. Simmons, PE

4/11



**OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST FORM**

Please note that this form is intended for a request for records held by the Office of the Nevada Attorney General. Requests for records of Nevada state agencies must be submitted directly to the records officer for that state agency.

Date of Request	August 14, 2023
Requestor Contact Information	
Name:	Tony P Simmons
Organization:	None
Address:	PO Box 571300
City, State, Zip:	Las Vegas, NV 891057
Phone:	702 592 5687
E-mail:	TonySimmons@runbox.com

Records Requested:
Records held by the Office of the Nevada Attorney General: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Check one: <input type="checkbox"/> Paper copies <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electronic copies <input type="checkbox"/> Certified copies <input type="checkbox"/> Inspection (in person)
<i>Please be specific and include as much detail as possible regarding the records you are requesting</i>
Please send the training materials regarding NRS Chapters 703 and 704 for employees of the Bureau of Consumer Protection.

<i>To complete an estimate, the agency will need the following information:</i>			
<input type="checkbox"/> I will pick up	<input type="checkbox"/> Please FedEx Fed Ex billing number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Please send USPS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E-mail (if format allows)

Statement	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I understand there is a charge for copies of public records. I understand I will receive a written estimate for production of the records indicated above if the estimated cost is expected to be over \$25.00, which I will be required to pay in full prior to inspection or reproduction. Materials will be held for 30 days.	
Requester Signature	<u>Tony P. Simmons</u> Signature

Request status:		Office Use Only	
Date		Estimate:	
_____	Request received	Estimate: \$ _____	
_____	Receipt acknowledgement issued	Date deposit received _____	
_____	Request filled	Actual (if different): \$ _____	
_____	Estimated completion	Date final payment received _____	
_____	Estimate provided	Completed by _____	
_____	Request denied in whole		
_____	Other:		

*Retain request form for 90 days following completing of request.
RDA 2009047*

Office of the Attorney General
100 North Carson Street – Carson City, Nevada 89701 - Facsimile: 775-684-1108
555 East Washington Avenue – Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 - Facsimile:
702-486-3768 Attention: Shannon Johnson, Public Records Coordinator

5/11

AARON D. FORD
Attorney General

CRAIG A. NEWBY
First Assistant Attorney General

CHRISTINE JONES BRADY
Second Assistant Attorney General



STATE OF NEVADA
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
555 E. Washington Ave., Suite 3900
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

TERESA BENITEZ-
THOMPSON
Chief of Staff

LESLIE NINO PIRO
General Counsel

HEIDI PARRY STERN
Solicitor General

August 17, 2023

Via Electronic Mail: TonySimmons@runbox.com

Tony P. Simmons
PO Box 571300
Las Vegas NV 891057

Re: Public Records Request, received August 14, 2023

Dear Tony P. Simmons:

Thank you for contacting the Office of the Attorney General ("OAG") on August 14, 2023, to submit a public records request. This request seeks the following specific records:

"Please send the training materials regarding NRS Chapters 703 and 704 for employees of the Bureau of Consumer Protection."

The OAG is conducting a search and review of records in our custody to determine if any responsive records exist. The OAG is unable to complete this process and provide any responsive records within five business days.¹ The OAG anticipates responding to this request by September 22, 2023.

¹ NRS 239.0107(1)(c)(1) (any governmental entity unable to make a record available within five business days must provide the requester with written notice and include the "earliest date and time after which the governmental entity reasonably believes the public book or record will be available").

6 / 11

Simmons
Page 2
August 17, 2023

We appreciate your patience with this request. Once again, thank you for contacting the Office of the Attorney General.

Sincerely,

AARON D. FORD
Attorney General

By: Public Records Official

7/11

Since that revelation 22 years ago, the Nevada Legislature has overwhelmingly passed twelve bills—2001 AB 661, 2003 AB 429, 2005 AB 236, 2007 AB 178, 2007 SB 437, 2009 AB 510, 2011, SB 59, 2013 AB 428, 2015 SB 374, 2017 AB 405, 2019 AB 465, and 2019 SB 300—to *discreetly* induce or *discreetly* direct SPPC, Nevada Power Company (NPC) and the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (PUCN) to perform the requisite cost-benefit study of DG, and to develop a sustainable rate design for DG customers. Each of these bills was constrained by the prohibition against bills of attainder. Every bill failed during implementation.

To augment the twelve legislative efforts, I filed two complaints with the PUCN that openly alleged that NPC's and SPPC's rate design for DG customers violated state law. The complaints were designated as PUCN Docket No. 22-04027 and PUCN Case No. 55-2216-KN. Like the twelve legislative efforts, my efforts failed to lead to a just and reasonable rate design.

Until the reasons that the fourteen efforts have failed are understood and mitigated, it is irresponsible to consider new legislation, including AB 315 and AB 425, regarding DG.

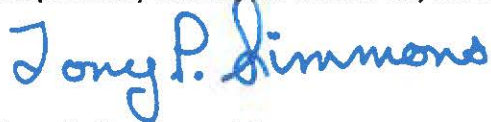
Therefore, I recommend that the Assembly and Senate Committees on Growth and infrastructure investigate why the bills, the docket, and the case listed in this letter failed before considering any legislation regarding DG.

Now repealed NRS 704.777 and Sections 21 of 2019 SB 300 provide compelling evidence that the attorneys employed by the Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB) believe that the rate design for DG customers remains unjust and unreasonable after 2017 AB 405 was implemented.

I conditionally support both bills once DG customers are charged a just and reasonable rate for the cost of voltage control service.

At your service.

Respectfully submitted March 29, 2013



Tony P. Simmons, PE
PO Box 571300
Las Vegas, NV 89157-1300
(702) 592-5687
TonySimmons@Runbox.com



STATE OF NEVADA, GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

Public Records Request

Deliver, Mail, or Email to:

State Capitol Building, 101 N. Carson Street, Carson City, NV 899701

Fax: (775) 684-5670

Email: GovPublicRecords@gov.nv.gov

Date of Request August 14, 2023

Requestor Contact Information

Name:	Tony P. Simmons
Organization:	None
Address:	PO Box 571300
City, State, Zip:	Las Vegas, NV 89157
Phone:	(702) 592-5687
E-mail:	X@TonyPSimmonsPE.Com

Records Requested:

Check one: <input type="checkbox"/> Paper copies <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electronic copies <input type="checkbox"/> Certified copies <input type="checkbox"/> Inspection (in person)
Please be specific and include as much detail as possible regarding the records you are requesting.
Please provide of an electronic copy of the training manual for employees of Governor's Office regarding Nevada Revised Statutes Chapters 703 and 704.

To complete an estimate, the agency will need the following information:

<input type="checkbox"/> I will pick up	<input type="checkbox"/> Please FedEx Fed Ex billing number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Please send USPS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E-mail (if format allows)
---	---	---	---

Statement

☒ I understand there is a charge for copies of public records. I understand I will receive a written estimate for production of the records indicated above if the estimated cost is expected to be over \$25.00, which I will be required to pay in full prior to inspection or reproduction. Materials will be held for 30 days.

Requester Signature: Tony P. Simmons
Signature

Office Use Only

Request Status

_____ Date	Estimate: \$ _____
_____ Request received	Date deposit received: _____
_____ Receipt acknowledgement issues	Actual (if different): \$ _____
_____ Request filled	Date final payment received: _____
_____ Estimated completion	Completed by: _____
_____ Estimate provided	
_____ Request denied in whole	
_____ Other	

Retain request form for three (3) calendar years from the end of the calendar year in which the response was completed according to RDS 2015013.

8/11

RE: Public Record Request



Gov Public Records <GovPublicRecords@gov.nv.gov>
To: 'tonysimmons@runbox.com'



Reply

Reply All

Forward



Wed 8/30/2023 11:29 AM

Good Morning, Mr. Simmons,

After reviewing our records, our office does not have such a training manual. The Public Utilities Commission itself may have such a training document, but it is not housed within our office.

Thank you for your request,
Dylan

From: tonysimmons@runbox.com <tonysimmons@runbox.com>

Sent: Monday, August 14, 2023 10:41 AM

To: Gov Public Records <GovPublicRecords@gov.nv.gov>

Subject: Public Record Request

WARNING - This email originated from outside the State of Nevada. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Tony P Simmons

TonySimmons@RUNBOX.COM

(702) 592-5687

9/11



JOE LOMBARDO
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

HAYLEY WILLIAMSON
Chair

TAMMY CORDOVA
Commissioner

STEPHANIE MULLEN
Executive Director

August 21, 2023

VIA EMAIL

Tony Simmons
PO Box 571300
Las Vegas NV, 89157
7025925687
X@TonyPSimmonsPE.com

Re: Records Request

Dear Mr. Simmons:

Chapter 239 of the Nevada Revised Statutes ("NRS"), specifically NRS 239.0107(1), requires a governmental entity to respond to public records requests within five business days. Accordingly, the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada ("Commission") responds to your August 14, 2023, request for "... an electronic copy of the Commission's employee training manual on NRS Chapters 703 and NRS 704."

Please be advised that the Commission was unable to locate any records directly responsive to your request. However, if you seek more information regarding Commission proceedings, the Commission provides such materials on its website at the following links:

https://puc.nv.gov/Consumers/Be_Informed/PUCN_Fact_Sheets/

<https://puc.nv.gov/Utilities/Electric/>

https://puc.nv.gov/Utilities/Natural_Gas/

<https://puc.nv.gov/Utilities/Telecommunications/>

<https://puc.nv.gov/Utilities/Water/>

<https://puc.nv.gov/Utilities/MHP/>

Sincerely,

Daniel Haggarty
Assistant General Counsel
Public Utilities Commission of Nevada

16/11

CONTEXT	2015 SB 374
02-5044	15-07041
09-06029	15-07042
METER SAFETY AND ACCURACY	Sept 12, 2016, in Case No. 16 OC 00052 1B in the First Judicial Court of the State of Nevada in and for Carson City
10-02009	16-07028
07-07023	16-07029
14-09015 SEAN WHALEY LAS VEGAS	2017 BDR 58-168
REVIEW-JOURNAL CAPITAL BUREAU	2017 AB 405
NET METERING	17-07026.
1997 SB 255	2019 AB 265
1997 97-8045	2019 SB 300
1997 97-100003	19-06008
2001 AB 661	2021 SB 448
2003 AB 429	22-04027
2003 AB 431	Case 55-2216-KN
2005 AB 236	22-08004
2005 05-10018	
2008 05-10019	
2007 AB 178	
2007 SB 437	
07-06024	
09-03010	1997 SB 255, 2001 AB 661, 2003 AB 429, 2005 AB 236, 2007 AB 178, 2007 SB 437, 2009 AB 510, 2011, SB 59, 2013 AB 428, 2015 SB 374, 2017 AB 405, 2019 AB 465, 2019 SB 300, and 2021 SB 488
09-03011	
2009 AB 510	
2009 AB 522	
2011 SB 59	
12-02013 order issued as temporary	
02/13/2015	
2013 AB 428	Correct dockets 2023 03 034
13-07010	
14-03026	
14-06009	

11/11

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

Public Utilities Commission of Nevada-sponsored)	
Consumer Session to be held in Clark County, Nevada,)	Docket No. 23-06002
pursuant to NRS 704.069(2).)	
_____)	

NOTICE OF CONSUMER SESSION

Pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes (“NRS”) 704.069(2), the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (“Commission”) is required to hold at least one general consumer session in the county with the largest population within the state of Nevada each calendar year. Clark County is currently the county with the largest population within the state of Nevada. The Commission has designated this matter as Docket No. 23-06002.

Pursuant to NRS 704.069(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Commission has scheduled CONSUMER SESSIONS for this Docket to be held as follows:

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2023
1:00 p.m.
Hearing Room A
Public Utilities Commission of Nevada
9075 West Diablo Drive, Suite 250
Las Vegas, Nevada 89148

and

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2023
6:00 p.m.
Hearing Room A
Public Utilities Commission of Nevada
9075 West Diablo Drive, Suite 250
Las Vegas, Nevada 89148

Interested persons may appear and be heard on any topic concerning a public utility regulated by the Commission. Public comments may be limited to three (3) minutes per speaker at the discretion of the Commission. If within fifteen (15) minutes after the start of the Consumer Session, no member of the public has appeared to participate or comment, the

Consumer Session may be adjourned. To accommodate individuals who enter the meeting chambers who are sensitive to fragrance and chemical products, please use the following sparingly or not at all: perfumes, colognes, perfumed body lotions, aftershave, hair products, etc.

Interested persons may also file comments electronically through the Electronic Filing System on the Commission's website or at either of the Commission's offices on or before WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2023.

This Notice is available for public viewing on the Commission's website: <https://puc.nv.gov>; and at the Commission's offices: 1150 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada 89701 and 9075 West Diablo Drive, Suite 250, Las Vegas, Nevada 89148.

By the Commission,

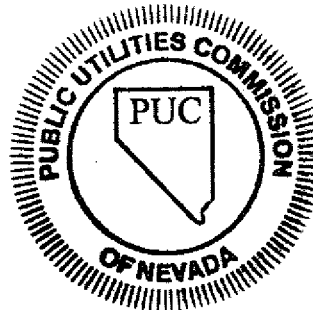


TRISHA OSBORNE,
Assistant Commission Secretary

Dated: Carson City, Nevada

6/1/23

(SEAL)



-
-
-

23-06002

Public Utilities Commission of Nevada
Electronic Filing

Submitted: 9/2/2023 12:00:29 PM

Reference: 26943cbd-a18a-40e3-8c0c-508028116e61

Payment Reference: e3-8c0c-508028116e61

Filed For: Silver State Court Reporters

In accordance with NRS Chapter 719,
this filing has been electronically signed and filed
by: /s Rick Stefani

By electronically filing the document(s),
the filer attests to the authenticity of the electronic signature(s) contained therein.

This filing has been electronically filed and deemed to be signed by an authorized
agent or
representative of the signer(s) and
Silver State Court Reporters

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

-oOo-

Public Utilities Commission
of Nevada-sponsord Consumer
Session to be held in
Clark County, Nevada,
pursuant to NRS 704.069(2).

DOCKET NO. 23-06002

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

CONSUMER SESSION

1:01 p.m., Wednesday
August 30, 2023

Office of the Public Utilities Commission
1150 East William Street
Hearing Room A
Carson City, Nevada

VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE TO:

Public Utilities Commission
9075 West Diablo Drive
Suite 250
Hearing Room A
Las Vegas, Nevada

Reported by:

DEBRA J. BARTGIS, CCR #56
FIRM #002F

SILVER STATE COURT REPORTERS, LLC (775) 329-6323

APPEARANCES:

Commissioner Present: TAMMY CORDOVA
Commissioner and
Presiding Officer

Commissioner's YUSUF PARRAY
Administrative Attorney:

For PUCN Regulatory GEORGINA DALEY
Operations Staff: Assistant Staff Counsel
9075 West Diablo Drive
Suite 250
Las Vegas, Nevada 89148

For Office of Attorney MICHAEL SAUNDERS
General Bureau of Sr. Deputy Attorney General
Consumer Protection: 8945 West Russell Road
Suite 204
Las Vegas, Nevada 89148

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1 LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
2 WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2023
3 1:01 P.M.

4 -oOo-

5 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Good afternoon.
6 This consumer session will come to
7 order.

8 The record will reflect that this is
9 the time and place set before the Public Utilities
10 Commission of Nevada for a Commission-sponsored
11 Consumer Session to be held in Clark County, Nevada
12 pursuant to NRS 704.069 Sub (2).

13 This matter has been designated by the
14 Commission as Docket No. 23-06002.

15 Appearing for the Commission today are
16 myself, Tammy Cordova, Commissioner, as well
17 members of the Commission's Regulatory Operations
18 Staff, and the Bureau of Consumer Protection.

19 I'm going to let each of them introduce
20 themselves, and give a short blurb about their role
21 in Commission proceedings.

22 But before I do that, are there any
23 other persons, besides those of you who are here
24 for public comment, that wanted to make their
25 presence known to the Commission?

1 (No Response)

2 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Let the
3 record reflect that no other persons have come
4 forward.

5 The record will also reflect that on
6 June 1st, 2023 the Commission published, on the
7 Internet Website of the Commission, and as
8 otherwise provided by NAC 703.160, the notice
9 of this hearing for this time and place.

10 Is there anyone present who has any
11 questions about the noticing for this consumer
12 session?

13 (No Response)

14 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. Hearing
15 none, the Commission deems that this matter has
16 been duly and properly noticed for a hearing at
17 this time and place.

18 As I indicated, the purpose of the
19 Consumer Session is to receive comments from the
20 general public.

21 I am Tammy Cordova. I'm a
22 Commissioner.

23 I'm going to let Miss Daley introduce
24 herself. She's a member of our Regulatory
25 Operations Staff.

1 INTRODUCTION AND COMMENTS

2 MS. DALEY: Hi. I'm Georgina Daley.
3 I am an Assistant Staff Counsel with the Regulatory
4 Operations Staff of the Public Utilities
5 Commission.

6 Staff is an independent investigative
7 arm of the Commission, so we are separate from the
8 Commissioners. We have engineers, economists,
9 financial analysts, and attorneys who all
10 participate in investigations in dockets filed
11 with the Commission.

12 Staff is a party in all dockets. We
13 conduct our own evaluation of the information filed
14 by the utility and the other participants, and then
15 we file our own recommendations with the Commission
16 and participate in any hearings.

17 Staff's primary goal in all dockets is
18 to balance your, the ratepayers' interests, with
19 the utility's interests. We recommend what we
20 believe is in the public interest, which is to
21 ensure a utility is providing safe and reliable
22 service at a reasonable cost.

23 Additionally, we have the Consumer
24 Complaint Resolution Division, who can assist you
25 with any issues you have regarding your utility

1 services.

2 We have representatives here today,
3 one of them is Miss Lisa Scott, and we have a
4 couple others also available.

5 And we have other members of Staff who
6 are also listening, because we find these consumer
7 sessions to be very instructive. Thank you.

8 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you,
9 Miss Daley.

10 And then immediately to my right is
11 Mr. Parray. He is my Administrative Attorney.

12 And then we have Mr. Saunders, if you
13 want to introduce yourself.

14 INTRODUCTION AND COMMENTS

15 MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you, Commissioner.

16 My name is Michael Saunders. I am a
17 Senior Deputy Attorney General with the Nevada
18 Attorney General's Bureau of Consumer Protection.

19 And what the role of the Bureau of the
20 Consumer Protection, or otherwise known as the BCP,
21 is to advocate the voice of consumers, to advocate
22 for the collective interests of utility ratepayers
23 in the State.

24 And the way in which we do that is
25 through a dedicated team of financial analysts,

1 utility analysts, economists, engineers, as well as
2 other lawyers such as myself. And what we do is we
3 present recommendations for the Commission's
4 consideration. And our basic mission is reliable
5 utility service at the lowest reasonable cost.

6 And today we are here to hear from you
7 your concerns with respect to general issues and
8 concerns pertaining to utility service in this
9 State.

10 And with that, I have nothing further.

11 Thank you.

12 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you,
13 Mr. Saunders.

14 GENERAL COMMENTS

15 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: So the way that
16 we do this is there are some note cards that were
17 available outside for people who want to make
18 public comment, if you're interested in making
19 comment please fill out one of these cards out
20 in there in the lobby, and I will call them
21 one-by-one.

22 We do have a Court Reporter in
23 Carson City who takes a transcript of what everyone
24 says. That way other Commissioners and the
25 Legislature can be provided with the transcript, so

1 they can view the concerns that were raised.

2 If at some point you decide you don't
3 want to comment, or at some point you decide you
4 do, you can, you know, go fill out a card or let
5 me know when I call your name.

6 In respect to the fact that this is
7 a -- you can comment on anything that's
8 jurisdictional to the Commission, we do limit you
9 to three minutes per speaker so that we can keep
10 it moving along, and we will be kind of keeping
11 track of time trying to keep us on task.

12 If there are specific issues that
13 individuals have that warrant a bigger conversation
14 than you can just give to me in three minutes,
15 as was indicated there's lots of other
16 representatives, and so what I may say to you is,
17 you know what, your time is up, but there are other
18 people, so we can continue this conversation. I
19 know in particular some people may have specific
20 issues with their bills, or a way in which a
21 utility is billing them, or something of that sort.
22 It's possible for us to have an off-to-the-side
23 conversation and see if we can get those issues
24 addressed, because there are representatives here
25 from the utilities that we regulate.

1 The only note I would make is that in
2 Las Vegas we do not regulate the Southern Nevada
3 Water Authority. That's a municipal. And so if
4 you're here with issues about the Las Vegas Valley
5 Water District, or your water service in Las Vegas,
6 they are not jurisdictional to us. But Southwest
7 Gas is, NVEnergy is, and several other, other
8 utilities.

9 So what I'm going to do is go ahead
10 and open it up. When I call your name, if you
11 could just come up to this chair that's right here.
12 The microphones make it possible for everybody to
13 hear you, and the microphones are on. So you don't
14 have to do anything to them; just pull them up nice
15 and close, and then we can get going.

16 And the first name that I have is
17 Miss DeFazio.

18 ANGEL DeFAZIO

19 A public commenter

20 Commented as follows:

21 MS. DeFAZIO: Good morning, Chair.

22 Angel DeFazio, D-e-F-a-z-i-o.

23 Is NVE out of their friggin minds?

24 According to Volume 1 of the Fifth Amendment to the
25 IRP, page 239, filing a GRC every year until 2028;

1 then it's a joint one. Screw this Greenlink B.S.
2 we can't afford a GRC potential rate increase every
3 year.

4 Major financial monitoring assumptions
5 for NP and SP. SP next GRC effective 1/1/25; NP
6 GRC, 1/1/24. With inflation rates over forecasted
7 horizon 2.3, NP has an ROE of 9.4, SP 9.5.
8 Greenlink is going to provide a link to transfer
9 the green in Nevada's wallets to the coffers of BH,
10 NP and SP by filing an annual GRC to get the
11 Greenlink plant in service into rate base ASAP,
12 so BP is enriched by unnecessary transmission
13 investments mandated by SB 448, written by NVE,
14 given to Chris Brooks to forward out. Brooks'
15 final screw to the ratepayers. As of June the
16 2023, we had 17.24 cents per kW.

17 Now the PowerShift, running ads with
18 Doug Cannon dressed in his baby blue Somberg shirt,
19 trying to subliminally convey he is one of the blue
20 collars and understands their concerns over
21 NVEnergy. Failed ads. No one is buying into this
22 marketing 101 sting.

23 Stop bloviating. You need to put your
24 nine-and-a-half mil profit towards reducing the 5
25 mil debt, or shut up.

1 In the filing, forcing NVP customers to
2 shoulder 60 percent, Sanchez touted NVE's Renewable
3 Portfolio Standard is on target to 50 percent by
4 2030. Balanced outcome? In what alternative
5 dimension?

6 You have the crazy dems, greenies,
7 billionaires, and zombie president who thinks
8 we need to block out the sun. Do these pseudo
9 scientists realize that if you block out the sun,
10 ergo solar panels won't work? So where is the
11 power going to come from once your battery storage
12 is depleted? They're idiots.

13 Thank you.

14 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you.

15 (Public Commenter Excused)

16 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: The next card I
17 have is Juan Carlos Guardado.

18 And if you can just state your name
19 when you begin.

20 JUAN CARLOS GUARDADO

21 A public commenter

22 Commented as follows:

23 MR. GUARDADO: Hi. Good afternoon.

24 So respected members of the Public
25 Utilities Commission, my name is Juan Carlos

1 Guardado, and I am a community organizer for Chispa
2 Nevada.

3 So I am on behalf of these
4 organizations, work with communities of color to
5 protect our families to have clean air and clean
6 water.

7 So thank you for the opportunity to
8 speak today.

9 I am a father who fulfilled their
10 responsibilities in our house, and every day we
11 see how the increasing prices affect the world
12 business, the world being in our economy and
13 especially for our family.

14 As surveys show, that Latino and black
15 communities already pay a larger share of their
16 income on monthly utility bills. We don't use as
17 much energy, but we spend more of money paying the
18 basic necessities.

19 When I have the opportunity to share it
20 with our community and walk around our
21 neighborhoods, our members share their concerns in
22 how the financial situation is affecting paying the
23 basic utilities.

24 We also see Nevada Energy building a
25 new gas plant, and getting PUC approval to do so.

1 PUC and Nevada Energy should support the State
2 moving towards clean energy to make it more
3 affordable to our community economies.

4 So we disagree with an additional
5 increase in prices for the use of service provided
6 by Nevada Energy.

7 So thank you so much for listening, and
8 for listening to the Nevadan's communities.

9 Thank you.

10 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you.

11 (Public Commenter Excused.)

12 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: The next one is
13 Harold Bartold.

14 Thank you, sir. If you can just state
15 your name when you sit down.

16 HAROLD BARTOLD

17 A public commenter

18 Commented as follows:

19 MR. BARTOLD: Hi. My name is Harold
20 Bartold. I live in Henderson.

21 What's going on with NVEnergy, they
22 can be considered a criminal organization, and they
23 make the Mafia pale in comparison.

24 To try to be able to afford our bills
25 and eat and afford medications, we keep our house

1 at 83 degrees. We have the NVE PowerShift
2 thermostats, and the PowerShift thermostats decide
3 when it wants to bump the thermostats up.
4 Typically from 5 to 9 o'clock, the house goes to
5 88 degrees, at which time we try and go to sleep.
6 I don't know if any of you folks have ever tried
7 to go to sleep in 88 degrees, but it's not
8 pleasant.

9 In addition to that, I have every
10 single item in our house unplugged, other than a
11 TV, a refrigerator, and my work computer when I'm
12 working. I used 36 percent less energy last month,
13 and my bill was higher than the previous July.

14 You know, people cannot afford to
15 continue living in these kind of conditions.
16 You're living like a hermit. Literally every blind
17 is drawn. There is no lights on in the house
18 because you're afraid to generate heat. We cook
19 with an air fryer so we aren't generating heat
20 with that.

21 You know, people are struggling to be
22 able to pay bills and live, I'm not even saying a
23 comfortable life, literally living like a hermit
24 in uncomfortable conditions, and there has to be
25 something done about this.

1 You know, I get there is a moderation,
2 you know, between clean energy and, you know,
3 coal-fired plants, but if your source of clean
4 energy is natural gas and you don't have the
5 ability to produce it, what's the sense in that?

6 You know, we've got sun everywhere
7 here. We've got probably one of the sunniest
8 climates in the world. Do we generate energy with
9 natural gas that we don't produce? It doesn't make
10 sense. You're better off firing up a coal-fired
11 plant that's out in the middle of nowhere, there
12 is nothing to impact the air of the residents in
13 the State, and generate clean energy that's
14 affordable.

15 You know, these rates that are being
16 allowed to be charged right now, once again, this
17 organization is a criminal organization.

18 I appreciate your time. Thank
19 you.

20 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you,
21 sir.

22 (Public Commenter Excused.)

23 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: The next name I
24 have is Jorge Costa.

25

1 JORGE COSTA

2 A public commenter

3 Commented as follows:

4 MR. COSTA: Hello, members of the PUCN.
5 My name is Jorge Costa, J-o-r-g-e C-o-s-t-a. And I
6 am a resident of the State of Nevada.

7 I am honored here to address you in my
8 capacity of Chispa Nevada, a nonprofit organization
9 dedicated to advocating for the rights of low
10 income families to enjoy clean air and water for
11 the betterment of all our future.

12 As a young adult who just moved out of
13 my parents' house about a year ago, I am feeling
14 the weight of how expensive electricity can be. I
15 am part of a dual income household, and I can still
16 feel the impact of the rates of electricity. And
17 it's not just me. My family back home, as of now,
18 is paying over \$400 of electricity, and they keep
19 their electricity over 78, 80 degrees in the house.

20 However, for me this is not just about
21 the money. Any time marked by global challenges
22 like climate change, I do believe it is beneficial
23 to consider some less solutions that are literally
24 not only beneficial for our net wallet, but people
25 like me who seek a balance between the costs and

1 the environmental impact. And I think that right
2 now it's a perfect opportunity to do that.

3 I am part of this group, and I want to
4 see long-lasting solutions. I don't want to see
5 just a patch for us to cover just a little bit of
6 money.

7 The PUC has to advocate for low income,
8 for low income groups, and not, and not allow,
9 NVEnergy to continue to increase our bills just so
10 they can make some more money.

11 And thank you for listening.

12 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you.

13 (Public Commenter Excused.)

14 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Rasiel Lorenzo.

15 If you just want to state and speak
16 your name for the Court Reporter, since I butchered
17 it. My apologies.

18 RASIEL LORENZO

19 A public commenter

20 Commented as follows:

21 MS. LORENZO: So my name is Rasiel
22 Lorenzo. R-a-s-i-e-l, Rasiel --

23 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Pull this
24 closer. There you go.

25 MS. LORENZO: Okay. So Rasiel,

1 R-a-s-i-e-l Lorenzo, L-o-r-e-n-z-o.

2 Thank you for having the opportunity
3 to speak today. My name is Rasiel Lorenzo, and
4 I'm here on behalf of Chispa Nevada.

5 Our organization works with communities
6 of color to protect our families' rights to clean
7 air and water and healthy neighborhoods, and make
8 safe climate for generations to come. We want
9 power of low income to - excuse me - low income
10 families to have decisions that affect their
11 environment.

12 Families in our community are
13 experiencing extreme heat, while also facing rising
14 electricity bills. As a family on an hourly paid
15 wage, it's hard for us to keep having to pay our
16 energy bill while it keeps rising. Our community
17 cannot afford higher electric bills, and it's a
18 matter of our health and safety to assure bills
19 are affordable.

20 Thank you so much.

21 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you.

22 (Public Commenter Excused.)

23 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Next, is
24 Christian Salmon.

25

1 CHRISTIAN SALMON

2 A public commenter

3 Commented as follows:

4 MR. SALMON: Hi. My name is Christian
5 Salmon. I would like to make some comments.

6 Regarding the PUC meeting Monday,
7 the PUC wrongly approved NDPP, as NVE failed
8 to adequately assess or quantify the socialized
9 benefit associated with these costs.

10 Commissioner Cordova said subsidies
11 were not supposed to be in the evidentiary record.
12 Chairman Williamson lied when she said, I want to
13 assure Nevadans that who are struggling to pay
14 utility bills, we are listening to you. She sits
15 and stares at you until it's time for the next
16 commenter, just not listening at all.

17 Apparently, also Jeremy Aguero of
18 Applied Analysis, which attempts to justify
19 saddling Southern Nevada ratepayers with the
20 utility's disaster prevention costs, mostly related
21 to wildfires, BCP said, quote, failed to properly
22 assess and quantify, and overly-simplistic. Again,
23 quote, PUC fine said the method used does not
24 adequately assess or quantify the socialized
25 benefits associated with NDPP costs.

1 In 2019 law, the 2019 law makes no
2 mention of the need for a Statewide rate.

3 NVE argues that it is providing a
4 Statewide benefit via its preparedness efforts,
5 but admittedly a disaster in the South would have
6 no measurable effect on local economies elsewhere,
7 so why are they repeating that it will impact these
8 other economies?

9 Recovery of 32.7 million for last year,
10 84.7 million, or 35.4 million related to OMAG.
11 88 percent of 35.4 million were for the North,
12 resulting in a 1.4 million increase in the North.
13 They can afford it.

14 Really, the North should stay the
15 North, the South should stay the South, because
16 if we have a disaster then that disaster is to that
17 area. We have nothing to do with Tahoe.

18 And even this meeting, I'm wondering
19 where are all the other Commissioners? I see you.
20 I don't see the other Commissioners. Where are
21 they? Are they listening? This is supposed to be
22 a joint meeting and, you know, I'll speak to that
23 more in a minute.

24 On some other issues, NV Power requires
25 solar customers to have a second meter. Why is

1 this? This makes the systems that are installed
2 more costly. This practice needs to be halted.
3 This is an invasion of privacy. That's one issue.

4 Net metering. NV Power customers are
5 not afforded an analog net meter. That goes
6 against a previous docket decision. Smart meters
7 are unhealthy, an invasion of privacy, and needs to
8 be changed, and NV Power needs to afford to it all
9 customers and not be discriminatory.

10 Does that mean my time is up?

11 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: It does. Can
12 you just wrap it up?

13 MR. SALMON: Let me just ask this.
14 You know, I speak at a lot of public meetings. I'm
15 involved in my neighborhood, and I have led
16 coalitions on different things. I'm very dismayed
17 in these meetings where it's very one-sided. It's
18 all for comment, nothing happens, so I want to
19 know, are you the only Commissioner that's here?
20 I appreciate you being here. Are you the only one
21 that's here?

22 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: I am the only
23 Commissioner that's here.

24 The reason why we do the Court
25 Reporter, is so that then there is a transcript.

1 And right now we only have two Commissioners. The
2 Governor hasn't appointed a third Commissioner.

3 MR. SALDANA: Okay.

4 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: So Chair
5 Williamson, who you mentioned, she will have the
6 opportunity to read the transcript after this is
7 over..

8 MR. SALDANA: So are they here
9 listening in Reno or in Carson City?

10 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: No, not right
11 now.

12 MR. SALDANA: See, this is a public
13 meeting, and this is supposed to be public so we
14 can see your faces.

15 So my question is, I mean, I'm raising
16 things, these people are going to as well, who is
17 going to work with me? I didn't get to finish all
18 the things on the record. There is also a net
19 metering, you know, that should have an analog
20 meter as well. So who is going to -- I want like
21 a Commissioner to personally work with me, just as
22 I have if I contact my Federal representative,
23 state representative, the Governor, I have somebody
24 to work through an issue, constituent services.
25 Who can -- but it all stems from their particular

1 seat of power. Who is going to do that?

2 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: So if you have a
3 particular issue -- a couple of things you raised.
4 If you have a particular issue that you want to
5 work with, that's what our Regulatory Operations
6 Staff is for. And as I said at the beginning,
7 there are members of our Regulatory Operations
8 Staff are here who can have a side conversation
9 with you, and you can work through some of those
10 issues, and then that's your opportunity to bring
11 them to the Commission. That's why we have the
12 Staff.

13 If you have additional comments that
14 you didn't have time to make today, because again
15 we have to set a time limit so we can keep this
16 thing going, you have a couple options. We're
17 going to be here again at 6 o'clock tonight, so you
18 can come back; you can submit written comments, you
19 can do that now or later, and they end up into the
20 docket, and that way we can all read them; or you
21 can make public comment at our agenda meetings.
22 And we have an agenda meeting approximately every
23 two weeks. And so there is always an opportunity
24 to do that at any of our agenda meetings on anybody
25 that's jurisdictional to us.

1 And finally, we're going to have
2 another consumer session here in this building in
3 September for Nevada Power's general rate case. At
4 that point, it will be a Nevada Power rate case
5 comment opportunity.

6 But there are several opportunities to
7 come and speak before the Commission, and I'm here
8 for them all.

9 MR. SALMON: Okay. So when I work with
10 Staff, they work based on your authority, so do
11 they have authority to take whatever is needed to
12 get something done?

13 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Yes, they do.

14 MR. SALMON: Okay. Who can I speak
15 with then?

16 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Why don't you
17 talk with Lisa, and then she'll direct you to
18 somebody else.

19 MR. SALMON: Okay. Thank you.

20 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay? Okay,
21 thank you, Mr. Salmon.

22 (Public Commenter Excused.)

23 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: The next name I
24 have is Kenneth Broadbent.

25

1 KENNETH BROADBENT

2 A public commenter

3 Commented as follows:

4 MR. BROADBENT: Thank you,
5 Commissioner.

6 Good afternoon. My name is Kenneth
7 Broadbent, here as a consumer just to give comments
8 on the NVEnergy price that we're being charged.

9 I also, like the gentleman behind me,
10 have unplugged almost everything in my house except
11 for like my Internet, my security, refrigerator,
12 a light, TV, bare essentials, which is very
13 disappointing when you have to plug your stove in
14 to cook or wash your dishes.

15 I'm very displeased at trying to say
16 that the gas prices were just increasing. I happen
17 to work at a power plant, so I can tell you
18 firsthand I get phone calls daily telling me what
19 the gas is.

20 So I'm not really happy about the
21 prices being charged from last year. I think I
22 paid an extra \$65, and that's with everything
23 unplugged in my house, at 80 degrees, which is
24 ridiculous. I hope it can be looked into. I don't
25 know what they're trying to do, but it's always in

1 August.

2 I lived on the other coast so I know
3 how heat always went up in the winter when you need
4 it, but it's something we shouldn't put up with in
5 this country. It's, you know, it would be like me
6 taking you. You shouldn't be able to do this to
7 Americans.

8 So thank you for the opportunity to
9 talk. Hopefully, it can get looked into, and they
10 can still make millions of dollars, but it's
11 ridiculous to have prices for one month that are
12 just crazy. You can't seem to get ahead.

13 Thank you.

14 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you.

15 (Public Commenter Excused.)

16 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: The next name I
17 have is Isabel Klein.

18 Actually, you know what, why don't you
19 come up here and sit at the table, and that way as
20 you kind of go, I don't know, sentence by sentence,
21 or however you want to do it.

22 THE TRANSLATOR: I can do it right
23 after, if that's okay?

24 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. That's
25 fine.

1 Miss Klein.

2 ISABEL KLEIN

3 A public commenter

4 Commented in Spanish as follows:

5 MS. KLEIN: (Commented in Spanish.)

6 MS. FLORES: (Translating in English.)

7 Hi. For the record, Aria Flores, translating for
8 Isabel Klein.

9 My name is Isabel Klein, and I work in
10 quality control at Chispa Nevada.

11 I'm a resident of this State, and I am
12 here as a single mother striving to provide a
13 stable and dignified life for my family. Like many
14 others, I face consistent financial challenges.
15 The reality of my situation is that I am a single
16 mother, and I am the sole source of income
17 supporting my household. I work diligently to
18 support my family and provide them with housing,
19 food on the table, and a decent life.

20 However, the situation has become
21 increasingly difficult due to the rising inflation
22 and constant increases in essential expenses such
23 as housing costs, food, and of course, electricity.

24 The consistent increases in services
25 by NVEnergy only add to the financial pressure I'm

1 already experiencing. Currently almost half of my
2 salary goes to paying my electricity bill. This
3 leaves me with a tough decision every month. How
4 can I balance my essential expenses between paying
5 the electricity bill, car insurance, water, gas,
6 and other basic needs? It's a constant challenge
7 to make decisions that directly affect my family's
8 quality of life.

9 Electricity is a fundamental necessity
10 in today's society. We use energy to keep our
11 homes climate controlled during increasingly high
12 temperature summers, and need to maintain an
13 appropriate temperature during this time of year.
14 In Nevada, this service is a vital part of our
15 daily lives, and not something that we can simply
16 avoid. Therefore, increases in electricity rates
17 not only impact my ability to make ends meet, but
18 also have a negative impact on my emotional
19 well-being, and that of my family.

20 Before any future rate increases, the
21 PUCN should require NVEnergy to demonstrate savings
22 so as not to continue sacrificing the most impacted
23 families in NVEnergy.

24 Thank you.

25 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. Thank

1 you.

2 (Public Commenter Excused.)

3 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: All right. The
4 next card I have is Sandi Del -- there you go.

5 SANDRA DELGIUDICE

6 A public commenter

7 Commented as follows:

8 MS. DELGUIDICE: Hi. Sandra
9 Delgiudice, D-e-l-g-i-u-d-i-c-e.

10 I've never done this before, so I'll
11 try to be as nice as possible.

12 I am a senior. I've lived in Las Vegas
13 since 1982, and I've worked since I was 15 years
14 old. I am presently retired.

15 And I'm really, really mad at Nevada
16 Power, but I'm really, really mad at the people
17 that are supposed to protect us. And when you
18 introduced yourselves, you said you're for us, the
19 people, and --

20 MR. SAUNDERS: Yes, ma'am. We present
21 recommendations to the PUC, who makes the decisions
22 that affect all of us as ratepayers in the State.

23 MS. DELGUIDICE: And Miss Daley, you
24 said you're here to help us have utilities at a
25 reasonable cost. That's what I understand. I'm

1 not always correct.

2 And the Commissioner is here to help
3 us, because this is a PUC, Public Utilities
4 Commission. And the way I understand it, this
5 company, or part of the government, is supposed to
6 protect us. It's supposed to look out for us, and
7 it's supposed to regulate things. And you just
8 said you're here to help us with reasonable costs,
9 and to help regulate prices.

10 Well, that hasn't happened for, like
11 we're going on two years, because I'm not sure if
12 we're here for gas also, but that doubled and
13 tripled last year.

14 And yes, we had a cold winter - that
15 has nothing to do with any of this - and the hot
16 summer. You guys are not helping, whether I'm a
17 senior or not.

18 I feel sorry for the single women with
19 children. Are they going to pay their power bill,
20 or are they going to buy food?

21 And I really, really don't think anyone
22 cares. When I called last year about all these
23 bills, whoever answers the phone doesn't even know
24 what to say. You have them say, well, it's because
25 of COVID; well, it's because of the corporate

1 management. Well, it is my opinion that Nevada
2 Power, Southwest Gas are thieves. They're
3 criminals. No one should double and triple bills,
4 double and triple your bills. And the coldest
5 winter, the hottest summer, every summer is hot
6 in Vegas. I've been here since 1982. I used to
7 get -- I just don't understand it.

8 And I just came to vet because, you
9 know, I was \$47 shy last year of not getting help
10 on my power bill. And I don't even make two grand
11 a month. Bullshit. Can you imagine what some of
12 these single women are doing, the seniors? But
13 it's just the regular people. Why should all of
14 their money and their retirement go to pay a bill
15 that should be regulated?

16 So you guys shouldn't even be here if
17 you can't help us. And that's just my opinion.

18 I heard the buzzer go off. I'm just
19 here to bitch, because I think they're all
20 criminals. Of course, I think the government is.

21 Thank you.

22 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you.

23 (Public Commenter Excused.)

24 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: The next card I
25 have is Aria Flores.

1 ARIA FLORES

2 A public commenter

3 Commented as follows:

4 MS. FLORES: I'm back. Good afternoon,
5 respected members of the PUCN. My name is Aria
6 Flores, and I'm a resident of the State of Nevada.
7 And I work for a non-profit organization, Chispa of
8 Nevada, advocating low income families' rights to
9 clean air and water for future generations.

10 I want to thank you for providing me
11 the opportunity to express my concerns regarding
12 the proposed increase in electric service fees.

13 I'm a young individual that's committed
14 to sustainability and environmental protection, and
15 as we confront, you know, global challenges like
16 environmental changes, I believe it's essential
17 that we consider solutions that are beneficial for
18 individuals like me who seek a balance between
19 costs and environmental rights.

20 I understand that maintaining the
21 electrical infrastructure and providing reliable
22 services come with an associated cost, but I also
23 believe it presents an opportunity to look forward
24 and explore more innovative and sustainable ways to
25 address our energy needs.

1 Nevada is a State with abundant natural
2 resources, including solar energy. I strongly
3 suggest that instead of simply increasing the
4 prices, we explore options that allow us to
5 transition gradually toward cleaner renewable
6 energy sources.

7 Like many people have said earlier on,
8 I came from a home where my parents counted every
9 single penny to be looked to budget very tightly,
10 and oftentimes my elementary school growing up had
11 to provide us grocery stores - or groceries -
12 because my parents had to be able to just keep the
13 lights on. So growing up, AC was a luxury in my
14 home.

15 And so now I'm dedicated to ensuring
16 that no Nevadan families have to go through that
17 type of sacrifice. Especially working with the
18 youth now, I often have to hear kids say, I would
19 rather have my parents pay their bills then get
20 Christmas gifts, and I cry every time, because they
21 should not have to have that, go through their
22 lives growing up.

23 So as a committed member of this
24 community seeking long-term solutions, I urge you
25 to consider the importance of addressing fee

1 increases, with the mindset of sustainability and
2 equity. Hopefully together we can work towards a
3 future where clean energy is affordable and
4 accessible to all.

5 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you, Miss
6 Flores.

7 (Public Commenter Excused.)

8 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: The next one is
9 Mr. Simmons.

10 TONY SIMMONS

11 A public commenter

12 Commented as follows:

13 MR. SIMMONS: Tony Simmons, for the
14 record. T-o-n-y S-i-m-m-o-n-s.

15 I would like to introduce this letter
16 into the record. It's from Daniel Haggarty,
17 Assistant General Counsel. I put in a request for
18 an electronic copy of the Commission's employee
19 training manual on NRS Chapters 703 and 704. This
20 is his written response. He says it doesn't exist.
21 Basically he's claiming that you three have not
22 been properly trained on NRS 703, 704.

23 A similar request is in front of the
24 Attorney General. I'm awaiting their response.
25 I expect a similar response from them.

1 This right here basically ensures that
2 you guys are not accountable for past
3 mis-performance, but it also means that people
4 would be irresponsible to trust any decision made
5 by the Commission.

6 If I got this right, he had to submit
7 it to the Legislature. I'm going to ask them to
8 investigate the training for you guys, and I'm
9 going to ask, then I'm going to point out through
10 the record going back to 1997, where the Commission
11 or the BCP or the Consumer Advocate, made a
12 factually incorrect statement or misunderstood a
13 law.

14 And trust me, the attorneys -- the
15 lawyers at the Legislature know every mistake you
16 guys have made since 1997 on net metering. They've
17 been trying to kill it off since 2001, and you guys
18 don't understand that. They've had a duty to kill
19 it off since 2001 because it was not set up
20 correctly by NVEnergy, and they confess to that in
21 the record of AB 661.

22 So we're going to -- so the next
23 interim session, we'll probably be asking you guys
24 to explain your training on Chapters 703 and 704,
25 and other employees of the Commission.

1 Thank you.

2 MR. SAUNDERS: Commissioner, may I just
3 make a point of clarification, for Mr. Simmons.

4 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Sure.

5 MR. SAUNDERS: Mr. Simmons, I'm
6 actually an employee of the Attorney General's
7 Office --

8 (CROSS-TALK)

9 MR. SIMMONS: Right. And I sent a
10 request to them.

11 MR. SAUNDERS: Okay. And I just wanted
12 to --

13 MR. SIMMONS: I'm expecting the same --
14 based upon the performance of the BCP, they have
15 the same deficiency. We'll get that --

16 MR. SAUNDERS: But I just want to make
17 that clarification --

18 MR. SIMMONS: Right --

19 MR. SAUNDERS: -- I'm not an employee
20 of the PUC.

21 MR. SIMMONS: Right. You're an
22 employee of the Attorney General, and that's why I
23 submitted the request to him.

24 MR. SAUNDERS: Fair enough.

25 MR. SIMMONS: I have also sent the

1 request to the Office of the Governor, to find out
2 what the Governors have been told about Chapters
3 703 and 704, because it appears the Governors don't
4 understand what the Legislature does.

5 Thank you.

6 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you, Mr.
7 Simmons.

8 (Public Commenter Excused.)

9 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: The next one is
10 John Brandt.

11 JOHN BRANDT

12 A public commenter

13 Commented as follows:

14 MR. BRANDT: Hi. My name is John
15 Brandt, B-r-a-n-d-t. I've been in Vegas for about
16 21 years.

17 My former job, I bought contracts for
18 natural gas, and ran a couple of generating
19 facilities.

20 My reason for being here today is the
21 gas prices. I have a home in Illinois, and my home
22 in Illinois my last gas bill we paid 40 cents a
23 therm for gas. All right? Here, we pay a dollar
24 fifty-three a therm. We pay 48 cents for delivery
25 costs. My distribution costs or delivery cost in

1 Illinois is 10.6 cents. We have a monthly service
2 charge of 22.74. I didn't write down what it was
3 here, but it's about the same for that part.

4 So why are we paying whatever that
5 amount is more? I didn't calculate it, but it's
6 significant, you know? It's 8 times more. And
7 you guys seem to think that it's okay.

8 Now you investigate the financial end
9 of the thing. Well, what are you, 12? You know,
10 you just -- you don't know what is going on with
11 them. Why does this Company have to charge this
12 kind of money for a therm of gas?

13 You know, we all had a chance here
14 to deregulate this whole thing, which would have
15 really helped but, you know, the lies from the
16 Legislature the lies from the news media made
17 people vote to not deregulate it. They said, no,
18 no, if you deregulate it prices are going to go
19 skyrocketing.

20 Well, they did go skyrocketing, and we
21 didn't deregulate it. And it's because people like
22 you can't understand the finances of that Company,
23 where they're burying that money, where it's going.
24 Oh, we only made 2 percent profit. We're allowed
25 3. We need another percent raise, you know, in the

1 price of things. Well, people here are complaining
2 about natural -- or complaining about Nevada Energy
3 right now because they're getting 5, 700 dollars
4 gas or electric bills, like my house and, well,
5 part of that is the gas, you know?

6 I don't know if they can buy it from
7 the open market. You know, today's price for
8 natural gas is 27 cents a therm. Okay. That's the
9 price of the spot market. So you can go out there,
10 and you can buy as much as you want.

11 And, you know, I just don't get why you
12 guys can't figure out what's going on. It's either
13 corruption, like he said, or my guess is it's
14 corruption or stupidity. Either way, it needs to
15 be solved.

16 And you, being part of the Attorney
17 General's Office, should try to figure out what
18 it is.

19 MR. SAUNDERS: And sir, I can represent
20 to you that we do our best to basically vet every
21 NVEnergy filing that impacts consumers in a
22 substantial way. We do our best to make sure that
23 the recommendations that we present to the
24 Commission for its consideration provide for
25 reliable utility service at the lowest reasonable

1 cost.

2 MR. BRANDT: Okay. My neighbor --

3 (CROSS-TALK)

4 MR. SAUNDERS: Now whether, whether
5 the Commission accepts our decisions or our
6 recommendations, that's their decision, of course,
7 so but --

8 MR. BRANDT: Well, NVEnergy, for
9 example, in my neighborhood we have a power outage
10 every week. Okay.? There is a transformer
11 blowing -- or a fuse blowing up every now and then,
12 a transformer fire twice in the last year. What
13 does Nevada Energy come in, they come in and put in
14 the exact same stuff. Okay? When you have a fuse
15 blow, do you just replace the fuse, or do you
16 figure out what's the problem? They don't figure
17 out what's the problem. They just come in and
18 replace the fuse, and then it goes on again and
19 again and again, and then they just add that to
20 their cost of infrastructure. It's not fixing the
21 infrastructure; they're just Band-Aiding it, which
22 costs more than coming in and putting in new lines
23 and more higher power transformers.

24 Now you want everybody -- you know, we
25 got a bunch of people with electric cars in the

1 neighborhood. Granted, maybe 15, 20 percent of the
2 people have solar on the house. But, you know, the
3 requirements for electric are much greater, and yet
4 they don't do anything about it, and then they bill
5 us up the ying-yang for infrastructure improvement
6 when it's all for new housing in this place, you
7 know. They don't charge enough for new housing.

8 And here we have a water shortage, a
9 power shortage, hey, let's increase the number of
10 people in this place. I moved here, there were
11 less than 2 million, now there's -- well, no. When
12 I moved here, there was less than a million people,
13 and now there's over 2-and-a-half million.

14 MR. SAUNDERS: And believe me, sir, I
15 as a ratepayer myself, share your frustration with
16 NVEnergy as well. And all I can say is we strive
17 to do our best to make sure that the
18 recommendations that we present to the Commission
19 are persuasive and well-based in the law, and will
20 provide reliable utility service at the lowest
21 reasonable cost.

22 But it does sound like you have some
23 service concerns. I don't know if perhaps --

24 MR. BRANDT: I do have service concerns
25 about the power going out. But I know exactly what

1 it is, and there's nothing there --

2 (CROSS-TALK)

3 MR. SAUNDERS: Are you talking about
4 your own, your own power?

5 MR. BRANDT: My power is fine. I mean,
6 it goes out once a week, okay, but what are you
7 going to do?

8 MR. SAUNDERS: Well, if your power is
9 going once a week then that's --

10 MR. BRANDT: It's not for hours at a
11 time, but it's -- we have three lines that feed our
12 neighborhood, and I've investigated, okay, this one
13 popped, and then, you know, a couple minutes later
14 it goes on. I might lose some equipment every now
15 and then. I have to replace my whole house surge
16 protector every now and then because, you know,
17 those transformers collapsing really boost the
18 power in the line. So, all right. Enough at this
19 time.

20 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you,
21 Mr. Brandt.

22 MS. DALEY: Commissioner, may I make a
23 quick comment?

24 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Sure. Go ahead.

25 MS. DALEY: This is actually for

1 anybody.

2 Every time that one of our experts,
3 whether it's a financial analyst, an engineer, or
4 an economist files testimony, they also file their
5 resume with that testimony, so if you're reading
6 the testimony that is filed in those dockets, you
7 can also read the qualifications of all of the
8 experts at the Commission.

9 MR. BRANDT: Well, as far as the
10 resume' thing --

11 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Mr. Brandt,
12 if you can sit down if you're going to make
13 comments because --

14 MR. BRANDT: Okay.

15 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: -- nobody can
16 hear you.

17 MR. BRANDT: I'm sorry about that. As
18 part of your resume' thing, I had 47 technicians
19 working for me at one time, and the people that
20 came in with the most paperwork, those are the ones
21 I had to fire the most, you know, because they
22 focus on their resume', and that's all that they
23 put everything they can get, every little award.

24 You know, 15 percent of the world are
25 great at what they do, the next 40 percent they're

1 okay, and then you have the 15 percent at the
2 bottom that you just have to churn because they're
3 stupid.

4 MS. DALEY: Well, it is an option --

5 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. We are
6 digressing pretty far away from what Mr. Brandt's
7 concerns were, so if you want to have a side
8 conversation with him Mr. Saunders, or if you want
9 to have a side conversation with him, please do.

10 MR. SAUNDERS: I just wanted to
11 elaborate. I need to temper one of my comments.

12 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. Go ahead.

13 MR. SAUNDERS: Thank you for your
14 indulgence.

15 I will represent this. I know I
16 probably put a lot of onus and burden on the
17 Commissioners, but I will say this. I have
18 probably seen no fairer Commissioner, who is
19 responsive to the concerns of consumers, than is
20 Commissioner Cordova. So I just wanted to temper
21 that. The Commission, we present recommendations
22 to the Commission for its consideration, but I
23 just wanted to make sure that it's clear that
24 Commissioner Cordova, in my opinion, is a very fair
25 Commissioner as far as consumer issues.

1 Thank you.

2 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: I guess that
3 means I shouldn't kick him under the table.

4 Miss Daley, was there anything else you
5 wanted to say?

6 MS. DALEY: No. That was all. Thank
7 you.

8 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you,
9 Mr. Brandt. And if you do have additional
10 questions, Mr. Brandt, Miss Scott will be more than
11 happy to talk with you.

12 (Public Commenter Excused.)

13 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. The next
14 one I have is Juan Liz -- okay. So you can tell
15 the Court Reporter what your name is, instead of
16 letting me butcher it.

17 JUAN LIZARRAGO

18 A public commenter

19 Commented as follows:

20 MR. LIZARRAGA: Okay. Be happy to.

21 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you.

22 MR. LIZARRAGA: Thank you for your
23 time.

24 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Oh, pull that
25 microphone up. It got pushed away from you, so why

1 don't you pull it --

2 MR. LIZARRAGO: Oh, I'm sorry. Is this
3 okay?

4 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Yes. That's
5 great.

6 MR. LIZARRAGA: Thank you.

7 So my name is Juan Lizarraga.

8 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Can you spell
9 that?

10 MR. LIZARRAGO: J-u-a-n
11 L-i-z-a-r-r-a-g-a.

12 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you.

13 MR. LIZARRAGO: I'm a resident of
14 Nevada, and, well, I'm here being part of Chispa
15 organization, being the fact that they support some
16 of the minority communities in the great State of
17 Nevada, which has been my home for over a decade
18 now.

19 And in reality, I am happy that, at
20 least in my zone, we don't get that many outages,
21 and that is great, because I do have three kids,
22 so they have to go to school and wake up.

23 But nonetheless, what I have seen for
24 the last three years has been an escalation on,
25 Number 1, not only up rates in electricity, but

1 investment only maybe once a year, but even twice a
2 year, and even worse seeing what happens during the
3 summers, which is the time that we really need the
4 most energy, which is an increase of up to 300
5 times during peak hours. Which, when you call
6 NVEnergy for any advice in how to manage those
7 particular rates, the only thing they're going
8 to say is, you just got to set it a little higher.

9 But how do you explain that to someone
10 with migraines, like my wife? How do you explain
11 that to someone that is over the age of 65, like my
12 mother-in-law, and then she has hot flashes. How
13 do you tell my kids, that hey, I'm sorry, you're
14 just going to have to sweat through the night, and
15 maybe you will have poor performance tomorrow in
16 your school test.

17 How many times do I have to go to the
18 school with them, and then just tell the teachers,
19 hey, listen, I'm so sorry. He's not been doing
20 well; he's not been sleeping well.

21 How many people have to lose their jobs
22 because they were too tired in the morning, because
23 they really couldn't rest because they were 80
24 degrees, 85 degrees in their homes, because they
25 were old, or they just couldn't pay, or maybe

1 you're just getting in debt and then you lose your
2 house later.

3 What is it going to take? Some people
4 dying of heat stroke overnight? Poor performances?

5 Everybody knows that the level in
6 Nevada is not the greatest in the nation, but are
7 we still pushing the future of our nation just
8 lower and lower just because nobody is going to
9 step up and say, listen, by the way, you're a
10 monopoly, you're just really pushing the envelope
11 as far as you can. Both ways.

12 And if that is the case, well, then
13 just, I don't know, maybe it's time for a change,
14 a change. Somebody has to go out there and say,
15 you know what, although you are the only person
16 that can give us energy, maybe we need someone else
17 to compete so you can standardize the pressure.

18 I know that if the rates have to go up,
19 because it's a business, I understand, but we might
20 as well, too. Raise the minimum wage and triple
21 our wages during the time of the summer so we can
22 pay for everything, because otherwise it's just not
23 fair.

24 And I know that you got your own bills
25 as well, but the reality is that not really for the

1 people that can make it, it's for the people that
2 are really sinking, and they are not seeing a way
3 out until it's too late, and then what do we have
4 to see? People marching outside? Strikes? Or
5 people dying on the streets, because it was just
6 too hot anyway?

7 Thank you for your time.

8 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you, sir.

9 (Public Commenter Excused.)

10 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: The next one is
11 Linda Buckardt.

12 LINDA BUCKARDT

13 A public commenter

14 Commented as follows:

15 MS. BUCKARDT: Good afternoon,
16 Commissioner, and members of the PUCN. Buckardt,
17 B-u-c-k-a-r-d-t.

18 I have a master's degree in teaching,
19 but I think that energy would have been a more
20 lucrative way for me to go. But too late.

21 It may come as a surprise to you, but
22 "PUPCA" has research information regarding dockets,
23 and if you're asking for input it might behoove you
24 to further research information. You're not all
25 knowing, and may learn something, and we may, too.

1 When I came here to fight smart meters
2 regarding health, now it's all over the world
3 regarding effective EMF on health. Even an
4 appellant court has ordered the FCC to revise
5 their antiquated health studies. So we need to
6 stop assuming that the public is ignorant of facts,
7 and acknowledge that.

8 Chair Williamson had no right to vote
9 on NDPP, no matter how she tried to feign that she
10 was being unbiased. She's so heavily invested in
11 the Tahoe area, her home, the Board position, her
12 fellow colleagues live there, and Ryan, and like
13 Mullins.

14 Her salary is over 100,000. The homes
15 in her area right now have 44 listed homes for sale
16 at over a million dollars, with Zillow, and they
17 can afford their own protection.

18 Williamson not only is appointed
19 because her buddy Jessica Diss, a former PUC
20 Attorney went to work for Sisolak and got her
21 juiced into the position. Another unqualified
22 self-serving person to have to endure.

23 The rulings favor up North, those up
24 North, where almost all the PUC reside, or the
25 utilities for which they are supposed to be fair

1 and balanced.

2 The PUC should be renamed Nevada's
3 utility party.

4 So there's top-heavy liberals and the
5 green agenda manifestos that do forget the people
6 aren't working in the parks, and therein can't
7 afford the power. So you sit in your air
8 conditioned offices, on our dime from the mill tax,
9 while low income people in the South are forced to
10 choose between food or the utility. They have no
11 clue about the South, but yet up North they are
12 making more rules for us, and the South should not
13 be a welfare agency for the North.

14 We also need to include more investment
15 in nuclear. It lasts a lot longer than solar.
16 Solar panels have a limited life.

17 And thank you very much.

18 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you,
19 Miss Buckhardt.

20 (Public Commenter Excused.)

21 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: And then the
22 last card that I have is for Amelia Moore -- and
23 I'm sorry, I can't read, Amelia Moore something.

24 MS. NICKELS: Amelia Moore Nickels.

25 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Moore Nickels.

1 Yes, ma'am. If you want to come sit up here.

2 AMELIA MOORE NICKELS

3 A public commenter

4 Commented as follows:

5 MS. NICKELS: Hi. Good afternoon to
6 everybody.

7 I'm just --

8 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Can you get the
9 microphone a little bit closer?

10 MS. NICKELS: Oh.

11 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: There you go;
12 that's great.

13 MS. NICKELS: I'm okay now?

14 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: You're okay. Go
15 ahead.

16 MS. NICKELS: Okay. I would like to
17 say good afternoon to everyone.

18 I'm just here to kind of address my
19 concern why my electric go up so high when I
20 started with \$80, and now it's almost \$500. And
21 I've used the same setting of my air conditioner
22 all the time. In fact, I raise it up a couple of
23 digits.

24 And I asked the NV utility, they're
25 saying that everybody does. Everybody does. Why,

1 you know? Because I thought you only raise it
2 if you use too much of the electric. But that's
3 not the case on my part. I've just always been the
4 same.

5 Of course, I don't cook every day like
6 their people.

7 And my concerns said that, well, do you
8 have any kind of program for set income? Because
9 we're 72, 73 years old, person that lives in that
10 house. And I have my illness, and my husband has
11 an illness. So I'm just trying to kind of live
12 comfortable.

13 I never paid that much electricity when
14 I was in California.

15 But then the lady said, well, you got
16 to go to that place, so that you can ask for, pick
17 up a form for a discount, whatever.

18 So that's why I came here for.

19 And also, I keep getting calls from a
20 solar company telling me that if I get the solar
21 I get a lower electricity. Is that why that my
22 electricity go up, because I won't agree on the
23 solar? Because, you know, you pay them, pay that,
24 you know, the same thing.

25 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Yes, but the

1 offers that you're receiving for solar are
2 completely independent of what NVEnergy is doing.
3 So there may be opportunities for you to take
4 advantage of solar that could potentially reduce
5 your bill, but that's completely independent
6 of what NVEnergy is providing you in terms of
7 service.

8 And so my understanding is there are
9 NVEnergy folks here that can take a look at your
10 bill and have a conversation with you, so if you
11 feel like you're not having success talking to them
12 say on the phone, if you want to talk to Lisa she
13 can hook you up with one of them, and see if there
14 is anything they can do to kind of mitigate what's
15 going on with your bill.

16 MS. NICKELS: Okay. Thank you.

17 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay? You're
18 welcome. Thank you for coming out.

19 MS. NICKELS: Okay. Thank you.

20 (Public Commenter Excused.)

21 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. That is
22 all the cards I have.

23 What I would like to do now is just
24 take a five-minute break for the Court Reporter,
25 and if there was anyone who wished to make comments

1 but didn't get a chance to make comments, this is
2 your chance to go fill out a card.

3 We'll come back in about five minutes.
4 If they're done, we're done, unless someone else
5 wanted to make comments.

6 But I will take a five-minute health
7 break now.

8 So thank you.

9 (At 2:02 p.m. a recess was taken.)

10 -o0o-

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LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2023

2:10 P.M.

-oOo-

COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. Let's go
back on the record for just a minute.

It doesn't look like anyone else came
up that wanted to make public comment this
afternoon.

So I appreciate, I genuinely appreciate
everyone coming out.

We will be here again at 6 o'clock this
evening for an additional continuation of the
consumer session.

We're adjourned. Thank you.

(At 2:10 p.m. the Consumer Session was Adjourned.)

-oOo-

STATE OF NEVADA,)
)
COUNTY OF WASHOE.) ss.

I, DEBRA J. BARTGIS, Certified Court
Reporter #56 do hereby certify:

That on *Wednesday, August 30, 2023, at
1:01 p.m., at 1150 East William Street, Carson City,
Nevada, I was present and took stenotype notes of the
Videoconference Consumer Session held before the Public
Utilities Commission of Nevada, and thereafter
transcribed the same as herein appears;

That the foregoing transcript is a full,
true and correct transcription of my stenotype notes of
said Videoconference Consumer Session.

DATED: At Sparks, Nevada, this 1st day of
September 2023.

/s Debra J. Bartgis

Debra J. Bartgis, CCR #56

-
-
-

23-06002

Public Utilities Commission of Nevada
Electronic Filing

Submitted: 9/3/2023 2:00:39 PM

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This filing has been electronically filed and deemed to be signed by an authorized
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representative of the signer(s) and
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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

-oOo-

Public Utilities Commission
of Nevada-sponsored Consumer
Session to be held in
Clark County, Nevada
pursuant to NRS 704.069(2).

DOCKET NO. 23-06002

_____ /

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

CONSUMER SESSION

6:04 p.m., Wednesday
August 30, 2023

Office of the Public Utilities Commission
1150 East William Street
Hearing Room A
Carson City, Nevada

VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE TO:

Office of the Public Utilities Commission
9075 West Diablo Drive
Suite 250
Hearing Room A
Las Vegas, Nevada

Reported by:

DEBRA J. BARTGIS, CCR #56
FIRM #002F

APPEARANCES:

Commissioner Present: TAMMY CORDOVA
Commissioner and
Presiding Officer

Commissioner's YUSUF PARRAY
Administrative Attorney:

For PUCN Regulatory GEORGINA DALEY
Operations Staff: Assistant Staff Counsel
9075 West Diablo Drive
Suite 250
Las Vegas, Nevada 89148

For Office of Attorney PAUL STUHFF
General Bureau of Sr. Deputy Attorney General
Consumer Protection: 8945 West Russell Road
Suite 204
Las Vegas, Nevada 89148

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1 LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

2 WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2023

3 6:04 P.M.

4 -oOo-

5 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Let's get
6 started.

7 This consumer session will come to
8 order.

9 The record will reflect that this is
10 the time and place set before the Public Utilities
11 Commission of Nevada for a Commission-sponsored
12 consumer session to be held in Clark County, Nevada
13 pursuant to NRS 704.069 Sub (2).

14 This matter has been designated by the
15 Commission as Docket No. 23-06002.

16 My name is Tammy Cordova, and I am a
17 Commissioner here at the PUCN.

18 Today with me is my Administrative
19 Attorney Yusuf Parray.

20 Also present today are members of the
21 Regulatory Operations Staff, including Miss Daley,
22 and representatives of the Attorney General's
23 Bureau of Consumer Protection, including
24 Mr. Stuhff.

25 I'm going to go through the rest of the

1 opening, and then I'm going to give each of them,
2 Miss Daley and Mr. Stuhff, an opportunity to
3 introduce themselves.

4 Also present in the building tonight
5 are representatives of the utilities that we
6 regulate here in Southern Nevada.

7 We do not regulate in Southern Nevada
8 the Southern Nevada Water Authority, so if you're
9 here on behalf of an issue with them, I'm sorry to
10 tell you I don't have any jurisdiction over them,
11 but we do have jurisdiction over several other
12 utilities, including NVEnergy and Southwest Gas,
13 and they do have representatives here.

14 If your issue is of a sort where you
15 actually, you know, need to maybe have a one-on-one
16 conversation with someone from the utility, that's
17 one of the reason those folks are here, and so I
18 may, you know, once you've stated your concern, and
19 we are trying to keep this to three minutes, ask
20 you to step aside and talk to somebody from the
21 Commission's Staff, or somebody from one of the
22 utilities, so that the two of you or the three of
23 you can have a longer one-on-one conversation.
24 It's not because your issue is not important, but
25 because it's an opportunity for you to actually get

1 your issue addressed.

2 So are there any other persons, besides
3 those of you who wish to make public comment, who
4 want to make their appearance known for the record?

5 (No Response)

6 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Seeing none, let
7 the record reflect that no other persons have come
8 forward.

9 The record will also reflect that on
10 June 1st, 2023 the Commission published, on the
11 Internet Website of the Commission, and as
12 otherwise provided by NAC 703.160, the notice of
13 this consumer session for this time and place.

14 Is there anyone present who has any
15 questions about the noticing?

16 (No Response)

17 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Hearing none,
18 the Commission deems that this matter has been duly
19 and properly noticed for a consumer session at this
20 time and place.

21 So the purpose of the consumer session
22 is to solicit comments from the public, but I'm
23 going to give Miss Daley an opportunity to
24 introduce herself, and explain her role at the
25 Commission.

1 INTRODUCTION AND COMMENTS

2 MS. DALEY: Hello. My name is Georgina
3 Daley, and I'm an Assistant Staff Counsel for the
4 Public Utilities Regulatory Operations Staff.

5 Staff is an independent investigative
6 arm of the Commission, so we are separate from the
7 Commissioners.

8 Staff has engineers, economists,
9 financial analysts, and attorneys who all
10 participate in investigations in dockets filed
11 with the Commission.

12 Staff is a party to all dockets. We
13 conduct our own evaluation and investigation of
14 the information filed by the utility and other
15 parties. We then file our recommendations with
16 the Commission, and participate in any hearings.

17 Staff's primary goal in all dockets
18 is to balance your, the ratepayers', interests
19 with the utility's interests. We recommend what
20 we believe is in the public interest to the
21 Commission, which is to say that we recommend safe,
22 reliable service at a reasonable cost.

23 Tonight with us, we also have our
24 Consumer Complaint Resolution Division -
25 Commissioner Cordova touched on that - and they

1 are here to help you with any issues you have
2 regarding your utility service, and they are always
3 available to help you with that. If you call the
4 Commission, you can be directed to them, and they
5 can help you with any issues that you have.

6 Thank you for providing your comment
7 tonight. Staff always finds these to be
8 instructive.

9 Thank you.

10 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you,
11 Miss Daley.

12 Mr. Stuhff, with the Attorney General's
13 Office.

14 INTRODUCTION AND COMMENTS

15 MR. STUHFF: Thank you, Commissioner
16 Cordova, for convening this important consumer
17 session.

18 And good evening representatives,
19 Staff, and the Companies, and most importantly you,
20 from the public here.

21 My name is Paul Stuhff, and I'm an
22 Attorney from the Nevada Attorney General's Bureau
23 of Consumer Protection.

24 The BCP is an office that was
25 established decades ago to protect the interests

1 of consumers and small businesses in the utility
2 forum. The role of the BCP is to represent Nevada
3 residential and small business ratepayers in
4 proceedings like this one.

5 Ratepayers deserve reliable utility
6 service at the lowest reasonable cost.

7 The BCP has a team of highly qualified
8 and dedicated accountants, engineers, economists,
9 experts, and attorneys reviewing cases submitted by
10 Nevada regulated public utilities. We analyze the
11 position of the utility company, and then present
12 our case to the Public Utilities Commission for its
13 consideration. We ask formal questions of the
14 Company, retain experts, and present that case.

15 Today, however, we're here to hear from
16 you, the Nevada ratepayer generally, and the impact
17 of the actions of Nevada utilities that would
18 have -- that they have upon you, and we want to
19 hear your concerns.

20 Thank you.

21 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. Thank
22 you, Mr. Stuhff.

23 GENERAL COMMENTS

24 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: So this is how
25 we're going to do it. I've got the cards that you

1 filled out when you arrived if you wish to make a
2 comment, and I'll just call them off one-by-one in
3 the order that they were received.

4 At the time that I call your name, if
5 you can just come up and sit in the chair right
6 here. Like I said, the microphone is on. State
7 and spell your name for the record, and then you
8 can give your comments.

9 Miss Scott is going to be keeping a
10 timer. The reason we do this is because there is
11 a lot of us, and I want to keep us moving along so
12 that everyone has an opportunity to be heard this
13 evening. I don't think that all of you want to be
14 here all night, so we're going to keep it moving
15 along. You'll hear a little noise when the timer
16 goes off.

17 We also have a Court Reporter in
18 Carson City, and she takes down all of the
19 comments, because then we transmit this over to
20 the the Legislature after the consumer session is
21 concluded, and it also provides opportunities for
22 other folks that couldn't be here tonight to read
23 the transcript and hear the comments that everyone
24 has made.

25 So that's part of the reason for

1 stating your name and spelling your name, so
2 that the Court Reporter can get it down properly.

3 So let's go ahead and get started. The
4 first card that I have is for Angel DeFazio.

5 ANGEL DeFAZIO

6 A public commenter

7 Commented as follows:

8 MS. DeFAZIO: Before I start, can we
9 get clarification on something? If I want to have
10 something, an exhibit, whatever, appended to the
11 transcript to go up to Legislative Counsel, do I
12 give it to you? Will Debbie attach it to the
13 transcript? And will it be sent up, or is it just
14 going to sit in the docket?

15 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Miss DeFazio,
16 that's a technical question that I can't answer
17 right now, but I can promise you that we'll get
18 you an answer to that question.

19 So if you have something that you want
20 to be provided as a written document, go ahead and
21 give it to one of the ladies, and then we'll get an
22 answer to your question.

23 MS. DeFAZIO: Okay. Thank you.

24 For the record, Angel DeFazio,
25 D-e-F-a-z-i-o.

1 In 2002 there was a Clark County
2 Advisory Question 14 regarding authority for a
3 locally controlled not-for-profit electric company.
4 We need to seriously revisit this. NVE is out of
5 control, and the PUC is not ruling with concern for
6 Southern Nevada.

7 In 2002 customers experienced rate
8 increases of more than 500 million from August
9 of 2000 to 2002. That's chump change compared
10 to current increases.

11 299,574 people voted, with 172,012 yes
12 votes, for 57.42 percent. If revisited, I would
13 suspect at least 85 percent approval, with a
14 95 percent CI.

15 Hayley should have recused herself on
16 the NDPP. She prevaricated, claiming she would be
17 unbiased. Yes, right, especially since she is the
18 Vice-Chair of the Tahoe RPA. Conflict of interest.

19 The PUC is top-heavy with Northerners
20 who steer things to their benefit.

21 Sam Crano proved to be very spineless
22 in a crypto court as a Commissioner; too chicken
23 to upset Hayley and Tammy, so he comes up with the
24 most asinine, ass-kicking recommendation, pay for
25 the next three years rather than making sure

1 charges are valid before ruling. Another
2 rubber-stamping to appease NVE. And to think I
3 endorsed him for Utility Hearing Officer. Major
4 mea culpa.

5 I want it on the record, NVE is now
6 trying to suppress my ability to comment on their
7 dockets, and I will not be silenced and forced to
8 give up my right to comment. Welcome to the
9 dispute proving of Newton's third law of motion.

10 In closing, the 2019 law makes no
11 mention of the need for a Statewide rate. NVE
12 argues it's providing a Statewide benefit through
13 its preparedness efforts, but admitted a disaster
14 in the North would have no measurable effect on
15 local economies elsewhere, so stop saying a
16 disaster up North will impact Southern. It won't.

17 Thank you.

18 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you,
19 Miss DeFazio.

20 (Public Commenter Excused.)

21 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: So those of you
22 that are standing, I'm going to put you on the
23 spot, there are chairs, comfy chairs; there are
24 comfy chairs. No?

25 Okay. Okay. Anybody else want a comfy

1 chair? Okay. We'll keep going.

2 I have Diana Diaz. Come on up.

3 And you're going to translate for her,

4 or --

5 MS. DIAZ: No, I speak very well.

6 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. When he
7 comes up, I usually think he's translating for
8 somebody.

9 Okay. Okay, Miss Diaz, please proceed.

10 DIANA DIAZ

11 A public commenter

12 Commented as follows:

13 MS. DIAZ: Hi. Hello, members of the
14 Commission. My name is Diana Diaz, D-i-a-n-a
15 D-i-a-z, and I am a member of Make the Road Nevada.

16 I have lived in this State for 14
17 years, and face challenges that most will find
18 insurmountable. From multiple evictions to
19 experience homelessness twice; life has not been
20 a walk in the park for low income individuals like
21 myself.

22 Up to now, the rising costs of
23 utilities have placed an overwhelming burden on
24 my fixed income, often leaving me with
25 gut-wrenching choices between necessities, to keep

1 my home heated or putting my food on the table.

2 I am here today once again on the brink
3 of losing my home, this time because of monopoly
4 giants like NVEnergy and Southwest have decided to
5 inflate utility costs.

6 Let's not forget the perilous heat
7 waves we had, and making energy unaffordable could
8 mean life or death for those most vulnerable.

9 I stand here before you today to
10 declare that we will not stand idly by as these
11 companies exploit the working class. They might
12 have money to splash on scholarships and marketing,
13 but we, the consumers, are the reasons they exist.
14 It's high time they invest in those mediums in
15 affordable and clean energy options that directly
16 benefit us.

17 So to everyone here, I say let's let
18 your voices be heard. We have the power to demand
19 better, and to fight against these practices, and
20 to call for a fair system that doesn't bleed the
21 working class dry. Enough is enough. We will not
22 be silenced, and we will not be oppressed any
23 longer.

24 Thank you for your attention. Let's
25 stand up united in this fight.

1 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you,
2 Miss Diaz.

3 (Public Commenter Excused.)

4 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: The next card I
5 have is Laura Alita Acosta.

6 LAURA ACOSTA

7 A public commenter

8 Commented as follows in Spanish:

9 MS. ACOSTA: Hi. Good afternoon,
10 everybody. My name is Laura Acosta.

11 (Comments in Spanish.)

12 MS. GRANADOS: (Translating in
13 English). My name is Laura Acosta, promoter for
14 Chispa Nevada, and I'm here today representing many
15 families in our community who are facing
16 overwhelming financial hardship.

17 As a parent with several family members
18 who depend on me, I want to express our deep
19 concern regarding the possible further increases in
20 the rates for the electricity provided by Nevada
21 Energy.

22 We live in times when economic
23 challenges have become more burdensome. Despite
24 working hard, and in a dedicated manner, our wages
25 are no longer sufficient to cover the basic

1 expenses necessary to support our families. The
2 growing gap between our income and current living
3 expenses is the real and pressing problem affecting
4 many families in our community. Constant inflation
5 has added additional financial pressure to our
6 lives. Prices for housing, food, and essential
7 services have increased significantly, and the
8 situation has left us struggling to find a balance
9 between our wages and daily expenses. It is no
10 exaggeration to say that many families are living
11 on the edge, trying to stay afloat in the midst of
12 these challenging circumstances.

13 On behalf of our community, I urge this
14 Commission to consider the difficulties working
15 families face before making decisions that will
16 have a direct impact on our lives. Authorizing
17 further increases in electricity rates will become
18 one more obstacle on our path to financial
19 stability.

20 The PUCN must continue to be a voice
21 for consumers, and pressure NVEnergy not only to
22 pause during the summer, but to continue to pause
23 rates in the fall, and look for ways to reduce
24 energy bills.

25 Thank you. Laura Acosta.

1 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you.

2 (Public Commenter Excused.)

3 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. Oh, this
4 is tough. Jacinto Alfano? Does that ring a bell
5 for somebody? Sorry. Your handwriting is very
6 loopy.

7 JACINTO ALFARO

8 A public commenter

9 Commented in Spanish as follows:

10 MR. ALFARO: (Comments in Spanish.)

11 MS. GRANADOS: (Translating in
12 English.) Hi. My name is Jacinto Alfaro. I'm
13 going to spell it out. J-a-c-i-n-t-o.

14 MR. ALFARO: (Spanish).

15 MS. GRANADOS: (English) Alfaro is
16 A-l-f-a-r-o.

17 MR. ALFARO: (Spanish).

18 MS. GRANADOS: (English) I'm here to
19 speak for the people of Nevada.

20 MR. ALFARO: (Spanish).

21 MS. GRANADOS: (English) I am a
22 volunteer for Chispa for the State of Nevada.

23 MR. ALFARO: (Spanish).

24 MS. GRANADOS: (English) I'm here for
25 one reason.

1 MR. ALFARO: (Spanish).

2 MS. GRANADOS: (English) I'm not here
3 to define what a monopoly is.

4 MR. ALFARO: (Spanish).

5 MS. GRANADOS: (English) What it means
6 to be fair.

7 MR. ALFARO: (Spanish).

8 MS. GRANADOS: (English) You are in a
9 very important place.

10 MR. ALFARO: (Spanish).

11 MS. GRANADOS: (English) I believe in
12 democracy.

13 MR. ALFARO: (Spanish).

14 MS. GRANADOS: (English) And people
15 are worried.

16 MR. ALFARO: (Spanish).

17 MS. GRANADOS: (English) We're in a
18 pressure cooker.

19 MR. ALFARO: (Spanish).

20 MS. GRANADOS: (English) 20, 30 years
21 is not sustainable.

22 MR. ALFARO: (Spanish).

23 MS. GRANADOS: (English) Clean energy
24 was invented more than 40 years ago.

25 MR. ALFARO: (Spanish).

1 MS. GRANADOS: (English) I have a
2 question.

3 MR. ALFARO: (Spanish).

4 MS. GRANADOS: (English) What are we
5 waiting for?

6 MR. ALFARO: (Spanish).

7 MS. GRANADOS: (English) To implement
8 clean energy in our homes.

9 MR. ALFARO: (Spanish).

10 MS. GRANADOS: (English) The people
11 that are here with me today.

12 MR. ALFARO: (Spanish).

13 MS. GRANADOS: (English) We have a
14 soul.

15 MR. ALFARO: (Spanish).

16 MS. GRANADOS: (English) We are not a
17 dollar sign.

18 MR. ALFARO: (Spanish).

19 MS. GRANADOS: (English) We have
20 children.

21 MR. ALFARO: (Spanish).

22 MS. GRANADOS: (English) There are
23 people who are going to die.

24 MR. ALFARO: (Spanish).

25 MS. GRANADOS: (English) The people

1 who are connected to our important places that have
2 medical issues.

3 MR. ALFARO: (Spanish).

4 MS. GRANADOS: (English) Some people
5 have to make a decision whether to pay their light
6 bill or put food on their tables.

7 MR. ALFARO: (Spanish).

8 MS. GRANADOS: (English) We are
9 sentient beings; we are knowing beings.

10 MR. ALFARO: (Spanish).

11 MS. GRANADOS: (English) And we are
12 humans.

13 MR. ALFARO: (Spanish).

14 MS. GRANADOS: (English) That's what
15 differentiates us from robots.

16 MR. ALFARO: (Spanish).

17 MS. GRANADOS: (English) Thank you.

18 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Gracias.

19 (Public Commenter Excused.)

20 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. The next
21 one I have is Manuel Cazares.

22 MANUEL CAZARES

23 A public commenter

24 Commented in Spanish as follows:

25 MR. CAZARES: (Spanish).

1 MR. GARCIA: (English) My name is
2 Robert Garcia, and I am --

3 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. You don't
4 need to go fast --

5 MR. GARCIA: Yes.

6 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: -- because
7 you'll make the Court Reporter crazy.

8 MR. GARCIA: Okay.

9 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay.

10 MR. GARCIA: I just saw ten seconds so,
11 like, oh, no. Yes. There.

12 So my name is Robert Garcia, and I'm an
13 economic justice organizer for Make the Road
14 Nevada. I will be translating for Manuel Cazares.

15 (English) Hello, Commissioners. My
16 name is Manuel Cazares, spelled M-a-n-u-e-l
17 C-a-z-a-r-e-s, and I am a Make the Road Nevada
18 member.

19 My wife and I have been married for
20 10 years. Now although our children are now
21 adults, we are facing economic difficulties that
22 are affecting our independence.

23 Last year we were left without air
24 conditioning, which is deplorable in Las Vegas,
25 where the high temperatures make it indispensable.

1 Along with this, the rent and public utility bills
2 are constantly increasing. I have a fixed income
3 of 900 a month, of which 700 already goes to rent.
4 How am I expected to cover an additional 300 for
5 NVEnergy?

6 We depend on assist programs to put a
7 plate of food on our table. The price of utilities
8 like utility, gas, and water have doubled, and
9 honestly I can no longer afford to live. I am
10 behind in my electricity bill by 300, and I have
11 to resort to an aid program.

12 We are not alone. How many other
13 people are living in the same situation? The
14 people are the one who suffer and pay while
15 companies like NVEnergy seem interested only in
16 the profit margins.

17 I strongly urge you to reconsider the
18 increase in public utilities rates; in fact, prices
19 should go down. We no longer can continue like
20 this. Everything is expensive, and everything has
21 become another economic burden.

22 Thank you for your time, and for taking
23 our concerns into account.

24 Also, thank you for giving me time to
25 translate it.

1 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you.

2 (Public Commenter Excused.)

3 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. The next
4 card I have is Marina Bahena.

5 MARINA BAHENA

6 A public commenter

7 Commented in Spanish as follows:

8 MS. BAHENA: (Spanish).

9 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Can you pull her
10 microphone -- there we go.

11 MS. BAHENA: (Spanish).

12 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Go ahead.

13 MR. GARCIA: (English) Hello. Again,
14 my name is Robert Garcia, the economic justice
15 organizer with Make the Road. I'll be translating
16 for Marina Bahena.

17 So dear Commissioners, my name is
18 Marina Bahena, M-a-r-i-n-a B-e-h-e-n-a, a member
19 of Make the Road Nevada.

20 Today I want to share with you the
21 difficult economic situation that my husband Manuel
22 and I find ourselves in. Manuel is retired, and
23 has a fixed income, and I pick up odd jobs whenever
24 I can. Even so, we are constantly faced with the
25 challenge that our income is not enough to sustain

1 us, especially with the rising costs due to
2 inflation.

3 Since December we have spent five
4 months without air conditioning because we cannot
5 afford the repairs.

6 Additionally, we have a terrible
7 failures in electricity because we can't afford the
8 high rates. We have suffered both the winter's
9 cold and the summer's heat before we void using
10 heating and air conditioning to save on expenses,
11 and yet the prices have increased.

12 During the summer I even find myself
13 getting up at 2 in the morning just to take a bath
14 to cool off. I would see my husband getting up in
15 the middle of the night, affected by the
16 temperature. Living without air conditioning in a
17 City like Las Vegas, with increasingly extreme
18 heat, is inhumane.

19 Currently our situation is such that we
20 have depended on Food Bank programs to eat. We are
21 at our financial limits, and cannot tolerate any
22 more increases in public utility rates.

23 For all these reasons, I ask that you
24 do not raise utility rates. We are already
25 overwhelmed with all the payments, and sincerely

1 cannot face any more economic pressures.

2 Thank you for your time, and for
3 considering our concerns.

4 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you.

5 (Public Commenter Excused.)

6 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. The next
7 card I have is for Pastor Anderson.

8 MARLON ANDERSON

9 A public commenter

10 Commented as follows:

11 MR. ANDERSON: Hello, Commissioners.

12 My name is Pastor Marlon Anderson, and I am the
13 clean energy community organizer for Faith
14 Organizing Alliance, where our mission is to
15 increase civic participation through faith-based
16 and civic organizations with the Las Vegas Valley
17 to advance a community and government that is more
18 caring, just, and equitable.

19 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Slow down.

20 MR. ANDERSON: Sorry.

21 As an NVEnergy and Southwest Gas
22 customer, and a member of the Las Vegas community,
23 I am highly disappointed with the skyrocketing
24 energy bills. We went from soaring winter
25 Southwest Gas bills to shocking summer NVEnergy

1 bills. The utility tells us this is what happens
2 because the price of methane gas spiked over the
3 last year. They also tell that they make no profit
4 off this gas, but that they do pass on 100 percent
5 of the cost to the customers. 100 percent. Like
6 that's supposed to make us feel better.

7 But I want the utilities to tell us
8 what they're going to do about it. If the cost of
9 gas is to blame for families having less money for
10 necessities like food, child care, medication,
11 household savings, and more, what are they going
12 to do so that they are less dependent on gas?

13 You and the utilities have known for
14 a long time that gas prices can easily, can spike
15 easily because they are subject to world events.
16 So I'm here to urge all of you to provide real rate
17 relief, to invest in what local clean energy that
18 will stabilize energy prices, and to stop expanding
19 the gas systems that led to this year's devastating
20 utility bills.

21 I have solar panels on my house, and
22 benefit from lower and more stable electricity
23 bills more than many of my friends, neighbors, and
24 community members.

25 Commissioners, please do more to help

1 others benefit from clean energy as I do,
2 especially renters and those with high energy
3 burdens.

4 Clean energy efficiency and
5 weatherization programs would help stabilize
6 electricity bills, while making our homes more
7 comfortable.

8 And one more thing. Over the last
9 couple of days I spoke with a few community
10 members. They told me that they got their bill
11 this month, and one was \$500. Another person told
12 me their bill was \$800 in an apartment. Ladies and
13 gentlemen, I got a rhetorical question. How are
14 people supposed to budget for these type of
15 blind-siding expenses? What if their budget just
16 can't afford it? What are they supposed to do?
17 Just go in debt? Decide to live on the street?
18 We got to do something about this, and you have
19 the opportunity to do that.

20 Thank you for hearing us. Thank you
21 for listening. We hope that we see a change.

22 Thank you.

23 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you,
24 Pastor Anderson.

25 (Public Commenter Excused.)

1 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: All right. The
2 next card I've got is Sheila Stirling.

3 He was going to take it with him.

4 MS. STIRLING: Right.

5 SHEILA STIRLING

6 A public commenter

7 Commented as follows:

8 MS. STIRLING: Sheila Stirling,

9 S-h-e-i-l-a S-t-i-r-l-i-n-g.

10 What's been going on with the PUC and
11 utilities is absolutely unacceptable, especially
12 NVEnergy. We have a Chair who everyone knows has
13 a conflict of interest in the major docket, NDPP.
14 It's obvious that, I can be objective, isn't
15 necessarily true. She lives in Douglas County,
16 with multi-million dollar homes like Tom Steyer's
17 \$13 million home, and if people choose to live in
18 a highly disaster-prone area, maybe they should pay
19 for their own issues, especially when income up
20 North is far higher than down here in the South.

21 Pro tem Acting Commissioner Crano
22 generated the most ridiculous modification to the
23 NDPP docket, making all ratepayers pay until the
24 next triennial docket, when common sense and
25 professional response would be, put it on hold

1 until the financial impact can be verified; not the
2 other way around.

3 Do we see a common core Commissioner?
4 We wonder?

5 Greenlink is going to provide the link
6 to transfer green into Nevada wallets, the coffers
7 of Berkshire Hathaway. NPC and SPPC will be filing
8 annual rate cases to get the Greenlink plant in
9 service into the rate base as quickly as possible,
10 as Berkshire Hathaway gets richer and richer off
11 the unnecessary transmission investments that were
12 mandated by SB 448 in 2021, a bill that NVEnergy
13 wrote.

14 As of June, 2023, we have the 13th
15 highest residential rates in the United States,
16 according to the United States Energy Information
17 Administration Electrical Power Monthly in August
18 2023. Nevada cannot afford another 17.24 per
19 kilowatt electricity.

20 We have backroom dealings that are
21 going on with advertising, most likely with Tony
22 Sanchez and the R&R partners. SO the ratepayers
23 pay for the advertising, and the Company gets the
24 perks on our dime, while you have Doug coming on
25 television saying how concerned he is about the

1 ratepayers. And his only concern, obviously, is
2 only the shareholders.

3 While NVE is trying to crucify David
4 Chairez under the false acquisition of violating
5 a nondisclosure agreement with the truth coming
6 out about advertising, perks, et cetera.

7 We implore you, please, you could stand
8 up for the citizens and the residents of Nevada,
9 but nobody has. You haven't. And that's your job.
10 Please, stand up for the citizens, and let's do
11 something right.

12 Thank you.

13 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you,
14 ma'am.

15 (Public Commenter Excused.)

16 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Again, I'm just
17 going to remind everybody there's seats at the
18 table, if anybody wants to sit at the table. So if
19 there are no chairs, you can sit at the table.

20 Okay. Dr. House.

21 MARY HOUSE

22 A public commenter

23 Commented as follows:

24 MS. HOUSE: Well, hello. My name is
25 Dr. Mary House, spelled M-a-r-y H-o-u-s-e, and I am

1 the CEO of CHR, Inc., a faith-based nonprofit in
2 Southern Nevada.

3 At CH&R we are dedicated to caring,
4 helping, and restoring the lives of the unemployed
5 under-served, and under-represented people in our
6 community, people who have suffered significantly
7 high energy burdens.

8 I am here today on behalf of the people
9 of my organization, and who I represent, and
10 myself, an NVE customer and a Southwest Gas
11 customer, so I come here with the same plea year
12 after year, please help improve households'
13 weatherization and energy efficiency.

14 This past year has been challenging for
15 Nevadans. I've heard so many stories of hardship,
16 shock, and outrage because utility bills are
17 unsustainable and unrealistic for the low and fixed
18 income households. We've gone from record high,
19 you know, heating bills, to outrage summer cooling
20 bills, and we just can't keep doing this. And you
21 keep hearing that. You're going to hear it over
22 and over again.

23 Robust utility-led home improvement
24 programs that boost efficiency, manage energy
25 demand, lower utility bills, and make homes

1 healthier and safer, at no cost to the consumer,
2 is a welcomed investment. They are particularly
3 needed in the diverse historically underserved
4 communities.

5 Nevada's dependency on methane gas,
6 where we pump into our homes and burn to make
7 electricity, is the main reason for our high bills.
8 Personally, I am tired of hearing the utilities
9 blame these price swings and rate shocks on gas
10 prices. It's really simple. If gas price swings
11 are to blame, then Nevadans deserve clean energy
12 solutions that will stabilize fuel costs, not more
13 spending on gas systems like new plants and
14 pipelines. A robust energy efficiency,
15 weatherization programs, and electric appliance
16 assistance are what we really need.

17 I can personally attest about the
18 benefits of energy efficiency technology, because
19 I'm currently electrifying my home. I switched my
20 gas stove to an induction cook-top, and I love it.
21 I drive an electric car, and its not a Tesla, so I
22 drive an economy so I can show just the people in
23 our community there are cars you can drive like
24 that. Our church is powered by solar energy.

25 So if the Nevadans can just have that,

1 that would be amazing.

2 Commissioners, I urge you and our
3 utility, energy utilities, to try to find ways to
4 reduce, not increase, our dependency on fossil
5 fuels, and ease that energy burden.

6 The Inflation Reduction Act is a start.
7 We have a historical opportunity in front of us,
8 as funds are becoming available to help utility
9 customers make their homes more comfortable, while
10 spending less on their energy bills.

11 Thank you for hearing me out. God
12 bless.

13 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you,
14 Dr. House.

15 (Public Commenter Excused.)

16 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: The next card I
17 have is Robert Kasper.

18 ROBERT KASPER

19 A public commenter

20 Commented as follows:

21 MR. KASPER: Good afternoon. My name
22 is Robert Kasper, K-a-s-p-e-r.

23 Excuse my voice. I'm recovering from
24 throat cancer. I just got over it 11 months ago.

25 I've been living in Nevada for four

1 years, approximately, and I love the State, but it
2 just baffles me what's going on with the rates.
3 I mean, I looked it up. This is the third highest
4 increase in the country. You have increased the
5 rates, the electrical rates, 29 percent in two
6 years, 2022. And I can get you where I got the
7 information from, cost of electricity. It's from
8 Quick Electricity. You can look it up.

9 And I don't understand how you people
10 can keep going along with these increases. I mean,
11 I volunteer right now at Catholic charities; I see
12 all the homeless people. I'm lucky that I own a
13 home. But you're going to put people on the
14 street. You're going to add to it, because these
15 rates are out of control.

16 And they tell me on the phone this was
17 not-for-profit. Really? Berkshire Hathaway gets
18 a premium. They own this Company. I mean, they're
19 making money hand over fist, and if they have any
20 type of conscience, look at the public what's going
21 on right now.

22 They say get solar panels. Do you know
23 how much solar panels are on a home? 50,000,
24 60,000. Who can afford that? You want to come up
25 with some ideas, then come up with some ideas.

1 But Berkshire Hathaway, you're going to
2 lose half the public because eventually we're going
3 to get off this grid, because you are just raping
4 the public for what you charge.

5 I'm a retired union president. I come
6 out of Minnesota. I love this State again, but you
7 need to do something. When I hear it's
8 not-for-profit, and it's the biggest fallacy, this
9 whole thing is a monopoly. And if you see the
10 rates how they've gone up, as far as what you're
11 charging, 17.6 cents per kilowatt, it's 13th in
12 the country, or 15th in the country. I mean, if
13 you're advertising clean energy; really?

14 Your reliance on natural gas -- on gas,
15 methane gas, there hasn't been major changes. You
16 have all the sun in the world, and you don't do
17 anything about putting solar farms up to try to
18 help the public. Well, you're going to lose half
19 of them, because my neighborhood is up in arms. I
20 hear it all the time.

21 And you don't want to kick somebody
22 like me. I used to represent about 156 labor
23 unions in the State of Minnesota. I came out here,
24 and I retired. I'm a fair guy. And I don't blame
25 you's up there, but really, come on. Do you really

1 want to kill the quality of this State? A lot of
2 retirees come out here.

3 It's a travesty when I volunteer at
4 the Catholic charities. I see all the homeless
5 people, and I see what goes on, and how are you
6 supposed to pay your bills? I mean, these
7 increases have passed the index of what the
8 inflation has gone up. It's gone up double.

9 I mean, I don't understand how you
10 people can really fathom letting this go on, until
11 maybe some of us decide to run against some of the
12 people that are passing this stuff.

13 I appreciate you hearing me today, and
14 God bless this State.

15 Thank you.

16 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you.

17 (Public Commenter Excused.)

18 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: The next one is
19 Jeanette Matthews.

20 JEANETTE MATTHEWS

21 A public commenter

22 Commented as follows:

23 MS. MATTHEWS: Thank you very much.

24 It's Jeanette Matthews, J-e-a-n-e-t-t-e, Matthews,
25 M-a-t-t-h-e-w-s.

1 And I am here for a different topic,
2 but as I sit here and listen to these people, I
3 just want to say that I really feel bad for them.

4 I'm unfortunately not in that position
5 because in 2014, as part of my retirement program,
6 I installed solar electric. And at that time there
7 were energy credits that you generated, and I was
8 under the impression that these energy credits
9 could be stored up and sold back to the market.
10 And I, at this point, have never seen that
11 realized. And, you know, it's very disappointing.

12 But what really upset me was the fact
13 that Southwest Gas actually put a handbill in their
14 billing asking, soliciting Nevadans to donate money
15 so they could go purchase energy credits. And I'm
16 like, duh? Energy credits?

17 All of these people in Nevada are
18 generating energy credits in addition to paying
19 their bills, for those who don't understand.

20 So I called Southwest Gas, and I asked
21 the supervisor to call me, and said you're buying
22 energy credits? Why don't you buy what the
23 Nevadans here are generating off their rooftop?

24 Well, a supervisor called me back, and
25 pointed me to their Website, and I did a little

1 research, and it's offset rather than generating.

2 But what astounds me is this, we do
3 have apparently these banks of energy credits; why
4 can't we donate to help offset these poor people
5 who can't afford their power bills or their gas
6 bills? I don't get it. Something needs to happen.

7 I sit here almost in tears listening to
8 these people. I'm not in that position, but I will
9 tell you this, I have it on my house, I bought it
10 for my rental. And I told my renter, you don't
11 have to pay the power bill now; I will pay your
12 power bill for you.

13 This is how much I believe. And I know
14 Nevada can do this. Just like someone said, it's
15 free. It just comes down, and falls on our roof.
16 We need to do something.

17 Why doesn't NVEnergy help these people,
18 help these places install solar so that people can
19 have energy at a reasonable cost?

20 Thank you very much. And I hope all
21 these people get some kind of response.

22 Thank you.

23 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you.

24 (Public Commenter Excused.)

25 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. The next

1 one I have is Paulette Henriod.

2 PAULETTE HENRIOD

3 a public commenter

4 commented as follows:

5 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Sorry about the
6 last name. I'm sure I --

7 MS. HENROID: No, you did really well.

8 Yes, my name is a Paulette,

9 P-a-u-l-e-t-t-e, Henroid, H-e-n-r-i-o-d, and I'm
10 representing the Nevada Chapter of Mormon Women
11 for Ethical Government, or MWEG. MWEG consists
12 of members throughout the State who strive to
13 build more peaceful, just, and ethical communities.

14 As energy consumers, we are concerned
15 about a variety of issues and the health and
16 economic impacts these issues have on individuals
17 and on families in our State.

18 Like other Nevadans, our members and
19 their families have been burdened with rising
20 utility rates, unpredictable bills, and concerns
21 about living in the fastest warming cities in the
22 United States.

23 Nevada ratepayers deserve
24 predictability, affordability, and transparency,
25 and for rate and infrastructure planning by the

1 utility monopolies. We ask for careful scrutiny of
2 any additional rate hike proposals in light of the
3 series of past rate increases, soaring energy
4 costs, and record high bills.

5 We ask that the Commission and the
6 utilities prioritize clean energy resources over
7 fossil fuels, as both those clean resources are
8 proving to be more cost efficient and predictable
9 due to both market forces and Federal incentives.

10 Nevada can benefit greatly from these
11 Federal investments in clean energy, efficiency,
12 and weatherization, depending on how our utilities
13 plan to utilize the expense. We ask the Commission
14 to carefully oversee these plans to assure the
15 benefits reach the ratepayers.

16 Nevada provides too heavily on methane
17 gas imported from out of state. Methane gas prices
18 have been historically volatile, especially in the
19 last few years. Meanwhile, we have abundant solar
20 and geothermal resources here, which continue to
21 see price decreases. Developing more local clean
22 power will offset poor air quality, and the health
23 of Nevadans.

24 MWEGB is also concerned about lavish,
25 about reports of lavish benefits given to

1 executives and upper management of both Nevada
2 Energy and Southwest Gas. We want transparency
3 and assurance that perks are not being funded
4 by ratepayer moneys.

5 Utilities should shed economic
6 burdens that rising energy costs impose on
7 consumers by exercising fiscal restraint and
8 infrastructure, and in compensation to high
9 level executives.

10 We thank the Commission for their
11 public service, and your diligence to hear public
12 comment.

13 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you,
14 ma'am.

15 (Public Commenter Excused.)

16 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. I'm going
17 to do maybe a couple more, and then we'll take a
18 break.

19 The next one I have is, it's either
20 Duke or Dulce Ayala.

21 MS. AYALA: Dulce.

22 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Oh, Dulce.

23 MS. AYALA: Yes.

24 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. Sorry.

25

1 DULCE AYALA

2 A public commenter

3 Commented as follows:

4 MS. AYALA: (Spanish).

5 MR. GARCIA: (English) Hello. My name
6 is Robert Garcia. I'm the economic justice
7 organizer with Make the Road Nevada. I forgot to
8 spell my name. It's R-o-b-e-r-t G-a-r-c-i-a. And
9 I'll be translating for Dulce Ayala.

10 Hello, Commissioners. My name is Dulce
11 Ayala, spelled D-u-l-c-e A-y-a-l-a, and I am a
12 member of Make the Road Nevada, and a mother of
13 three children.

14 My bills for air conditioning have gone
15 up terribly in 2023. Last month I had to pay \$400,
16 when before I used to pay a maximum of 200. This,
17 along rising rent, food, and basic necessities,
18 leave us vulnerable to public utility
19 disconnections.

20 I got sick recently, and they still
21 can't diagnose what it is, and for this reason I
22 work sporadically. I see my 20-year old daughter,
23 who works and studies, having to assume the
24 financial responsibilities of the house, and I
25 watch my 19-year old son desperate to find a job

1 to be able to help us better. I feel bad about
2 myself because I can't give them a better life.

3 I should be able to give them a better
4 future, but we are still recovering from the
5 pandemic, where the jobs offered are sporadic or
6 part-time, because they don't want to give
7 benefits, and with the minimum wage that is not
8 enough to survive.

9 And here we are, raising our voices
10 against the monopoly of NVEnergy, who are trying
11 to squeeze the working class, who can barely
12 make ends meet, to pay for their sponsorships
13 in sports.

14 I'm not asking for anything free;
15 I'm asking for fair prices for services like
16 electricity and gas so we don't have to be
17 suffering. Considering the jobs we have in
18 relation to the working class, we are always
19 the most affected, the low income families.

20 Thank you for your time.

21 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you.

22 (Public Commenter Excused.)

23 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. Sal
24 Solar.

25

1 SAL SOLAR

2 A public commenter

3 Commented as follows:

4 MR. SOLAR: My name is Sal Solar, S-a-l
5 S-o-l-a-r.

6 I've never been here before. I've
7 never been to any of these meetings before. This
8 is my very first time. I've lived in Nevada since
9 1978, and I've listened to all of these stories
10 here tonight, and I have never seen in my lifetime,
11 and I never thought I would see, the practice and
12 exercise of Machiavellian by the utility companies
13 on these people and on us, because they created the
14 problem, they now -- they're trying to create a
15 false solution with meetings like this to gain the
16 confidence of the people so they can stick it to us
17 even more.

18 When I came out here, we had the most
19 affordable utility rates in the country. And up
20 until about 20 years ago, before solar became a
21 household word, we still had affordable utilities
22 in this State. Once solar came into play, the
23 utilities went to hell in a hand-basket. Excuse my
24 French. The prices increased.

25 They built a solar farm from here to

1 California, in the middle of here to California.
2 It was supposed to generate 50 percent of our
3 electricity. It generated at less than 25 percent
4 at a great cost. Where did the cost come from?
5 Our pockets, because we're subsidizing that solar
6 farm.

7 The windmills that Harry Reid put up
8 in Searchlight were also supposed to subsidize our
9 utilities; didn't do it. We're paying for them
10 through the nose as well by every increase.

11 Every month for the last year NVEnergy
12 has gotten an increase. Where do they get off
13 justifying an increase like this every single
14 month?

15 And now you's are looking for, they're
16 looking for another increase, come October I think,
17 or November, where they're going to subsidize the
18 forest fires in Reno at the expense of all
19 Nevadans? I mean, this is kind of ridiculous.

20 How about they take the money out of
21 their profits and their stockholders' pockets and
22 paying for what we've given them, and let these
23 people, and let all of us enjoy a lifestyle that
24 we should be having anyway.

25 Solar is not the answer. Everybody

1 thinks it is, it's a household word anymore, but
2 let me explain -- I know when solar first came out
3 a few years - or not a few years ago - but a few
4 years ago I had people knocking on my doors
5 continuously giving me estimates.

6 So I brought them in. I played the
7 game with them. And I says, okay, outfit my house.
8 What would it cost me? \$40,000. Well, my utility
9 bills at the time were \$900 annually. It would
10 have taken me 45 to 50 years to break even, before
11 I seen a penny profit. Now you still think solar
12 is the answer? I don't think so. I will never
13 live 45 years to see a profit, so how is anybody
14 going to justify that?

15 Anybody who believes that solar is the
16 answer, they're wrong. Anybody believes that these
17 EV vehicles, are wrong, because I'll tell you what.
18 Just two weeks ago I was up in Montana, and I was
19 on Interstate 90, and there was a car carrier
20 carrying six EV vehicles. All of a sudden, they
21 burst out into the flames. They weren't running,
22 they just bursts into flames. The whole car
23 carrier burst into flames.

24 So when you people who drive EVs park
25 it in a car - your car in the garage - and your

1 house goes up, your insurance is going to going up
2 as well, and it's going to affect all of us.
3 That's not the answer.

4 The CEO of Ford was going to go on a
5 road trip from California to New York. He had to
6 charge his car twice before he got out of
7 California.

8 So where is the benefit in these cars?
9 They're great for around the neighborhood. You
10 want to go to the grocery store, get a golf cart,
11 for crying out loud, if you want to do that, if you
12 don't want to burn fossil fuels.

13 But you know what? We need fossil fuel
14 burning. And I'm not an advocate; I'm just a
15 citizen and a taxpayer and a resident of Nevada.
16 Like I said, I'm retired, so I have no interest
17 either way, other than to save money because it's
18 become more and more unaffordable for me to live.

19 But the thing is, is that we do need
20 fossil fuels. We're never going to get away from
21 them. Never. Everything around us is made out
22 of fossil fuels, plastics, plastics, plastics,
23 artificial. We're never going to get away from it.

24 We're pushing an agenda that is, and
25 how many I describe it, these people that are going

1 for this green energy nonsense are the wildcatters
2 that were the oil industry years and years ago.
3 They want to take over and be the wildcatters of
4 the electric industry. It's never going to work.
5 It's never going to work.

6 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Can you finish
7 up, Mr. Solar?

8 MR. SOLAR: Yes, I am done.

9 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay.

10 MR. SOLAR: Thank you. I know it's
11 never going to go anywhere, but this is the
12 greatest exploitation of Machiavellian I've ever
13 seen in my entire life. For those who know who it
14 is, they understand what I'm saying.

15 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you,
16 sir.

17 MR. SOLAR: Thank you.

18 (Public Commenter Excused.)

19 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. We'll do
20 one more, and then we'll take a break.

21 I have Firmin Ramirez.

22 FIRMIN RAMIREZ

23 A public commenter

24 Commented in Spanish as follows:

25 MR. RAMIREZ: (Spanish).

1 MS. GRANADOS: (English) To the
2 honorable members of the Public Utilities Division
3 of Nevada, PUCN, good afternoon.

4 My name is Firmin Ramirez. I am
5 a resident of the State of Nevada, and I appear
6 before you to testify at this hearing that this
7 Commission is presiding over, as a volunteer
8 of Chispa Nevada, and a member of our community.

9 I want to express my concern about
10 the increases I have seen in my electric bill
11 for several months now. I see that this means
12 the increase is disproportionate to my use, given
13 that I live on my own.

14 In order to understand this within the
15 current context, it should be noted that thousands
16 of families across the State of Nevada are living
17 through financial difficulties, and it is hard
18 given the financial circumstances we are going
19 through, and if we add more increases in different
20 services to this, it will contribute to deepening
21 the inequality gap that exists in our communities,
22 the communities of color.

23 We have been historically under-served
24 communities, so it would be unfair for a company
25 like Nevada Energy, which enjoys many economic

1 benefits as a result of providing the service,
2 to continue to increase prices even more, when we
3 as a community need to have enough resources to be
4 able to meet all of our basic needs in each of our
5 homes.

6 For low income families, these
7 increases, they could help gather enough money
8 to pay for the medications of a child with a
9 chronic illness, or not have the money for it.

10 Fortunately, we have agencies like
11 these that allow us to denounce these injustices
12 and thus oppose any increase that is desired for
13 these services.

14 Therefore, I oppose that the prices
15 for the electric service provided by Nevada
16 Energy continue to increase disproportionately
17 more and more for users, and thereby ask you
18 to kindly consider the financial situation of
19 our community.

20 Thank you for listening to Nevadans.
21 Firmin Ramirez.

22 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you.

23 (Public Commenter Excused.)

24 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: So we're going
25 to take just a five-minute health break, and then

1 I'll pick up with the next card.

2 And just so - it's Jose Luis Chavez -
3 that's who we're going to start with when we come
4 back.

5 (At 7:12 p.m. a recess was taken.)

6 -oOo-

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1 LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
2 WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2023
3 7:20 P.M.

4 -oOo-

5 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: The next card I
6 have is Jose Luis Chavez.

7 JOSE LUIS CHAVEZ
8 A public commenter

9 Commented in Spanish as follows:

10 MR. CHAVEZ: (Spanish).

11 MS. GRANADOS: (English) Hi. My name
12 is Anabel Granados, A-n-a-b-e-l G-r-a-n-a-d-o-s,
13 and I will be interpreting.

14 To the Honorable members of the Public
15 Utilities Commission of Nevada, PUCN, good
16 afternoon. My name is Jose Luis Chavez, resident
17 of the State of Nevada.

18 I want to thank you for allowing this
19 space of expression for our community. I want to
20 share with you that I am a volunteer for Chispa
21 Nevada, a program that builds power in our Latino
22 communities to have a say in decisions that affect
23 the environment.

24 I want to start by saying that the cost
25 of living is already too high for many families.

1 We should not be burdened with more increases in
2 an industry that is already thriving. The
3 additional financial burden that would result from
4 these increases would have a direct impact on our
5 quality of life, and our chances of saving for the
6 future of our children.

7 One solution that I would urge you to
8 consider is the migration to clean and renewable
9 energy. Nevada is a state that enjoys abundant
10 solar resources, and transitioning to more
11 sustainable energy sources would not only be a
12 step in the right direction for our environment,
13 but also for our wallets.

14 Clean energy would not only reduce
15 our carbon footprint, but would also provide us
16 with greater stability in our bills long-term. So
17 in this way we urge you to consider the voices of
18 families like mine, who seek a balance between cost
19 of living and quality of life.

20 We are calling for greater transparency
21 and choice in a market that currently lacks
22 competition. You are the competent authority that
23 can deny further price increases for Nevada Energy
24 services, and it is a valuable opportunity to
25 address this request made by vulnerable

1 communities, and benefit the economy of all our
2 households.

3 Thank you for the opportunity. Jose
4 Luis Chavez.

5 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you.

6 (Public Commenter Excused.)

7 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: The next card is
8 Tonya Ross.

9 TONYA ROSS

10 A public commenter

11 Commented as follows:

12 MS. ROSS: I confess it's my first time
13 here, but yes.

14 Okay. My name is Tonya Ross. Spelling
15 T-o-n-y-a, last name is Ross, R-o-s-s.

16 Okay. So the reason I'm here is I'm
17 a writer, first of all, let me just say that, and I
18 was interested in using the Nevada Energy bill that
19 I get, my own bill, in an advertising ad, but I
20 wasn't sure I had permission to do that.

21 I only want to use the calendar section
22 for door-to-door ads, but I don't know if I have
23 permission, so I don't know if I'm asking the right
24 persons, or I don't want to bump heads, or
25 anything, but I figure everyone in Nevada, or at

1 least in Clark County, has a Nevada bill, and I
2 want to use mine for advertising, and I don't know
3 if I have permission to do that.

4 I don't want to get in trouble, or
5 anything, but I do know that I'm not trying to
6 use anyone else's information, but I figure that
7 everyone has a Nevada Power bill, and that everyone
8 will understand how their bill is made up.

9 And I'm not trying to bump heads,
10 or anything, but I wanted to use mine in like a
11 door-to-door direct mail advertising ads.

12 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. So you're
13 asking that question of me right now is why you're
14 here?

15 MS. ROSS: That's why I'm here.

16 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay.

17 MS. ROSS: I want to use it, but I
18 don't want to get in trouble. I mean, it's my own
19 bill, and it's my calendar, and I want to use it in
20 the calendar section. I figure everyone has one,
21 and I want to do door-to-door advertising.

22 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay.

23 MS. ROSS: But it is on Nevada's
24 heading --

25 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Right --

1 MS. ROSS: -- I don't know; but it's my
2 bill, though.

3 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. What I'm
4 going to ask you to do is to get with Miss Scott,
5 and she can hook you up with the Power Company, and
6 you guys can have a conversation about that. Okay?

7 MS. ROSS: Okay. I did talk to her a
8 little bit off-the-record because I was trying to
9 find out, and she wasn't sure if I could either,
10 but she did mention to me that there would be a
11 transcript that come out with the docket on it.
12 And I told her I didn't want anybody else's
13 information, only my own, and if I was wondering if
14 I could get access to just what I said or did, or
15 anything.

16 I didn't want to come into any legal
17 precautions for me, but I did want to use that
18 section on in -- not even using my account number
19 or my address or anything, not even, but just only
20 like the calendar section where it shows like how
21 much your bill is this month, how much it went up
22 or down, and you can see it for the whole year.
23 And so I want to use that.

24 I have a bill where my bill has came
25 down a whole lot, and I've used like common sense

1 to get my bill down, and I wanted to use mine, I
2 wanted to use mine in advertising in it, because
3 I have a system it does work, and it can be
4 reduced.

5 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. I can't
6 answer that question for you on-the-fly as we sit
7 here, but I think if you talk to Miss Scott some
8 more, maybe we can see if someone here can get
9 you that answer, either from here or NVEnergy.

10 And they do have rights over their
11 logo, but your information about your billing is
12 your information. So I think there's probably a
13 path forward, but I'm not going to sit here, and
14 it's not something within the scope of what I do,
15 right, so it wouldn't be appropriate for me to tell
16 you what you can and cannot do.

17 MS. ROSS: Yes, so that was my concern
18 pretty much.

19 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay.

20 MS. ROSS: I do want to mention getting
21 here, I couldn't believe it. I came up Tropicana
22 Way, and I was like, okay, I know the street, I
23 should be able to find it. Then I come up
24 Flamingo - I mean; what's this one - Russell Way,
25 and I was like, there it is, it's right there, I

1 see it, like the address, 9075, but there is no
2 entrance from the way I see the address. It was
3 so different, I couldn't believe it. But I found
4 it.

5 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: And now that
6 you've been here, you'll be able to find it again.

7 MS. ROSS: Yes.

8 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: But it's hard to
9 find.

10 MS. ROSS: Yes, I took off work to come
11 because I thought it was super-important enough to
12 make sure that I have a right to do something that
13 I want to do with my own bill, so that's why I'm
14 here actually.

15 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: All right.

16 MS. ROSS: I think there is a way,
17 because I can see my -- I didn't bring the bill
18 that I have the prices where they're cheaper from,
19 because they actually put in every month for
20 everyone, from January to December on the bill, on
21 the calendar, and they actually show each month
22 where you went up or down on everyone's bill. So
23 I won't -- I'm not asking for everyone's bill or
24 information, but they can see their own stuff from
25 that, and I just want to use mine in my own

1 advertising ads.

2 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. Thank you
3 very much for coming out.

4 MS. ROSS: Thank you.

5 (Public Commenter Excused.)

6 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. The next
7 is Yajaira Rimendes.

8 Again, my apologies if I've messed that
9 up.

10 YAJAIRA RIMENDES

11 A public commenter

12 Commented as follows:

13 MS. RIMENDES: Hello, Commissioner --

14 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: It's on.

15 MS. RIMENDES: Hello, Commissioner.

16 My name is Yajaira Rimendes. It's Y-a-j-a-i-r-a
17 R-i-m-e-n-d-e-s, and I am a Make the Road Nevada
18 member.

19 And I'm standing before you today not
20 just as a concerned citizen, but also living
21 testimony of choices that often feels indifferent
22 to our struggles.

23 I have been diagnosed with liver
24 cancer, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, and I need medicine
25 to stay alive. I'm battling against my health and

1 mounting bills that threatens me overwhelmingly.
2 Even though I receive some assistance, I still have
3 trouble paying for everything, my medicine, my
4 rent, my utilities, and fear of risk disconnection
5 from my utilities.

6 Just this month, after eight months
7 living in my current place, my rent and my
8 utilities have doubled, and as well lowering my
9 utilities have raised \$150.

10 The reason, like gas, water prices, and
11 including my rent, has hiked in utilities not just
12 the number, but it's a reality that affects my life
13 directly. Living without the essential utilities
14 is not an option.

15 I recently had to quit my job because
16 it was affecting my health, so the increase of rent
17 alone is more crushing, and but despite all this, I
18 feel powerful, and I'm currently going through so
19 much, yet but I manage to save these safe -- manage
20 to face these challenges head-on, but how will
21 others in my situation will manage to the weather,
22 with extreme weather conditions, with the utilities
23 and disconnection?

24 The current situation is unsustainable.
25 We need long-term plans that actually help low

1 income individuals like me more. More clean energy
2 like solar, geothermal could be a solution, is
3 local, and its prices are more stable.

4 Meanwhile, our Southwest Gas and
5 Nevada's CEOs are raking in millions yearly while
6 we are out here literally sweating, and putting
7 profit over people over and over.

8 Times have changed there. I want to
9 urge your support, as the situations are taking
10 a toll on our health, increasing anxiety, making
11 it difficult for us to make ends meet. It hurts
12 our community, because we kept either food on
13 our tables, or struggle or keep our utilities
14 on.

15 I hope you can hear the voices of
16 these people like me, and also act to make a
17 positive change for Nevadans. We are in a system
18 that puts people over profit.

19 Thank you for your time.

20 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you.

21 (Public Commenter Excused.)

22 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay.

23 Robert Garcia.

24

25

1 ROBERT GARCIA

2 A public commenter

3 Commented as follows:

4 MR. GARCIA: Hello. For the record,
5 my name is Robert Garcia, the economic justice
6 organizer for Make the Road Nevada.

7 And I just want to say ditto to all the
8 previous comments.

9 Thank you.

10 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you.

11 (Public Commenter Excused.)

12 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. So this
13 card has two names on it. One is Michael Horowitz,
14 and the other is something Garcia. Armando.

15 ARMANDO GARCIA

16 AND

17 MICHAEL HOROWITZ

18 Public commenters

19 Commented as follows:

20 MR. GARCIA: Hello. My name is Armando
21 Garcia, spelled A-r-m-a-n-d-o G-a-r-c-i-a.

22 We are here to talk about NVEnergy.
23 This is my companion, Michael Horowitz.

24 MR. HOROWITZ: Hi. My name is Michael
25 Horowitz, spelled M-i-c-h-a-e-l H-o-r-o-w-i-t-z.

1 MR. GARCIA: Together Michael and I,
2 with three others, pay our utilities bills in a
3 house that we share, and we are here asking you,
4 the Commissioners, to help us and protect us.

5 We need solutions that will make our
6 energy bills more affordable, while also making
7 sure NVEnergy does not turn to cheaper money-making
8 alternatives like importing methane gases. We
9 should be looking towards renewable energy like
10 solar and geothermal energy, and the Inflation
11 Reduction Act offers in incentives to lower
12 renewable energy up-front costs, and Nevadans
13 should be going all-in on this.

14 Reducing our dependency on imported
15 methane gases will make Nevada's environment
16 cleaner, and make Nevadans bills more affordable.

17 MR. HOROWITZ: Like I said, my name is
18 Michael Horowitz. I am 24 years old, and I have
19 lived in Nevada my entire life; was born and raised
20 here, not necessarily out of choice, but by
21 necessity, because I do not have the funds required
22 to pay rent and the utility spike currently going
23 on.

24 Our bill went from 188 in the winter
25 months to now 579 in the summer, and that is

1 something that I simply cannot help to afford
2 to pay for by myself.

3 My dad raised me as a single father, me
4 and my brother, in this State, and that is not a
5 future I can see for myself to be able to achieve
6 with the soaring increase in these utility prices.

7 I would like to start a family here
8 in Nevada, but that is no longer seeming feasible
9 given what is coming about, and I ask for help.

10 Thank you.

11 MR. GARCIA: Thank you.

12 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you,
13 gentlemen.

14 (Public Commenters Excused.)

15 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. Next, I
16 have Mr. Simmons.

17 Your choice.

18 TONY SIMMONS

19 a public commenter

20 commented as follows:

21 MR. SIMMONS: Thank you.

22 Tony Simmons, for the record, T-o-n-y
23 S-i-m-m-o-n-s.

24 I want to change the subject a little
25 bit. I thought of a scenario for you guys to

1 consider as attorneys. The entire dais is
2 attorneys, as I understand it.

3 Hypothetically, suppose the Nevada
4 Legislature, the attorneys at the Legislature, knew
5 with certainty that NVEnergy's rate design violated
6 State or Federal law. How would they react? As
7 lawyers, they have a duty to put an end to it.
8 As employees of the executive -- of the legislative
9 branch they cannot interfere with the operation of
10 the executive branch or the judicial branch. They
11 cannot pass a bill of attainder saying NVEnergy's
12 rate design violates a specific law. How would
13 these attorneys try to remedy the situation?
14 Obviously, it's not something you can ask, you can
15 answer now.

16 The thing is on April 10th, 2001,
17 22 years ago, the manager of the transmission
18 business at NVEnergy told the Legislature that
19 their rate design violated PURPA. Since that
20 revelation, every session of the Nevada
21 Legislature, every regular session of the Nevada
22 Legislature has overwhelmingly passed one or more
23 laws that necessitated a cost benefit study of net
24 metering until the 2023 session.

25 The 2023 session drafted three laws

1 that necessitated a cost benefit study. I had
2 a feeling that I understood the situation. I've
3 submitted a document to the March 30th meeting
4 of the Assembly Committee on Rules and
5 Infrastructure advocating that the Legislature
6 not pass any more laws to promote net metering
7 until the rate design had been corrected.

8 After that day, there were three laws
9 on that day to promote net metering. Two of the
10 laws, the first law I cited was amended within
11 25 hours to remove the provisions advocating for
12 a geothermal pilot incentive program.

13 The second one, they never neither
14 committee, neither house voted to pass that bill.
15 They never voted on it.

16 The second bill for 25, they never
17 voted on it.

18 The third bill, SB 263, advocated,
19 or directed NVEnergy to prepare a plan to promote
20 rooftop solar in historically under-served
21 communities.

22 There was an amendment submitted by
23 the Attorney General's Office purportedly that
24 advocated that the bill be changed to draw
25 attention to Nevada deceptive trade practices,

1 and the responsibility of contractors to provide
2 correct information to their customers.

3 That bill was amended in such a way
4 that it obscured the original intent of the bill.
5 That is very aberrant for the Nevada Legislature.
6 When they, when they amend a bill, they leave the
7 original amendment number in there, the original
8 section number in there, and mark it deleted. You
9 can see that in SB 300, 2019 SB 300, and in 2015,
10 SB 374.

11 So the Legislature is sending a clear
12 message, and you guys, and you guys have not been
13 trained to understand the message they are sending.

14 I've got some documents I'm going to
15 submit, and basically I asked the Office of the
16 Attorney General, the Office of the Governor, and
17 the office -- the PUCN to provide a copy of their
18 training manual on NRS Chapters 703 and 704.

19 The Governor's Office has responded
20 they have no training manual. The PUCN responds
21 they have no training manual. The Attorney General
22 said they would get back to me by the 22nd of
23 September. So we have to understand, we have
24 credible evidence that you guys do not understand
25 Chapters 704 and 703 the same way that the

1 attorneys for the Legislature understand it.

2 Thank you. Anyway, I'll leave this.

3 You guys should take a look at it.

4 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you,

5 Mr. Simmons.

6 (Public Commenter Excused.)

7 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Maria Sanchez?

8 (No Response)

9 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Maria Sanchez?

10 (No Response)

11 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. We'll

12 move on. Shaun Navarro. That's fine. You can

13 just roll your chair up.

14 Since you're already seated, you go,

15 and then Maria will go.

16 SHAUN NAVARRO

17 A public commenter

18 Commented as follows:

19 MR. NAVARRO: Absolutely. Hi. Hello.

20 For the record, my name is Shaun Navarro.

21 S-h-a-u-n N-a-v-a-r-r-o. Hello. Good evening.

22 I'm a senior organizer for Future

23 Nevada, and a concerned Nevada citizen.

24 For me Nevada has been home for six

25 years. I love it so much. There's no other place

1 in the world like that, like here in Nevada.

2 I am one of the many Californians here.

3 I do apologize. I'm sorry.

4 What originally brought me here to
5 Nevada was my grandmother. She is getting a little
6 bit older. She needs help around the house, to get
7 groceries, things like that. She's set now, ninety
8 years old. She has very diminished lung capacity,
9 so she requires an oxygen concentrator. She is
10 requires a machine 24 hours a day. She needs it to
11 live. And it's something that, again, like it's
12 something that she needs to breathe.

13 Now this does present a challenge for
14 her family, it does make the rates higher, but the
15 real challenge is the extra worry it brings with
16 her condition. I have to worry about, well, what
17 if something happens where the power goes out, or
18 even recently on the news you hear all the time
19 about power going out for days at a time; like what
20 are we going to do? Where are we going to go?

21 You know, for many people they
22 sometimes think that rise in rates in energy it's
23 just an inconvenience to people, but they're not,
24 it's forcing people out of the State, it's forcing
25 people to make difficult decisions. And for people

1 like my grandmother, it literally can be a life or
2 death issue.

3 And I know my family is not alone in
4 this struggle. We're a greying state in Nevada.
5 We have a number of seniors and retirees moving
6 here. Again, for them to have no power, or to not
7 be able to afford energy like in 110 heat, that can
8 be very dangerous.

9 For the sick, there are a number of
10 medical conditions that require machinery to be
11 running 24 hours a day. For people on fixed
12 incomes, working families like this, it could be
13 a huge challenge for them, and again, like this
14 is something that folks need to live with; it's
15 a necessity.

16 So I know we have a lot of people here;
17 I want to wrap it. I want to thank you so much for
18 your time.

19 And this is an issue that's kind of
20 past time for action. I think we need swift action
21 now.

22 So thank you again. And I hope that
23 you all do right for the people of Nevada.

24 Thank you so much.

25 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you.

1 And Mr. Navarro, do you just want to
2 check with Miss Scott and make sure your
3 grandmother is on the Green Cross Program?

4 MR. NAVARRO: Absolutely. Thank you so
5 much. I appreciate it.

6 (Public Commenter Excused.)

7 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. Maria?

8 MARIA SANCHEZ

9 A public commenter
10 Comments given in English
11 by Anabel Grandados

12 MS. GRANDADOS: (English) My name is
13 Anabel Granados, A-n-a-b-e-l G-r-a-n-a-d-o-s, and
14 I will be reading Maria's translated statement.

15 Dear members of the public Utilities
16 Commission of Nevada. Thank you for the
17 opportunity to testify in front of this committee.

18 My name is Maria Sanchez. I am a
19 volunteer for Chispa Nevada, an organization that
20 raises awareness about the environmental problems
21 we are currently facing.

22 My testimony focuses on the urgent
23 energy need for NVEnergy to address the problems
24 related to electricity rates, and how they
25 disproportionately affect the most vulnerable

1 families.

2 As a mother, my priority is to make
3 sure my children grow up in a safe and healthy
4 home. Unfortunately, the current reality is that
5 Nevada Energy's financial and policy decisions to
6 frequently increase electricity rates seem to be
7 jeopardizing the safety of my home.

8 Therefore, I urge the PUCN to take
9 measures to protect consumers, requiring NVEnergy
10 to show savings before any future rate increases.
11 Together we can build a more equitable and
12 sustainable energy future for all Nevada families,
13 and no longer allow more increases for this
14 service.

15 Thank you for your attention and
16 consideration. Sincerely, Maria Sanchez.

17 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you.

18 (Public Commenter Excused.)

19 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Angel Lazcano.

20 ANGEL LAZCANO

21 A public commenter

22 Commented as follows:

23 MR. LAZCANO: Hello. It's Angel
24 Lazcano. Good afternoon. My name is Angel
25 Lazcano, A-n-g-e-l L-a-z-c-a-n-o. I'm a justice

1 organizer for Somos Votantes. Somos is a
2 Latino-led organization aimed at empowering
3 hard-working Latinos across the Valley with the
4 tools and opportunity that they need to strive
5 in our democracy, and we know right now it's
6 hard to do that when they can't pay for their
7 bills.

8 Hard-working Nevadans, including
9 Latinos, and other people of color continue to do
10 our part in our economy while dealing with some
11 of the worst consequences of climate change, air
12 pollution, and volatile energy costs, and we need
13 you to do your part.

14 Our State's over-reliance on
15 out-of-state methane gas is a key driver for the
16 extreme spikes in energy bills, putting
17 communities in economic -- our economic well-being
18 in danger.

19 Our utilities are obligated to
20 diversity energy mixes, and transition from methane
21 gas to local clean energy so that prices are more
22 stable for working people. We do not need the
23 expansion of so-called natural gas utilities; they
24 are the reason we are in our current predicament.

25 Too many working people are worried

1 about the high cost of their energy bill, and are
2 having to decide between paying bills or putting
3 food on the table. Our utility companies continue
4 to make profits, while working families pay the
5 price.

6 They should share the pain of
7 skyrocketing rates, due to an over-reliance on
8 fossil fuels. Instead they're giving their CEOs
9 lofty raises, and using the money to pay for game
10 tickets.

11 Nevadan's want real solutions that make
12 life more affordable, and utility relief,
13 predictability, continued action to develop clean
14 energy resources, and more energy efficiency
15 weatherization, and a highly efficient electric
16 appliance program that will ease the energy demand
17 and stabilize bills for people like us.

18 It's what our families want and need,
19 and we have an opportunity to achieve it by
20 maximizing on the Federal Clean Energy Plan, and
21 the opportunity to present some programs to lower
22 costs for customers.

23 Our families want more solutions, not
24 less, and definitely not price hikes. It's time
25 we put more money back in the pockets of working

1 families. And as you heard today, they need it.

2 Thank you for your time, and please
3 take my comments, and especially everyone else who
4 came out today. They're speaking from the heart,
5 and you could hear it.

6 Thank you.

7 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you.

8 (Public Commenter Excused.)

9 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: The next name I
10 have is Elspeth Cordua.

11 ELSPETH CORDUA

12 A public commenter

13 Commented as follows:

14 MS. CORDUA: Good evening, and thank
15 you to the Commission for hosting this consumer
16 session.

17 My name is Elspeth Cordua,
18 E-l-s-p-e-t-h C-o-r-d-u-a.

19 I am an NVEnergy customer, and a senior
20 policy principal at Advanced Energy United, a
21 business association working to make the energy we
22 use clean, affordable, and reliable.

23 We represent over 100 companies across
24 the clean energy industry, such as large-scale
25 renewables, transmission, distributed energy

1 resources, EVs, and more. Our members represent
2 the best available technologies at the frontier
3 of solutions to our modern grid challenges.

4 We have so many different options
5 available to power our homes and businesses with
6 affordable, reliable, and clean energy, but in
7 order to ensure that the best available options
8 are on the table, NVEnergy needs to follow best
9 practices for resource planning and competitive
10 solicitation.

11 Advanced Energy United is involved in
12 resource planning in over a dozen states across the
13 country, and we know that these are areas in which
14 NVEnergy's planning processes are falling behind
15 their peers, and behind industry best practices.
16 This failure to utilize the latest and greatest
17 methods to find the best, least cost resources
18 unfortunately translates to high bills for
19 customers. As we've heard from many people here
20 today, this is untenable for many Nevada families.
21 Robust, long-term planning can avoid unnecessary
22 over-building, and maximize investments that put
23 customers first.

24 The utility could also do much more to
25 improve competitive resource solicitation, and find

1 the best available resources from expert developers
2 who can deliver a least cost clean reliable energy.

3 We also know that in this day and age
4 we have alternatives to NVEnergy's over-reliance
5 on expensive out-of-state gas, and extreme spikes
6 in Nevada's bills to go along with it. For new
7 generations' needs Nevada should take advantage of
8 its ample in-state energy resources, such as solar
9 and geothermal, at the lowest prices offered by the
10 competitive marketplace, and regional resources
11 where they are available.

12 Additional solutions include energy
13 efficiency improvements, weatherization, demand
14 response, and new high efficiency clean home and
15 business technologies that reduce energy use and
16 overall bills. Many of these solutions can benefit
17 from unprecedented Federal funding available
18 through the IRA and the IIJA, which further reduces
19 their costs, and thereby amplifies their benefit
20 towards lowering long-term energy burdens in
21 Nevada.

22 We hope NVEnergy can do better to plan
23 ahead for the new energy system opportunities and
24 challenges, and manage a low cost clean, dynamic
25 grid that doesn't overburden Nevada wallets.

1 Thank you for your time.

2 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you, Miss
3 Cordua.

4 (Public Commenter Excused.)

5 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Gloria Guardado.

6 GLORIA GUARDADO

7 A public commenter

8 Commented as follows:

9 MS. GUARDADO: (Spanish).

10 MS. GRANADOS: (English) My name is
11 Anabel Granados, A-n-a-b-e-l G-r-a-n-a-d-o-s, and I
12 will be interpreting.

13 Dear members of the Public Utilities
14 Commission of Nevada. My name is Gloria Guardado,
15 spelled G-l-o-r-i-a G-u-a-r-d-a-d-o, a parent
16 residing in the State of Nevada, and also a
17 volunteer for Chispa Nevada, an organization that
18 builds the power of low income Latino families to
19 have a say in the decisions that affect their
20 environment.

21 As a mother of a seven-year old girl, I
22 care deeply about the well-being of my family, and
23 the sustainability of our finances. Modern life
24 depends heavily on electricity, and that translates
25 into bills that, for many families like mine, make

1 up a significant part of our monthly expenses.

2 The pause in Nevada rate increases,
3 managed by the PUCN and the Consumer Advocate, has
4 been a financial respite for many of us in this
5 community, but it is not enough, and much more
6 can still be advocated for in the most impacted
7 communities.

8 That's why I strongly urge the Nevada
9 Public Utilities Commission to continue to be a
10 constant voice for consumers, and to put pressure
11 on Nevada Energy to not only stop rate increases
12 over the summer, but also not allow new increases
13 in the near future.

14 In addition, it would be a significant
15 step if the PUCN could work together with NVEnergy
16 to explore concrete ways to reduce our energy bills
17 sustainably over time. Innovation and clean and
18 efficient energy technologies provides us with
19 opportunities to address this issue creatively and
20 responsibly. By addressing energy affordability,
21 we not only help Nevada families keep their homes
22 comfortable, but we also contribute to the global
23 effort to mitigate climate change and reduce our
24 carbon footprint.

25 Thank you for your time. Gloria

1 Guardado.

2 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you.

3 (Public Commenter Excused.)

4 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. Melissa
5 Ramos? Melissa Ramos. Okay.

6 MELISSA RAMOS

7 A public commenter

8 Commented as follows:

9 MS. RAMOS: Good evening. My name is
10 Melissa Ramos, M-e-l-i-s-s-a, Ramos, R-a-m-o-s.
11 I'm the senior manager for clean air advocacy for
12 the American Lung Association, and I've been an
13 NVEnergy customer for about two years now.

14 Nevada is home to two of the most
15 polluted cities in the U.S., according to the Lung
16 Association's 2023 State of the Air Report, with
17 about 93 percent of residents living in a community
18 with unhealthy air.

19 Air pollution is harmful to heart and
20 lung health, and can trigger asthma attacks, or
21 COPD symptoms, cause heart attacks and strokes, and
22 even premature death.

23 According to our State's greenhouse gas
24 inventory, transportation and energy are the
25 largest contributors to our air and climate

1 pollution burdens, which is why we need significant
2 investments towards a non-combustion future, such
3 as wind and solar.

4 Nevada's reliance on methane and
5 outside energy sources is detrimental to our
6 health, economy, and family pocketbooks. The
7 American Lung Association zeroing in on healthy
8 air report, finds that a widespread shift to zero
9 emission transportation and renewable energy could
10 yield \$7.5 billion in public health savings for
11 Nevadans between 2020 and 2050.

12 We urge the Public Utilities Commission
13 to protect consumers by pushing for equitable
14 investments in renewable energy sources, like wind
15 and solar, to ensure a healthy and sustainable
16 future for all Nevadans.

17 Thank you.

18 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you.

19 (Public Commenter Excused.)

20 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. Audrey
21 Peral.

22 AUDREY PERAL

23 A public commenter

24 Commented as follows:

25 MS. PERAL: Hi. Good afternoon. My

1 name is Audrey Peral, and I'm the program director
2 for Chispa Nevada.

3 As you heard from many of our members
4 here today, we're here because our families just
5 cannot afford another rate increase.

6 Even with the Consumer Advocate pushing
7 NVEnergy to defer rate increases into this fall,
8 our families are already struggling.

9 I want to share one of our volunteers
10 who couldn't be here today, Jose Sanchez. Jose is
11 retired, and relies on his pension. He lives alone
12 and pays for his expenses without any family
13 support. His income is already limited, and he
14 cannot afford another rate increase to his monthly
15 utility bill.

16 Nevadans like Jose, like many of the
17 folks in this room, really just cannot bear with
18 these expenses. The rent is already going up, food
19 is going up, gas prices are going up, absolutely
20 every expense around folks is going up, and people
21 don't have -- people like Jose, right, don't have
22 a way of creating more income to sustain these
23 costs.

24 We really need to push back, and take
25 some of this burden off of the consumer. We need

1 you to hold our gas and electric utilities
2 accountable for the decisions that have led us
3 here.

4 Instead of investing in affordable and
5 local clean energy, NVEnergy and Southwest Gas are
6 paying billions of dollars to bring expensive gas
7 from out-of-state. Instead of supporting community
8 solar, community gardens, and helping put solar
9 panels on every parking lot and roof, NVEnergy is
10 opening up a new peaker gas plant in our
11 neighborhoods. Our communities are already more
12 exposed to pollution, and our health is suffering
13 because of it.

14 Methane gas is even more polluting to
15 our climate than other greenhouse gases. In the
16 year of living through record floods and heat waves
17 and wildfires, there is no excuse to keep relying
18 on fossil fuels. Our families deserve affordable,
19 reliable, and clean energy, and we need your help
20 to continue to hold NVEnergy and Southwest Gas
21 accountable to transition to clean energy. We
22 need you to help us keep these rates low, and
23 reject any future rate increase. The time has
24 past, and it's important to put people over
25 profits.

1 I'm going to stop reading and then just
2 talk to you as a person, because I myself am a
3 consumer. Every single person in this room is a
4 consumer for NVEnergy; right? Even those of us
5 that are fortunate enough to have financial
6 stability, are finding it difficult to continue
7 to pay our bills.

8 As I mentioned, right, everything
9 around us is going up, and we need to really take
10 that burden off of the consumer. We need to try to
11 find ways to help. This is a public health issue.
12 This is a huge issue. This is impacting people's
13 lives. It's impacting their quality of life. It's
14 impacting their ability to survive.

15 At the temperatures that we have, it's
16 impossible to live without air conditioning, yet
17 I see families every single day of making that
18 decision of not having, or lowering their air
19 conditioning or turning it off. Even with the
20 conditions that we're living in, this is impacting
21 these people's health, and it's not fair. It
22 shouldn't be whether you can only survive if you
23 have the money to pay the bills. And a lot of
24 these people, that is a decision that is literally
25 being made.

1 As you heard today, we have community
2 members that have bills, 500, \$800, I mean, bills
3 that are matching up to the size of people's
4 mortgages. We have to make decisions on whether
5 you're going to pay either your electricity or
6 you're going to pay rent or you're going to put
7 food on the table or you're going help pay for your
8 child's expenses.

9 Our community is already burdened with
10 the lack of health care access, with the lack of so
11 many resources that are needed, we really need your
12 help to continue to keep these rate increases at a
13 minimum.

14 Thank you so much for your time.

15 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you.

16 (Public Commenter Excused.)

17 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. The next
18 one I have is D'Andrew Harrington.

19 D'ANDREW HARRINGTON

20 A public commenter

21 Commented as follows:

22 MR. HARRINGTON: Good evening,
23 Commission. My name is D'Andrew Harrington.
24 That's spelled D'-A-n-d-r-e-w last name Harrington,
25 H-a-r-r-i-n-g-t-o-n.

1 Before I kind of go off of what I want
2 to say, or before I begin, I would like to thank
3 the Commission for their time, and for everyone
4 here who shared their expressions under democracy.
5 It's very important for all of us to express how
6 we're feeling about what's happening in our
7 communities and in our State, and I feel like it's
8 very important for us to have these types of
9 meetings. So I'm very happy we're all here.

10 I come to the desk today as a husband,
11 a brother, a scientist, a student, and most
12 importantly a citizen of the Battle Born State.
13 It's something we're all really proud of. But
14 frankly, I want to be able to discuss the recent
15 raises in our utility bills.

16 I currently live in an apartment with
17 my spouse. We are actually currently trying to
18 save up for a home, no matter how hard that may
19 seem at this time. But recently, in a small
20 apartment, in a very not so great part of town,
21 we find that our electric bill is about \$300 for
22 an apartment. How does that make sense?

23 As somebody who works in the data
24 sciences field and data analytics, I actually
25 meticulously check my data day in and day out,

1 and I actually ended up getting an alert from my
2 systems from Power BI, and a couple of other
3 things, saying this doesn't look right.

4 So I decided to take my own
5 responsibility and say, well, let me start making
6 some phone calls; let me figure some things out.

7 I think, however, it's very frustrating
8 to see that these types of decisions were made
9 without more involvement of the public. It's
10 incredibly frustrating to see when our bills
11 basically increase higher than a car payment. That
12 there are individuals in my apartment complex, in
13 an apartment, a \$500 bill. Is that acceptable?
14 No, that's not acceptable.

15 We are in a particularly good position
16 for an economic engine to run in such a way that
17 we can look at other particular methods of energy
18 aside from natural gases. We can look at -- we can
19 look at obviously solar power through the Air and
20 Waste Management Associations, we can look always
21 geothermal content, we can also look at nuclear
22 energy. All of these different methods, we're not
23 immediately asking for the Commission, or Nevada
24 Energy, to make this change on a dime. We're not
25 like cars. We can't make a 180-degree turn

1 overnight. But what we're asking for is to have
2 an idea of what we as the citizens are
3 experiencing. And frankly, a 300, 400, \$500 bills
4 in an apartment is unacceptable.

5 I decided to stay here as a scientist
6 in computer science and genetics, because I wanted
7 my wife and I to have a home here in Nevada,
8 because frankly, isn't that what the saying goes,
9 my wife always says all the time, home means
10 Nevada; home is the hills. But with bills this
11 ridiculous, we actually started to have the
12 conversation, is Nevada not our home anymore?

13 So I implore each and every one of
14 you, please think about the importance of just not
15 increasing this content anymore. You've heard from
16 more than enough people here that this has been
17 too much, and we're telling you that we're at a
18 breaking point. So please, make the right
19 decision.

20 Thank you very much.

21 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you, sir.

22 (Public Commenter Excused.)

23 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. I'm going
24 to take one more card, and then we'll take a short
25 break.

1 The next one that I have is Matthew
2 Hernandez.

3 Oh, Mr. Hernandez.

4 MATTHEW HERNANDEZ

5 A public commenter
6 commented as follows:

7 MR. HERNANDEZ: Good evening. My name
8 is Matthew Hernandez, M-a-t-t-h-e-w
9 H-e-r-n-a-n-d-e-z. I am a volunteer with Moms
10 Clean Air Force, and a 30-year resident of East
11 Las Vegas, Nevada.

12 I am a U.S. Air Force Veteran, and the
13 primary caretaker of my elderly parents, my father,
14 who is retired Army and fully disabled, and my
15 mother who is also retired Army.

16 I'm here today because I'm appalled at
17 how -- by how much my family's Southwest Gas and
18 Nevada Energy bill has gone up over the last year.
19 I recently learned that 72 percent of Nevada's
20 energy comes from out-of-state natural gas. I have
21 three issues with this fact.

22 First, we're too dependent on this
23 out-of-state gas. 72 percent from one fuel source
24 is absurd.

25 Not only that, but these utilities want

1 to build more gas systems at our expense. Every
2 time there is a new development built, Southwest
3 Gas expands its service territory.

4 Now I hear that Nevada Energy wants to
5 build two new gas plants, one in Southern Nevada
6 and one in Northern Nevada.

7 These pipes and gas plants will last
8 for decades, and further tie us to one fuel source.
9 We need to tip the scales in the favor of in-state
10 energy supplies like solar, nuclear, or whatever.

11 Second, the price of natural gas is
12 subject to world events. Whether you blame it on
13 the war in Ukraine or natural disasters, the bottom
14 line is that as long as we are reliant on a global
15 commodity such as gas, we're subject to these
16 extreme price swings.

17 As a veteran, I can tell you with full
18 certainty that there will always be some type of
19 global threat or conflict, so counting on the world
20 peace to stabilize end prices -- to count on world
21 peace to stabilize our prices is not a real plan.

22 Last but not least, natural gas is a
23 polluting fossil fuel made mostly of methane gas.
24 Methane gas is an air pollutant that contributes
25 to climate change, and impacts health. Whether the

1 gas is burned in our homes or near our communities,
2 it is harmful.

3 In the Air Force I have taken an oath
4 and sworn to support the Constitution of the United
5 States against all enemies, sworn and domestic.
6 I'm here to tell you that fossil fuels like methane
7 gas are the enemy. For this reason, I am here to
8 defend my community, and ask this Commission to
9 protect us from these predatory utility companies.

10 Please prioritize the transition to
11 clean energy solutions, and consider a way to
12 actually lower costs for the consumers.

13 Thank you for your time.

14 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you.

15 (Public Commenter Excused.)

16 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you.

17 Okay. So we're going to take our last
18 break, just a quick five-minute health break, and
19 then we'll come back with the last few folks.

20 If there is anyone who didn't fill out
21 a card and still wants to speak, this is your
22 chance to fill out a card.

23 So we'll see you back in about five
24 minutes.

25 (At 8:09 p.m. a recess was taken.)

1 LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
2 WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2023
3 8:17 P.M.

4 -oOo-

5 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. Let's go
6 back on the record.

7 And the next one I have is Mercedes
8 McKinley.

9 MERCEDES MCKINLEY

10 A public commenter
11 commented as follows:

12 MS. MCKINLEY: Hi. Good evening.
13 Thank you so much for having us here.

14 My name is Mercedes McKinley, that's
15 M-e-r-c-e-d-e-s M-c-K-i-n-l-e-y, and I am with
16 Mom's Clean Air Force, and our Latino outreach
17 group called EcoMadres. We're an organization of
18 1.5, million moms, dads, and caregivers all over
19 the nation. But honestly, more importantly, I'm a
20 life-long resident. My family immigrated here from
21 El Salvador in 1987.

22 And, you know, everyone has been
23 talking about how high their utility bills are, so
24 I started speaking with some colleagues, and I want
25 to tell you a little bit of a different story,

1 because it kind of changed my life.

2 On Monday we were talking about the
3 spike in NVEnergy bills and Southwest Gas, and I
4 asked, what's the relationship? You know, I don't
5 understand. And so then it was explained to me
6 that methane natural gas is used to power many of
7 the NVEnergy plants. And then my jaw just fell
8 to the floor, because I'm like I've lived here
9 35 years, and all this time I thought it was
10 Hoover Dam, all this time, and so it's been -- I'm
11 still kind of accepting that. I just can't believe
12 it, you know, with all the resources we have for
13 solar, and all the availability we have for
14 geothermal, and all these other options, it made
15 a lot more sense at the time.

16 And so when I was here in February, I
17 shared with you our apartment was too expensive to
18 keep warm, and so we brought our toddler and all
19 slept in one room. And so now I'm like wow, it
20 truly is really a monopoly, and so I hope that you
21 take the steps to protect Nevada families not only
22 from these high prices, but from methane, which is
23 a fossil fuel that harms us.

24 And we have other options. We can do
25 better. And I want my two-year old daughter to

1 have a good future here, just like I did.

2 Thank you so much for our time.

3 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you, Miss
4 McKinley.

5 (Public Commenter Excused.)

6 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Angelina --
7 Angelina.

8 ANGELINA SALDANA

9 A public commenter

10 Commented as follows:

11 MS. SALDANA: I have notoriously bad
12 handwriting, so sorry about that, it's Saldana.

13 My name is Angelina Saldana,
14 A-n-g-e-l-i-n-a S-a-l-d-a-n-a.

15 So my energy bill last month was over
16 \$800. That's more than one-third of my rent. I
17 live in a three-bedroom bottom floor apartment
18 where we keep our thermostat at 76 degrees,
19 sometimes 77. Last year I lived in a house over
20 double the size of my current apartment, two
21 separate AC units, one downstairs, one upstairs,
22 both these AC units were over 30 years old, and the
23 highest our bill got was \$500.

24 Our leasing office told us, our current
25 leasing office told us everyone has high energy

1 bills right now, and NVEnergy said I should raise
2 my AC to 80 degrees.

3 Our community needs actual support and
4 substantive change. These businesses don't want
5 to help me. They treat me as a paycheck. I need
6 you all to see my humanity, and respect it by
7 enacting actual change.

8 I don't know what my bill is going to
9 be this time next year. And I mean, looking at how
10 things are going, it's just going to go higher.

11 I really, really hope you do something
12 about this, because they're just out of control at
13 this point, and they're just going to keep taking.

14 Thank you.

15 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you.

16 (Public Commenter Excused.)

17 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Rosario Moreno.

18 ROSARIO MORENO

19 A public commenter

20 Commented in Spanish as follows:

21 MS. MORENO: (Spanish).

22 MR. GARCIA: (English) Hello. My name
23 is Robert Garcia, economic justice organizer for
24 Make the Road Nevada. I'll be translating for
25 Rosario Moreno.

1 She spells her name R-o-s-a-r-i-o
2 M-o-r-e-n-o.

3 So what Miss Rosario was mentioning is
4 that currently she's on a very limited income. Her
5 husband recently had an injury that fractured his
6 arm; that he's not able to work at this current
7 moment. And she only takes care of the three --
8 two kids three times a week, and to her, recently
9 a bill for \$500 came. And that bill is very
10 difficult to cover. That bill is more than they
11 expected it to come.

12 And at the same time she wants to know
13 where is these energy increases -- yes, she gets
14 the bill, she sees the back, and there is a
15 breakdown. But what does that breakdown mean,
16 because she wants to know. She feels that it's
17 right for the consumer to know about all these
18 breakdowns, and what they actually mean, instead
19 of just saying this is this, this is that. She
20 wants to understand. She wants to understand why
21 prices keep going up.

22 Energy is being used about the same,
23 and still being charged way more, and she wants to
24 be able to have a sustainable living life.

25 Thank you.

1 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Thank you.

2 (Public Commenter Excused.)

3 COMMISSIONER CORDOVA: Okay. That was
4 the last card that I have, so if there is no one
5 else, now that we've mostly cleared the room, I
6 again want to thank everyone for coming out this
7 evening and sharing your thoughts with us, and
8 being respectful, and sharing your time with
9 everyone else.

10 We're adjourned.

11 Thank you.

12 (At 8:24 p.m. the Consumer Session was Adjourned.)

13 -oOo-

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STATE OF NEVADA,)
)
COUNTY OF WASHOE.) ss.

I, DEBRA J. BARTGIS, Certified Court
Reporter #56 do hereby certify:

That on Wednesday, August 30, 2023, at
6:04 p.m., at 1150 East William Street, Carson City,
Nevada, I was present and took stenotype notes of the
Videoconference Consumer Session held before the Public
Utilities Commission of Nevada, and thereafter
transcribed the same as herein appears;

That the foregoing transcript is a full,
true and correct transcription of my stenotype notes of
said Videoconference Consumer Session.

DATED: At Sparks, Nevada, this 3rd day of
September 2023.

/s Debra J. Bartgis

Debra J. Bartgis, CCR #56

-
-
-

23-06002

Public Utilities Commission of Nevada
Electronic Filing

Submitted: 8/30/2023 3:22:54 PM

Reference: 5a882cf6-8570-4dc2-a61b-1be87a293dee

Payment Reference: c2-a61b-1be87a293dee

Filed For: Ceres

In accordance with NRS Chapter 719,
this filing has been electronically signed and filed
by: /s Kelly Trombley

By electronically filing the document(s),
the filer attests to the authenticity of the electronic signature(s) contained therein.

This filing has been electronically filed and deemed to be signed by an authorized
agent or
representative of the signer(s) and
Ceres



August 30, 2023

Public Utilities Commission of Nevada
1150 E. William Street
Carson City, NV
89701-3109

Re: Ceres Comments regarding the PUCN General Consumer Session, Docket No. 23-06002

Dear Chair Williamson and Commissioners:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments on behalf of Ceres. Ceres is a national nonprofit that works with influential businesses and investors in Nevada and across the country to build equitable market-based solutions to today's sustainability challenges.

As part of this work, Ceres organizes the Business for Innovative Climate and Energy Policy (BICEP) Network, the Corporate Electric Vehicle Alliance (CEVA), and the Energy Optimization Work Group. These coalitions are composed of dozens of major employers, large energy users, and Fortune 500s who support greater investment in energy efficiency, renewable energy, and transportation electrification. Many BICEP companies have major operations in Nevada, including **Dignity Health, Starbucks, eBay, PayPal, IKEA, KB Home, Mars, Levi Strauss & Co., JLL, Patagonia, Lyft, and Microsoft.**

As large employers and major energy consumers, our members understand firsthand how energy resource decisions affect the cost of doing business. Businesses are increasingly seeking to meet aggressive sustainability targets through improved access to competitively priced clean energy that requires modernizing Nevada's energy system. Tremendous opportunities exist to increase Nevada's clean energy investments and decarbonize the state economy over the coming years.

Absent action to prioritize policy pathways that secure direct emission reductions, Nevada and major businesses will not achieve our shared economic, public health and climate goals. We commend the PUCN for your commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the utility sector and we look forward to working with you to carry out the state's clean energy goals with greater urgency.

Our members support greater investment in energy efficiency by NV Energy.

Demand side management (DSM) resources, including energy efficiency and demand response, relieve stress on the grid, thereby improving service reliability, and provide opportunities for customers to lower their monthly bills. Further, by reducing energy waste, utilities are able to delay and even avoid more expensive investments in new generation, transmission, and distribution assets. Thus, all utility customers benefit from energy efficiency, even if individual customers do not participate in those programs.

DSM programs are extremely flexible and are composed of numerous strategies, products, and technologies. Through strategic beneficial electrification policies, customers can achieve immense savings. For instance, heat pumps are one of the most efficient way to heat and cool a home and cold-climate heat pumps perform twice as efficiently as gas furnaces down to 5°F, with many products performing at -13°F or below without backup.¹ Optimal opportunities for heat pumps in Nevada include new construction, delivered fuel systems (e.g., oil and propane), electric resistance, water heater replacements, and new air conditioning installations.

When deployed alongside effective consumer education, these technologies give consumers the ability to manage their energy consumption and their electricity bills. While all customer classes should take advantage of these resources, the savings opportunities from DSM programs are particularly beneficial for low-income households and small businesses.

For these reasons, Ceres encourages the PUCN to direct NV Energy to:

- Maximize investments in least-cost energy efficiency and demand response;
- Ensure low income and other historically underserved communities have access to energy efficiency and other DSM programming through on-bill financing tariffs and other policies;
- Offer comprehensive efficiency services, including whole home retrofit programs and customized opportunities for commercial and industrial customers;
- Increase its rebate program for cost-effective, efficient heat pumps - and allowing funding for rewiring for low-income and other underserved customers within these programs - while phasing out incentives for air conditioning units;
- Fully invest its Commission-authorized efficiency budgets.

Our members support greater investment in renewable energy by NV Energy.

Clean energy helps businesses hedge against volatile fuel prices, remain competitive in the market, and meet the expectations of customers, investors, and employees. Notably, renewable energy, especially when deployed in combination with energy storage, has become an economically competitive alternative to gas-fired power plants.

As noted above, demand-side management, including energy efficiency and demand response, remain Nevada's least expensive energy option. These cost comparisons, among other growing concerns with gas investment, have not gone unnoticed by investors. Because of these risks, companies in Nevada and nationwide are making significant commitments to invest in clean energy. Over 400 companies, including many Fortune 500 companies, have committed to powering all of their corporate operations with 100% renewable energy.² Corporate demand for clean energy remains a key driver of clean energy investment and deployment. Records were set again with 16.9 GW of corporate energy deals announced in 2022.³

These commitments not only benefit public health and the environment, but also make business sense. Indeed, renewable energy and energy efficiency investments save U.S. companies

¹ Center for Energy and Environment, 2017, Cold Climate Air Source Heat Pump Final Report. <https://www.mncee.org/cold-climate-air-source-heat-pump-final-report>

² Climate Group RE100, RE100 Members. <https://www.there100.org/re100-members>

³ CEBA, CEBA Deal Tracker. <https://cebuyers.org/deal-tracker/>

~\$3.7 billion per year,⁴ freeing up significant capital that they can reinvest into their facilities and operations, including research and development (R&D). Many of the economic benefits from renewable energy also directly support Nevada's rural communities. From 2006 to 2017, renewable energy investments contributed an estimated \$7.9 billion in benefits to the rural economy.⁵

Policies that eliminate market barriers and support clean energy investment are crucial to ensuring that companies have access to clean energy choices. Regulatory certainty that provides long-term and cost-effective pathways is increasingly driving the direction of company investments to meet their sustainability goals and avoid worsening the impacts of the ongoing climate and health crises.

For these reasons, Ceres encourages the PUCN to direct NV Energy to:

- Remove constraints on the participation of cost-effective renewable energy, storage, and demand-side management resources;
- Further reduce investments in fossil infrastructure which are at risk of becoming stranded assets for which ratepayers, including businesses, will bear the costs;
- Plan for the rapidly changing economics of fossil fuels by prioritizing a just and equitable transition for impacted communities including prioritizing clean energy jobs for employee retraining.

Our members strongly support electrification of the transportation sector.

Transportation is a major contributor to harmful emissions that sicken Nevadans and disproportionately impact the most vulnerable. However, electrification of the transportation sector presents enormous economic opportunity, unlocking savings and benefits from decarbonizing commercial vehicles as well as those used by their commuting employees and customers. If Nevada achieved 650,000 electric vehicles on the road by 2030, it is estimated that consumer savings could reach \$720 million annually and create more than 6,000 new jobs in the state.⁶

Transportation is a major operating expense and a leading source of emissions that the companies we represent have made commitments to address. Ceres also runs the Corporate Electric Vehicle Alliance (CEVA), a collaboration of 30 companies who collectively represent more than \$1 trillion in annual revenue, and own, lease, or operate over 1.3 million on-road fleet vehicles including Amazon, DHL, T-Mobile, IKEA and others looking to decarbonize and electrify their fleets. We've found that CEVA members plan to purchase 330,000 electric vehicles in the next five years.⁷ EV charging will require coordination with fleet owners to anticipate power demand and efficiently plan upgrades where they're needed most.

⁴ Ceres, 2017, Power Forward 3.0 Report. <https://www.ceres.org/resources/reports/power-forward-3>

⁵The Western Way, 2019. <https://www.thewesternway.org/tww-blog/2019/1/15/nevadas-rural-renewables-generate-79-billion-in-economic-impact>

⁶SWEEP, 2019. <https://swenergy.org/pubs/economic-and-emissions-benefits-of-electric-vehicles-in-nevada>

⁷Ceres, 2022, Corporate Electric Vehicle Alliance Survey <https://www.ceres.org/resources/reports/ceva-survey>

Businesses need the support of ambitious, speedy policies to accelerate equitable transportation electrification. For these reasons Ceres encourages:

- Improved coordination and support from electric power companies and utility regulators, including developing best practice transportation electrification plans;
- Employee commute and regional transportation decarbonization;
- Strategically sited and widely available charging infrastructure that embraces interoperability, streamlined charging standards, flexible rates and rate designs that encourage off-peak charging;
- Grid upgrades to enable medium- and heavy-duty vehicles to charge;
- Robust technical assistance programs, and
- Greater vehicle-to-grid opportunities.

Our members support regionalization strategies that will drive down energy costs and bolster the use of carbon-free power.

The well-documented benefits of organized wholesale markets combined with rapid advances in energy technology have created a historic opportunity in the West for billions of dollars in savings for consumers, hundreds of billions of dollars of new investments, hundreds of thousands of new jobs, potential financial recovery for struggling communities, and a clear statement that the West is open for business with a modern and robust electricity grid⁸.

A regional transmission organization (RTO) is an important tool for economic development and to support load growth in Nevada. Businesses have stood behind Nevada taking a leadership role in designing an RTO structure that can also offer greater resilience in the face of future risks and threats to grid stability. Strengthened interstate cooperation benefits ratepayers with lower costs and increased reliability. By allowing for higher levels of renewable energy integration to cost-effectively meet state decarbonization goals and stimulate the economy, a regional market can maximize the performance of the electric grid system-wide. Large energy users look for strong regulatory fundamentals, like an RTO, when making decisions about where to grow their footprint and locate new facilities.

For these reasons Ceres encourages:

- Increased inter-utility reserve sharing;
- NV Energy's participation in the Energy Imbalance Market and Extended Day Ahead Market (EDAM);
- Establishing a regional organization of the western transmission system.

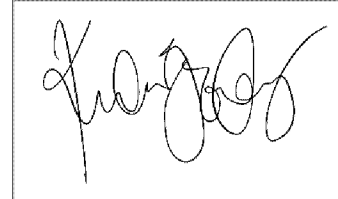
Our members support fully leveraging federal funding opportunities that reduce emissions and drive health benefits. For these reasons Ceres respectfully suggests the PUCN can do its part in overseeing regulated utilities to ensure Nevadans benefit fully from federal funding by leading the state in a path forward on expenditures for decarbonization of the energy, transportation and building sector prioritized and proportioned according to highest likelihood to relieve cumulative emissions and pollutant burdens on overburdened disadvantaged and low-income neighborhoods.

⁸ Energy Strategies, Western RTO Economic Impact Study: Region-wide Analysis.
<https://www.aee.net/western-rto>

Policies that support energy efficiency, clean energy, and transportation electrification create economic opportunity that further generates operational savings, creates local jobs, secures U.S. energy resources, and cleans up our air - benefiting not only the private sector but also the disproportionately impacted communities most harmed by air pollution and volatile energy costs.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments and for considering the cost-effective decarbonization preferences of Nevada businesses as you evaluate the state's energy future. Please do not hesitate to be in touch if we can answer any questions or share more details on the perspectives of our company members.

Sincerely



Kelly Trombley
Manager, State Policy
Ceres

Page 1 of 14

2038 Palm Dr #259
Las Vegas, NV 89104
August 19, 2023

Lisa Scott, Consumer Affairs
Public Utilities Commission
9075 W. Diablo Dr.
Suite 250
Las Vegas, NV 89148

RCVD - PUCN - LV
2023 AUG 23 PM4:18

Re: Docket 23-06-002

Lisa, first of all I greatly appreciate your help and concerned dedication to the ceaseless problems with NV Energy and Century Link. You and your co-workers Erica and Alicia are daffodils in a desert of mostly rude and pompous public servants. The problem is that the P.U.C. has such reduced regulatory powers that the above-mentioned utilities have become a shameful mess, and NV Energy is so badly managed that their actions are life-threatening.

20/14

As I sit here on Sunday, August 19th, my landline phone which I've been paying for now for almost 20 years, has been out of service again, this time since Friday afternoon. It is totally dead. The amazing thing is that it has malfunctioned so many times in that 20 years that I have lost count. I also don't have cellular service due to the F.T.C. informing me that I am the victim of scamming. I have to change my cell provider, plus my credit card number.

In the last 8 years my Century Link "lifeline" bill has increased from \$8.00 a month to over \$29. It increases all the time, despite the terrible service. They put in a new ^{INSIDE} phone line in the summer of 2021, but the 20 year problem persists. They collect their bills efficiently, but don't want to do maintenance. Neighbors with landlines have had the same problem with them. Century Link would never respond to the problem without my contacting

the P. U. C. They will completely ignore us if we don't promise to pay them \$80+ "if the problem is ours." What a crooked setup.

I live in a mobile home park that was built in 1960. I saw it being constructed as a teenager, but I never thought I'd have the misfortune of living in it with the out-of-state cartel-type management. I won't elaborate here, but state manufactured housing department puts us residents in our place while telling us that "the owners can do anything they want." So why do we even need "Manufactured Housing?" Apparently to protect all business owners despite what they do to consumers.

There is no consumer protection in this state. The crooks in state government have seen to that. They mariacally protect the "Golden Hogs" that they virtually worship. That is why the hogs forbid a state lottery

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that might help education, etc. They see a lottery as a threat to their gambling profits, and that's what counts in this crooked state. Nevada was even rated by a government watchdog group as the crookedest state government in the U.S. a few years back. What an honor. What can you expect of a place who honors terrible criminals with a "mob museum". The very same crooks at Las Vegas City Hall that fill their big coffers with traffic citation money from the 5 very poorest zip codes in their jurisdiction. They just send the police there to write tickets all day. Since the Review Journal (amazingly) revealed that information a couple of years ago, they may have curtailed their activity back for a little while. I got one of those tickets. They claimed a red light infraction, and the ticket was for several hundred dollars. They put me on a payment plan, and when it was paid off they sent another bill for supposed lack of court contact (a lie). At this point I called the mayor's office and advised them that I had worked for a police

5 of 14

department in California, wrote hail receipts, and was aware of the law and had been in constant contact with L.V. Muni Court. They cancelled the additional bill. They are bullies and crooks.

Why do I mention this? Just another example of government taking advantage of the public at every turn, and tyrannically refusing to recognize any of their rights.

I lived in Vegas from 1949 to 1957. I was 2 years old when we moved here, and we lived in a trailer park where the Mirage now is while we built a house in Paradise Valley (as it was called then). I played in the desert with lots of free-roaming tortoises, jack-rabbits, and sidewinders. Scorpions were everywhere. My Dad, like many others, was given a deputy Sheriff's badge by Sheriff Jones. No one locked up their bikes because no one stole them. I spent a lot of time at Twin Lakes Lodge (now Lorenzi park) swimming, horseback riding, etc. Not only was my new bike never stolen, there was never any fighting going on. A totally different

6 of 14
world than now, Pedophiles were abundant, however, and according to the police now, are still abundant because "Nevada law is very welcoming to sex offenders."

Are we seeing a pattern of very sick government? One that is ruled by hog tyrants and that cares nothing about residents?

Why do you suppose the big hotels have their own wells that are using up the ancient underground aquifers while the rest of us have to use Lake Mead water that treated sewer water gets recycled into? Because hogs rule.

In elementary school here, the teachers regularly took us outside to witness above-ground atomic blasts which they described as "beautiful". This was well after Nagasaki and Hiroshima. I got thyroid cancer due to those "beautiful" bombs, and my two siblings also suffered from thyroid problems. Fallout fell on Utah dairy farms, the cows ate the contaminated grass, and we drank the milk. I will never forget the scary, unearthly light that lit up the whole sky and kept getting brighter in a

10 of 14

ibrating-type intensity as those
toms split, resulting in a pink
and white mushroom cloud.
humanity at its worst.

Around this time I remember seeing
gangsters Myron Lonsky (dark, staring eyes),
and smiling Johnny Rosselli lurking
around their hotels. These people
were killers who left dead bodies in the
desert. They do not deserve to be memorialized
in a "mob museum". What kind of
city leaders would do such a thing?
Their lowlife friends, that's who.

I have lived in California most of
my life and three years in Washington
state, so I'm not familiar only with
Las Vegas. I returned here twenty years
only to take care of my parents. I got
very sick from the air here, and had to
go on disability due to a previous job
injury. I couldn't work & my savings
vanished. That's why I haven't moved.
Decent towns are expensive and this
town is a pitiful place to live.

Now that you have some of my
history, I will move on to the
NV Energy disaster that I and other

80714

unfortunate residents in this mobile home park had to suffer through. Endangering lives doesn't phase NV Energy. Money is everything, and hogs rule. As I await the impending storm that is heading this way, I expect that NV Energy will fail again, leaving us in darkness, probably even longer than usual. The electricity frequently goes out in this park. Minor wind and rain usually result in outages. We need the P.U.C. to seriously oversee these utilities that operate like idiots.

I might add that the catastrophic fire in Maui should alert people everywhere of what lack of supervision and regulation of utilities and bureaucrats can result in. My 60 year nephew has lived in Hawaii for 40 years. He's been an avid surfer and world traveler since he was 20 years old. He always seems to be in the eye of the storm, and was at a golf tournament on Maui, right at the fire. He saw people who had taken refuge in the ocean dying in the water from the smoke. The roads were blocked. He knew of a backroad, but it was cliffside and dangerous, and in smoke would be horrific. He and a friend decided to

risk it considering the alternative of burning up or choking on smoke. Thank God they made it out, but it was terrifying. He says he's never going back to Maui because the previous time he was there a woman got eaten by a shark.

Around July 9th or 10th I saw an NV Energy worker pulling a cable from across the street at Space 222. He pulled it to the other side of the street to the transformer next door at space 258. I spoke to him about it and he told me that mobile homes behind space 222 had lost power and he was hooking them up to space 258's transformer. The transformer first overloaded at 5:30 A.M. on 7-13-~~23~~²³ and electricity was out for 2 hours. It overloaded again on 7-15-23 in the late afternoon for a two hour outage. It was 112° that afternoon. The third overload occurred on 7-17-23 at 5:45 P.M. and was off until 8:40 P.M. I thought I'd die in the 114° heat. These mobile homes heat up very fast. I had to keep my tiny 15 year old Chihuahua submerged in water to avoid his collapsing. I kept spraying myself and my three birds with water, and added cold water to my two aquariums. I was very worried for

10 of 14

all of us. I am in my seventies and use supplemental Oxygen, which was off due to the outage. It was an awful, scorching three hours.

The fourth overload occurred on 7-18-23 from 5:30 P.M. to 6:30 P.M. It was 113° that day. Fed up, I spoke to the NV Energy worker and told him I had just called the P.U.C. regarding all the dangerous outages.

The fifth outage occurred the following day, 7-19-23, for 1/2 hour as NV Energy finally replaced the overloaded transformer at space 258 with a larger one. I credit my call to Lisa Scott and her actions with saving us from further danger from NV Energy. I don't know how many residents were affected besides me, but I'm sure it involved several homes. NV Energy worked for several days during this time & beyond at space 223 where Kenny, an elderly man in his 60's lived. I could hear a horrible exclamation racket going on for many hours about 5 feet from his trailer. He was found dead there after his friend said his electricity had been out all day long. How many adults, elderly, babies and kids, and pets suffered at the hands of NV Energy incompetence.

and complete disregard for anyone affected by this prolonged disaster who oversees these jerks? Where's the job supervisor? Where's the County inspector? Where are competent, ethical people to oversee this dangerous utility?

By the way, they weren't finished yet. They hit water lines that caused our water to be off for 5 hours on 7-21-23 and again on 7-25-23 for the entire day. What a horrendous excuse for a power company. What a dangerous threat to the public. Nevada doesn't want the P.U.C. to have any oversight. That's obvious.

I can't sign off without telling you about another Nevada state housing debacle involving them and the "weatherization" department of H&EP of St. Nevada. They are a bunch of crooks if ever there were any. My experiences with them, I'm sure, are not exclusive to me. They are all about getting their hands on Federal grant money for themselves and their incompetent contractors (who employ some crazy people who are dangerous to homeowners). After having my house ransacked by them, my excellent ductwork ripped out only

12 of 14
to increase the payout to the contractors,
I've seen these thieves at work
on several occasions. They are
supposed to be aiding people who
qualify for their government grants,
but the picture is very dark.

When my A.C. went out in August of
2019, I called the HELP Weatherization
department. They came out with their
incessant photo-taking and made lots
of verbal promises: "a new roof" to
fix the leaks, repaired or replaced
A.C./heater system, kitchen exhaust fan,
new stove if necessary, etc. All these
promises to get me to sign their dirty
contract which would allow them to
obtain significant grant money.

What they did was rip out my kitchen
undersink cabinet and never complete
the repair, claiming they didn't bring
enough wood; they never fixed my roof
as they promised; no kitchen exhaust fan
was installed. All they did was put
a monoxide detector on the wall and
put in an extremely noisy blower
with a heater and A.C. unit that
barely functions and seem to shut off
quickly to prevent their overheating.
My trailer is only 14x40, and

130714
the unit they installed barely cools
only the tiny kitchen and bathroom,
and is ineffective on the hotter
days. The heater is so incapable
that the bedroom gets very little
heat and the living room needs
an added space heater. They use
a lot of gas and electricity and
completely defeat the supposed goal
of "saving energy". The contractors don't
bother to consult the homeowners.
They just start ripping and tearing
up the place to maximize their
take of the federal grant money.
The Housing department advised me
after the installation that the units
didn't work well, but that didn't
stop them from taking the grant
money, installing them, and leaving
me to purchase portable A.C. units
on my own. They told me that they
"didn't care if the units worked or
not" (Christopher Mohr of HEHP). They
abandoned the job and refused to
answer any and all calls, letters,
or grievances from the August 2019
installation to current. Letters to
the granting agency (Dept. of Energy)
also made no difference. The only

14 of 14
response I got was a request to
sign an addendum from the
Housing department that served no
purpose but to give them an
escape clause. They already had
pocketed the grant money and
their interest ended at that point.
Can any other state top Nevada's
state and local government's
expertise at fraud and incompetence?
Highly unlikely.

That's the long and short of it.
Thank you, Erica, Lisa, and Alicia
for your much appreciated efforts
to help.

Sincerely,
Shauna Dekow

Note: Sorry this
isn't typed. Would've
been less paper.

-
-
-

23-06002

Public Utilities Commission of Nevada
Electronic Filing

Submitted: 8/30/2023 12:31:38 PM

Reference: 5bdf52ce-4fb7-4510-82b1-c853d457f1e7

Payment Reference: 10-82b1-c853d457f1e7

Filed For: Mormon Women for Ethical Government Nevada

In accordance with NRS Chapter 719,
this filing has been electronically signed and filed
by: /s Paulette Stauffer Henriod

By electronically filing the document(s),
the filer attests to the authenticity of the electronic signature(s) contained therein.

This filing has been electronically filed and deemed to be signed by an authorized
agent or
representative of the signer(s) and
Mormon Women for Ethical Government Nevada



August 30, 2023

Nevada Public Utilities Commission
9075 W. Diablo Drive, Suite 250
Las Vegas, NV 89148

RE: Docket No 23-06002 PUC General Consumer Session

Dear Chair Williamson and Commissioners Cordova and Manthe:

The Nevada chapter of Mormon Women for Ethical Government (MWEG) consists of members throughout the state who strive to build more peaceful, just and ethical communities. As energy consumers, we are concerned about a variety of issues and the health and economic impacts these issues have on individuals and families in our state. Like other Nevadans, our members have been burdened with rising utility rates, unpredictable bills, and concerns about living in the fastest warming cities in the United States.

Nevada ratepayers deserve predictability, affordability, and transparency in both rate- and infrastructure-planning by the utility monopolies. We ask for careful scrutiny of any additional rate hike proposals in light of a series of past rate increases, soaring energy costs, and record high bills. We ask that the PUCN and the utilities prioritize clean energy resources over fossil fuels, as those cleaner sources are proving to be more cost efficient and predictable both through market forces and with the incentives from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill and the Inflation Reduction Act. Nevada can benefit greatly from these federal investments in clean energy, efficiency, and weatherization, depending on how our utilities plan to utilize these investments. We ask the PUCN to carefully oversee these plans to ensure the benefits reach the ratepayers.

Nevada relies too heavily on methane gas imported from out of state. Methane gas prices have been historically volatile, especially in the last few years as geopolitical and weather events throughout the world have increased the cost and availability. Meanwhile, Nevada has abundant solar and geothermal resources which continue to see price decreases. Developing more local, clean power will also improve our air quality and the health of Nevadans.

MWEG is concerned about reports of lavish benefits given to executives and upper management at both NV Energy and Southwest Gas. We want transparency and assurance that perks are not being funded by ratepayer monies. Utilities should share the economic burdens that rising energy costs impose on consumers by exercising fiscal restraint in both superfluous infrastructure and in compensation to high-level executives.

We thank the commission for your public service and your diligence to the public comment process.

Sincerely,

/s Paulette Stauffer Henriod
MWEG Nevada Environment and Sustainability Specialist
10779 Hobbiton Ave
Las Vegas NV 89135

s/ Sara Robinson Nix
MWEG Nevada Chapter Coordinator
Las Vegas NV

/s Melodee Pratt Wilcox
MWEG Nevada Legislative Committee Chair
Henderson NV



JOE LOMBARDO
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

HAYLEY WILLIAMSON
Chair

TAMMY CORDOVA
Commissioner

STEPHANIE MULLEN
Executive Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Date: Aug. 23, 2023

Contact: Peter Kostas,
Communications Director,
(775) 684-6118

PUCN's annual Clark County general consumer sessions scheduled for Aug. 30

Las Vegas, Nev. – The Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (PUCN) has scheduled two general consumer sessions to hear comments from the public regarding the utilities regulated by the PUCN.

Additionally, comments may be filed electronically through the Electronic Filing System on the PUCN's website or at either of the Commission's offices on or before the date of the consumer sessions. The consumer sessions are scheduled as follows:

Wednesday, Aug. 30, at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Hearing Room A

Public Utilities Commission of Nevada
9075 West Diablo Drive, Suite 250,
Las Vegas, NV 89148

The annual general consumer sessions allow the public to provide input about any topic concerning utilities regulated by the PUCN, including NV Energy and Southwest Gas, as well as some telecommunication, railroad and water companies. The PUCN does not regulate the Southern Nevada Water Authority.

The PUCN is statutorily required to conduct at least one annual general consumer session in the Nevada county with the largest population, which is currently Clark County.

In addition to members of the PUCN Regulatory Operations Staff, representatives from the Nevada Bureau of Consumer Protection (BCP) and the utilities will be available to respond to concerns about their companies. Public comment may be limited to three minutes per speaker. Individuals with questions regarding the consumer sessions may contact the PUCN at (702) 486-7210.

The public notice for the consumer sessions in Docket No. 23-06002 can be found on the PUCN's website: puc.nv.gov. Go to the home page under the "Consumers" heading and select "Consumer Sessions."

The record from the consumer sessions will be provided to the Legislative Commission.

NORTHERN NEVADA OFFICE
1150 East William Street
Carson City, Nevada 89701-3109
(775) 684-6101 • Fax (775) 684-6110

<http://puc.nv.gov>

SOUTHERN NEVADA OFFICE
9075 West Diablo Drive, Suite 250
Las Vegas, Nevada 89148
(702) 486-7210 • Fax (702) 486-7206

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Daniel Smith
(Please Print)

Address 24 Lawndale Ct
Number Street

Spring Creek 89815
City Zip Code

Telephone 775-393-2423



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Tony Pruessing
(Please Print)

Address 659 Holiday Dr.
Number Street

Spring Creek 89815
City Zip Code

Telephone 775-388-0615



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Gene CHIARELLA
(Please Print)

Address 322 OAKMONT DR
Number Street

Spring Creek NV 89815
City Zip Code

Telephone 775-738-2133



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

CONSUMER HEARING

So that your comments at the consumer session can be made a part of the official record in this case, we ask you to fill out this card.

Name Ed Nickel (Please Print)

Address 829 Eastlake Dr
Number Street

Spring Creek NV 89815
City Zip Code

Telephone 775-734-5217



BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

Public Utilities Commission of Nevada-sponsored)	
Consumer Session to be held in Elko County, Nevada.)	Docket No. 23-06003
_____)	

NOTICE OF CONSUMER SESSION

The Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (“Commission”) will hold a general consumer session in Elko County. The Commission has designated this matter as Docket No. 23-06003.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Commission has scheduled a CONSUMER SESSION for this Docket to be held as follows:

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023
6:00 p.m.
Elko County Commission Chambers
Nannini Administration Building
540 Court Street, Suite 102
Elko, Nevada 89801


Interested persons may appear and be heard on any topic concerning a public utility regulated by the Commission. Public comments may be limited to three (3) minutes per speaker at the discretion of the Commission. If within fifteen (15) minutes after the start of the Consumer Session, no member of the public has appeared to participate or comment, the Consumer Session may be adjourned. To accommodate individuals who enter the meeting chambers who are sensitive to fragrance and chemical products, please use the following sparingly or not at all: perfumes, colognes, perfumed body lotions, aftershave, hair products, etc.

Interested persons may also file comments electronically through the Electronic Filing System on the Commission’s website or at either of the Commission’s offices on or before TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023.

This Notice is available for public viewing on the Commission's website:

<https://puc.nv.gov>; and at the Commission's offices: 1150 East William Street, Carson City,
Nevada 89701 and 9075 West Diablo Drive, Suite 250, Las Vegas, Nevada 89148.

By the Commission,

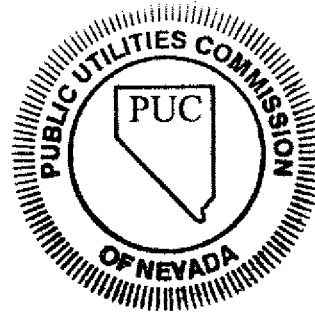


TRISHA OSBORNE,
Assistant Commission Secretary

Dated: Carson City, Nevada

6/1/23

(SEAL)



-
-
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23-06003

Public Utilities Commission of Nevada
Electronic Filing

Submitted: 9/25/2023 8:59:17 AM

Reference: ddd6da23-68d9-4c09-b5db-ba5ee0405e83

Payment Reference: 09-b5db-ba5ee0405e83

Filed For: Silver State Court Reporters

In accordance with NRS Chapter 719,
this filing has been electronically signed and filed
by: /s Rick Stefani

By electronically filing the document(s),
the filer attests to the authenticity of the electronic signature(s) contained therein.

This filing has been electronically filed and deemed to be signed by an authorized
agent or
representative of the signer(s) and
Silver State Court Reporters

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

-oOo-c

Public Utilities Commission
if Nevada-sponsored
Consumer Session to be held
in Elko County, Nevada
pursuant to NRS 704.069
Sub (2).

DOCKET NO. 23-06003

_____ /

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

CONSUMER SESSION

Evening Session
Tuesday, September 19, 2023

Elko County Commission Chambers
Nannini Administration Building
540 Court Street
Suite 102
Elko, Nevada

Reported From A
Recording by:

DEBRA J. BARTGIS, CCR #56
FIRM #002F

APPEARANCES:

Utilities Hearing Officer: SAM CRANO

For PUCN Regulatory Operations Staff:	ROST OLSEN Assistant Staff Counsel 1150 East William Street Carson City, Nevada 89701
--	--

For Office of Attorney General Bureau of Consumer Protection:	MICHELLE BADORINE Deputy Attorney General 100 North Carson Street Carson City, Nevada 89701
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ELKO, NEVADA
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023
EVENING SESSION

-oOo-

(The following proceedings were court reported by the court reporter from a recording, and then transcribed by the court reporter from notes produced from court reporting from the recording. The court reporter was not physically present at the original proceedings.)

-oOo-

HEARING OFFICER CRANO: The record will reflect that this is the time and place set before the Public Utilities Commission Nevada for a Commission-sponsored consumer session in Elko County, Nevada pursuant to NRS 704.069 Sub (2).

This matter has been designated by the Commission as Docket No. 23-06003.

The record will further reflect that on June 1st, 2023 the Commission published, on the Internet Website of the Commission, and as otherwise provided by NAC 703.160, the notice for the consumer session for this time and place.

1 Is there anyone present who has any
2 questions about the noticing?

3 (No Response)

4 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Okay, hearing
5 none, the Commission deems that this matter has
6 been duly and properly noticed for a consumer
7 session at this time and place.

8 My name is Sam Crano. I'm the
9 Presiding Officer in this docket.

10 The Commission's Regulatory Operations
11 Staff is present, along with the Bureau of Consumer
12 Protection, or the BCP, to listen to any comments
13 pertaining to local public utilities that you may
14 have for us tonight.

15 At tonight's consumer session, I would
16 first ask that Mr. Olsen, of the Commission's
17 Regulatory Operations Staff, introduce himself
18 and explain the role of Staff in Commission
19 proceedings and what his role is today.

20 With that, I will turn it over to
21 Mr. Olsen.

22 INTRODUCTION

23 AND COMMENTS

24 MR. OLSEN: Thank you, Hearing Officer
25 Crano.

1 Good evening. My name is Rost Olsen.
2 I'm an Assistant Counsel with the Regulatory
3 Operations Staff of the Public Utilities Commission
4 of Nevada.

5 Staff is an independent investigative
6 arm of the Commission, so we are separate from the
7 Commissioners.

8 We have engineers, economists,
9 financial analysts, and attorneys who participate
10 in all investigations and in all dockets filed with
11 the Commission. We are a party in all dockets.

12 We conduct our own evaluation of the
13 information provided by the utility and other
14 participants, and then file our recommendations
15 with the Commission, and participate in any
16 hearing.

17 Staff's primary goal in all dockets is
18 to balance both yours, the ratepayers', interests
19 with the utilities' interests. We recommend what
20 we believe is in the public interest, which is to
21 ensure a utility is providing safe and reliable
22 services at a reasonable cost.

23 Your comments in forums are a valuable
24 element in assisting us evaluating -- assisting us
25 in evaluating what's in the public interest.

1 We also have a Consumer Complaint
2 Resolution Division, who can assist you with issues
3 you may have regarding your utility service.

4 We thank you for your participation
5 today, and we look forward to hearing what you have
6 to say.

7 And on a personal note, it's always a
8 thrill for me to be here in Elko. My wife and I
9 spent plenty of time here when we were dating, and
10 this is a very special place for us, so thank you
11 for welcoming us into your community this evening.

12 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Thank you
13 Mr. Olsen.

14 And now we have Miss Badorine from the
15 Attorney General's Bureau of Consumer Protection.

16 Ms. Badorine, if you could please
17 introduce yourself, and explain the role of the
18 BCP in Commission proceedings.

19 Thank you.

20 INTRODUCTION

21 AND COMMENTS

22 MS. BADORINE: Thank you.

23 Good evening, Hearing Officer,
24 representatives from Staff, and most importantly
25 those who are here from the public. I'm Michelle

1 Badorine, and I'm an attorney from the Nevada
2 Attorney General's Bureau of Consumer Protection.

3 The Bureau of Consumer Protection is an
4 office that was established decades ago to protect
5 the interests of consumers and small businesses in
6 the utility forum.

7 The role of the Bureau of Consumer
8 Protection is to represent Nevada residential
9 and small business ratepayers at proceedings.

10 Ratepayers deserve reliable utility
11 service at the lowest reasonable cost. The Bureau
12 of Consumer Protection has a team of highly
13 qualified and dedicated accountants, engineers,
14 economists, experts, and attorneys that are
15 reviewing cases as submitted by Nevada regulated
16 public utilities. We analyze the position of the
17 Company, and then present our case to the Public
18 Utilities Commission for it's consideration.

19 We ask formal questions of the Company,
20 retain experts, and present that case.

21 Today our priority is to hear from you,
22 the Nevada ratepayer, regarding what impact any of
23 the cases that we bring before -- or that are
24 brought before the Public Utilities Commission,
25 if adopted, would have on you. As such, we look

1 forward to hearing your concerns.

2 Thank you.

3 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Thank you,
4 Miss Badorine.

5 GENERAL COMMENTS

6 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: And now the
7 purpose of all of us being here today is to solicit
8 comments from the public on issues concerning the
9 public utilities, as these consumer sessions are an
10 annual opportunity for the community to speak with
11 the Commission and representatives of other State
12 agencies that regulate the public utilities.

13 So we will now take comments from
14 members of the public.

15 When your name is called, please first
16 state your full name, and spell your last name for
17 the record.

18 We are recording this, and the
19 recording is used by our Court Reporter when we get
20 back, and a transcript will be made, and we will
21 take it from there.

22 The first card that I have, in fact the
23 only card that I have, so if anyone else wants to
24 speak, Miss Nichols will give you a card, the first
25 card I have is from Daniel Smith.

1 Mr. Smith, you want to take the mike,
2 and tell us your concerns, please.

3 DANIEL SMITH
4 a public commenter
5 commented as follows:

6 MS. SMITH: Thank you. My name is
7 Daniel Smith, S-m-i-t-h.

8 I would say this is the first time that
9 I've had the chance to meet with you, and I
10 appreciate the opportunity that you're able to come
11 here with us.

12 I have a twofold process, obviously
13 with everything that's happened over the last few
14 years, we're seeing rates increase all the way
15 around. One of the closest ones, and then I have
16 had an issue for quite a long time, is the water
17 rates in Spring Creek with Great Basin Water.

18 And I built my house in 2005, put in
19 grass and, you know, for the summer of 2006 I had
20 the water increase during the summer when I was
21 watering the lawn, and I had seen an increase of
22 about a hundred dollars a month at that time for
23 water, for watering the grass.

24 Obviously, the water rates have gone up
25 since then, in 2005 we had an increase, 2010, 2013,

1 2015, I believe 2018 was denied on, and then again
2 this last year they did a restructuring. At that
3 point, I seen my water bill go up about \$900 a
4 month for the same lawn. And I had also, you know,
5 cut the watering back to just barely keeping the
6 grass green. So in a matter of, oh, 15 years I've
7 seen over an 800 percent increase in the water
8 rates from what they were in 2006 to what they are
9 currently.

10 I know talking with the Great Basin
11 Water representatives that had come out to Spring
12 Creek in the end of February, beginning of March,
13 I don't have the exact date, talking to them, and
14 they're talking about how they restructured the
15 tier system which, you know, there are things I do
16 agree with.

17 You know, their Tier 2 water went from
18 5,000 gallons up to a million gallons, and they
19 made the comment of that's not a tier. I can agree
20 with that.

21 They dropped it all the way down to
22 30,000 gallons from a million. I don't think
23 that's a tier either from, 5,000 to 30,000.

24 And then, of course, the rates over
25 the 30,000, you know, is for one month, you know,

1 have gone up drastically when you get to that
2 Tier 3 level.

3 You know, as somebody that's been in
4 this community 23 years now, you know, I've been
5 involved with the construction in this community,
6 helping beautify the community, and it has been
7 kind of hard on the heart seeing all the nice lawns
8 that were out there just simply dying.

9 And probably even more so this year,
10 I had actually cut my lawn back by about
11 two-thirds, and for the water rate, the bill that
12 I got two months ago it went up \$380.

13 And then, you know, cutting it back
14 after the month of July, being as warm as it was
15 in August, you know, I still had a \$300 increase
16 on the water for the lawn that I have. It's a
17 whole lot better than, you know, a \$900 increase.
18 But again, out there where it used to be nice,
19 green, grass, and now it's dead.

20 So that's the first and foremost
21 concern that I have.

22 You know, I keep an eye on rates with
23 the electric bill. I know that's been increasing
24 over this last year as well.

25 Looking at usage that I've had last

1 year compared to this year, the usage is pretty
2 similar, not a whole lot of change there, and the
3 payments are a 50 percent increase. What was
4 closer to a \$200 range a month, is sitting closer
5 to a \$300 range a month.

6 And again, I know the rates are going
7 up, and I guess one of the questions I would have
8 is with the solar energy right now they are doing
9 credits. If you put a solar system in and you
10 produce more than you use you have a credit, and
11 that they won't do a payout on anything on the
12 excess.

13 And I'm wondering, is that something
14 that would be considered for future options?

15 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: We would need
16 a statute change for that. The statute came out
17 in either 2015 or '17, and they could only do
18 bill credit; basically they couldn't pay back.

19 MS. SMITH: Okay. All right. Thank
20 you.

21 (Public Commenter Excused.)

22 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Mr. Pruessing.
23 And if you would state your full name, and spell
24 your last name for the record. We are recording.

25

1 ANTHONY PRUESSING
2 a public commenter
3 commented as follows:

4 MR. PRUESSING: Yes, it's actually
5 Anthony Pruessing, P-r-u-e-s-s-i-n-g.

6 I live in Spring Creek, but I have
7 another piece of property down farther in Spring
8 Creek, and mostly I've heard that there is only
9 so much water being allotted to lots, the land in
10 the Spring Creek, and that those allocations are
11 running out. And I have had my property for 12
12 years now, and my concern is we haven't developed
13 on it yet, we still intend to, but if there is only
14 a certain amount of allocated lots am I going to be
15 able to get water on my property? Because without
16 that I couldn't build; I couldn't sell it really
17 either.

18 So my concern is, is how close are we
19 to running out of those, and do I need to be
20 concerned about not being able to get water for my
21 property?

22 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Well, without
23 knowing exactly where you are, and some more
24 specifics, I don't know that I can give you a full
25 answer.

1 But generally, okay, are you close to
2 where Spring Creek has the water now, has
3 facilities, or are you further out?

4 MR. PRUESSING: No, no, no. I'm right
5 in the middle of Spring Creek, the housing --

6 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Okay.

7 MR. PRUESSING: -- my address is 74
8 Clover is where my property is.

9 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Okay.

10 MR. PRUESSING: It's right in the
11 center up there.

12 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Okay. And they
13 should have enough set aside for every lot in their
14 service territory.

15 MR. PRUESSING: Okay.

16 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: And it's when
17 they want to expand their service territory that
18 they run into problems with the State Engineer to
19 get more water.

20 But if you're inside their service
21 territory already, there should be water set aside
22 for each lot.

23 MR. PRUESSING: Okay. All right. If
24 there is not enough for the lots that are already
25 existing, then we get new developments coming in

1 outside that they won't let them have a well, so
2 they make them go onto Spring Creek water, which
3 is fine, I suppose, but if actually it causes us
4 to run out of allocations for property that's
5 already existing there and the lots that are
6 already existing, that would be a concern of
7 whether that they shouldn't be doing that.

8 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Right. No,
9 when they extend that review increment, they have
10 to get more water allocated from the State
11 Engineer's Office. But that's part of the new
12 development. There should, unless they're not
13 using it properly, there should be enough water
14 set aside for each lot.

15 MR. PRUESSING: Okay. All right. Do
16 I need to contact somebody to verify that. Do I
17 call the --

18 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Yes, you could
19 call the water company and just tell them where,
20 the address of your property, and say, you know,
21 I'm going to build in the next year or so --

22 MR. PRUESSING: Okay.

23 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: -- so I want to
24 make sure the water is there, and they should be
25 able to answer that. And if they're not, call

1 Miss Nichols, her card is on the back there --

2 MR. PRUESSING: Okay.

3 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: -- and we'll
4 get on that.

5 MR. PRUESSING: Okay. Great. Thank
6 you very much.

7 (Public Commenter Excused.)

8 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: So those are
9 the only cards I have.

10 If anybody else wants to speak, you can
11 come on up and speak, and then fill out a card with
12 Miss Nichols when you're done; or if not, we'll be
13 around after if you want to ask some questions off
14 the record.

15 But anybody? Sir, come on up.

16 ED NICKEL

17 a public commenter

18 commented as follows:

19 MR. NICKEL: My name is Ed Nickel,
20 N-i-c-k-e-l. And I have lived in the area 35
21 years, and I am really not clear exactly what the
22 Public Utilities Commission regulates; obviously,
23 water. I assume it also does electricity, natural
24 gas?

25 Does it also cover the propane people,

1 with the propane?

2 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Not fully. We
3 do safety aspects, and we don't set their rates.
4 Their rates are set by the use of propane and the
5 State Propane Board, and that's who sets their
6 rates. We don't have rate regulation over the
7 propane folks. We just do the safety. And really
8 only the safety. The ones that serve multi-areas,
9 the single tanks, with a single house we have
10 basically no jurisdiction over.

11 MR. NICKEL: So if we have utilities
12 the telecommunications, telephone, those kinds of
13 things, or --

14 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: We do some
15 telephone. We do -- the Feds deregulated a lot
16 of telephone stuff back in '96.

17 MR. NICKEL: The AT&T break-up.

18 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: The AT&T
19 break-up. We do do some telephone regulation. We
20 do regulate Frontier here in Elko.

21 MR. NICKEL: All right. I just wasn't
22 sure entirely what your responsibilities are.

23 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: There's two
24 kinds of telecom companies. They can either be a
25 competitive supplier or a common supplier. All the

1 competitive suppliers, basically where there is
2 non-competition. If there are two or three cell
3 phone companies and a landline, the prices,
4 capitalism regulates the prices there. It's only
5 like what we call the small-scale providers of last
6 resorts, you know, places where someone, you had
7 the one company and that's it, then we regulate
8 them because -- basically what we're for is to
9 stand in for competition.

10 So like with an electric company where
11 it costs a million dollars to run a line to
12 everybody's house, so there is not a lot of
13 competition for that. So we're there to help, you
14 know, if they want to change their rates they have
15 to come to us. So we're there to help to sort of
16 stand in the place of competition.

17 So for small telecom companies where
18 there is not a lot of competition because the
19 facilities aren't built out enough, then we
20 regulate those.

21 But in like Reno, Vegas we don't
22 regulate telecom at all, other than service
23 territory, but we don't do rates or quality or
24 anything like that.

25 MR. NICKEL: All right. Thank you.

1 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: You bet.

2 (Public Commenter Excused.)

3 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Sir?

4 GENE CHIARELLA

5 a public commenter

6 Commented as follows:

7 MR. CHIARELLA: My name is Gene

8 Chiarella, C-h-i-a-r-e-l-l-a.

9 I have a question about the Southwest
10 Gas new billing. I've gotten three billings, and
11 there is a \$35 tariff on that, and it took me over
12 four hours talking to Southwest Gas for them to
13 finally explain to me that we are paying for the
14 line, the extension line out to Spring Creek. They
15 said it was in our contracts, and for things like
16 that. Well, I went over all the contracts on my
17 hold harmless agreement and different things when I
18 signed up, and there is nothing on there; at least
19 nothing that I received. I don't know; maybe I
20 didn't get the correct paperwork.

21 But I was just concerned. I mean, you
22 know, I switched everything over to natural gas to
23 try and save money, and now I'm paying more than I
24 was paying for propane, if I start breaking it out
25 through the whole year.

1 So by the time you do \$35 a month,
2 we're at \$420 a year extra, and I still can't get
3 a straight answer. They just said, well, we added
4 a tariff on there to pay for the extension of the
5 line from Elko out to Spring Creek.

6 And like I said, I have never gotten
7 any paperwork on it, or anything like that, and it
8 took me a real long time to find out what it was
9 when our paper bills would show up.

10 So I'm just concerned about Southwest
11 Gas not being totally transparent about what was
12 going on when I received a bill.

13 You know, I'm a single guy. I can live
14 on \$35 a month for gas. You know, I'm not using
15 heat at this time. And I'm paying \$78 a month,
16 and different things like that.

17 So my concern was, what is happening?
18 Who did it? So I don't know how we find out about
19 that, or something.

20 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: That was a
21 number of different things that happened there.

22 It never made financial sense for
23 Southwest, or any other gas company, to run gas
24 over the hill into Spring Creek. There is another
25 one, Mesquite down near Vegas, that didn't have

1 gas, and a couple other places. You know, the city
2 or the counties, I know the city council for
3 Mesquite, and in Elko County, or the Commissioners,
4 and the gas company, went to the Legislature in
5 2015, or 2017, it was Senate Bill 151 - I forget
6 which year - to allow them to do basically special
7 building to run the line, and so that that \$35 is
8 in place here - and I think it was 27 in Mesquite
9 because it didn't have to go over a mountain; it
10 was just a straight line from Vegas - for a certain
11 amount of time, and I don't know the time off the
12 top of my head, that wasn't my case, but that went
13 through a hearing to figure that out.

14 That should have been in the paperwork
15 that you got. So I know people looked at those
16 contracts, and it should have been in there. If it
17 is not, that's an issue. But then if you call in
18 or email in an informal complaint, Staff, Mr.
19 Olsen's group, will look into it and see and make
20 sure they're at least getting the right paperwork
21 to everyone.

22 MR. CHIARELLA: Thank you.

23 And then my other concern is Great
24 Basin. So I've only lived here three years, and
25 I came from a place where we paid horrific water

1 bills so I thought, and I'm looking at what we have
2 here, and my question to Great Basin was, you guys,
3 I've never seen anybody come out to supposedly read
4 the meter, and they said they have electronic
5 meters on there. I opened up my box, and I don't
6 see anything.

7 So I'm wondering how they regulate, how
8 they know the water I'm using each month? I don't
9 have any landscaping. I don't have anything. My
10 bill is fine, I mean, not a big deal. But I'm just
11 wondering, you know, when you do call the company,
12 and you ask them well, I've never seen a guy come
13 out and pop the cover to read my meter. Well, we
14 have automatic readers, and that's why.

15 Over three years, I'm retired, I'm at
16 home every day, I have never seen a water truck
17 come by and read my meter in over three years that
18 I've been here, and things like that.

19 So I'm just wondering, are there
20 automatic readers on our meters where they can
21 drive by and get a correct reading? Because you
22 hear horror stories of people getting outrageous
23 water bills when they, you know, they haven't been
24 read for two years, and then all of a sudden they
25 come out to read it, and then they get a \$2,000

1 water bill. And it's like wait a second here; you
2 know, we can't afford that. We didn't know it was
3 that way.

4 So like this gentleman said, he cut
5 back his watering, and not knowing that he was
6 getting charged an absorbant rate, he kept
7 watering normally.

8 So another question is you know, as
9 to why these companies are not supposedly telling
10 us what's going on and truth, I'll call it.

11 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Yes, sir, there
12 is a little chip in there that they're supposed to
13 be able to hook up with and read from their truck.

14 We have had a couple of instances, like
15 you say, like them not reading it for awhile, and
16 coming in with a makeup bill, and we have come down
17 pretty hard for that, and made them jump through a
18 bunch much hoops and fined them, and some other
19 things. They should be reading them now, but if
20 they're not and that's happening again, I would
21 want to know about it, because --

22 MR. CHIARELLA: I don't know. Because
23 I haven't seen anybody come out and read my
24 meter --

25 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Yes, that has

1 happened in the past. But there is a chip on those
2 meters. They should be able to get it on a slow
3 roll-by, or they park at one end of the street,
4 like five or six houses, and they go, you know, to
5 the other end of the street, like five or six
6 houses from that.

7 MR. CHIARELLA: I'm just relaying what
8 I --

9 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: No, no, no.

10 MR. CHIARELLA: -- I'm just relaying
11 back to what we had in Tahoe. We had a sensor on
12 top of our box, and they came by and they could
13 read it out of the truck, you know, and everything.

14 And I was looking at that, they have
15 had my water off so they can run gas and electric
16 and cable, and tear up my whole lawn, and
17 everything, all summer.

18 We've had that box open numerous times,
19 and I don't see anything. Unless it's built into
20 the meter itself, but I can't see it.

21 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: It should be
22 built into the meter now.

23 MR. CHIARELLA: I've asked them to come
24 out and show me, and I get no reply.

25 So anyway, that's my questions, and

1 thank you all for your time.

2 Have a good evening.

3 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Thank you.

4 (Public Commenter Excused.)

5 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: Anybody else
6 want to come up?

7 (No Response)

8 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: No? Okay.

9 Well, I want to thank everybody for
10 being here. Thank you for your attendance.

11 Your comments are valuable, and we do
12 appreciate the opportunity to hear from you.

13 And again, if you think of something
14 later, Miss Nichols' card is there, or you can send
15 it into the Commission, and we will hopefully be
16 able to get back to you.

17 But if there is nothing further?

18 (No Response)

19 HEARING OFFICER CRANO: This consumer
20 session is adjourned.

21 And like I said, we'll be around for a
22 bit to answer questions. Thank you.

23 (The Consumer Session was Adjourned.)

24 -oOo-

25

STATE OF NEVADA,)
)
COUNTY OF WASHOE.) ss.

I, DEBRA J. BARTGIS, Certified Court
Reporter #56 do hereby declare:

That on Thursday, September 19, 2023, at
Elko County Commission Chambers, Nannini Administration
Building, 540 Court Street, Suite 102, Elko, Nevada, I
WAS NOT present to report the Commission-sponsored
Consumer Session held before the Public Utilities
Commission of Nevada, and that I reported and transcribed
the same from a recording at a later date;

That the foregoing transcript is a full,
true and correct transcription of my stenotype notes of
said Commission-sponsored Consumer Session reported from
the recording.

DATED: At Sparks, Nevada, this 23rd day of
September 2023.

/s Debra J. Bartgis

Debra J. Bartgis, CCR #56



JOE LOMBARDO
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

HAYLEY WILLIAMSON
Chair

TAMMY CORDOVA
Commissioner

STEPHANIE MULLEN
Executive Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Date: Sept. 11, 2023

Contact: Peter Kostas,
Communications Director,
(775) 684-6118

Public utilities commission schedules general consumer session in Elko

Elko, Nev. – The Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (PUCN) has scheduled a general consumer session to hear comments from Elko County residents regarding the utilities regulated by the PUCN.

Additionally, comments may be filed electronically through the Electronic Filing System on the PUCN's website or at either of the Commission's offices on or before the date of the consumer session. The consumer session is scheduled as follows:

Tuesday, Sept. 19, at 6 p.m.

Elko County Commission Chambers
Nannini Administration Building
540 Court Street, Suite 102
Elko, Nevada 89801

The general consumer session allows the public to provide input about any topic concerning utilities regulated by the PUCN, including, but not limited to, Great Basin Water Co., NV Energy, Southwest Gas, some telecommunication companies, and some railroad companies.

Although an Elko County general consumer session is not statutorily required, the Commission seeks to foster greater input from Elko County residents and has regularly scheduled annual meetings in Elko County.

In addition to members of the PUCN Regulatory Operations Staff, representatives from the Nevada Bureau of Consumer Protection (BCP) and some utilities will attend this year's consumer session. Public comment may be limited to three minutes per speaker. Individuals with questions regarding the consumer session may contact the PUCN at (775) 684-6101.

The public notice for the consumer session in Docket No. 23-06003 can be found on the PUCN's website: puc.nv.gov. Go to the home page under the "Consumers" heading and select "Consumer Sessions."