

## Key requests in Alliant's recent rate case

PSC Docket 6680-UR-120

Make Public Comment until 09/30/2016 at:

<http://bit.ly/PSCComment-AlliantIncrease>

1) **Increase the fixed, residential facility fee from \$7.67 to \$18 per month.** This penalizes all customers who conserve power, especially families who watch their energy use to make ends meet. It would be much fairer for Alliant to obtain the extra \$10/month towards capital utility debt by increasing the `_rate_` paid per unit of power consumed. This would work out to an increase of 1.4 cents per kilowatt hour. This way, a family with normal use would still pay \$10 more, a family using 1/2 would pay \$5 more and families depending more on utility infrastructure at double normal use would pay their fair share at \$20 more.

2) Further promoting unfairness and waste, **Alliant seeks a 5.2% increase in rate per kWh for residential customers BUT rate reductions for commercial and industrial users which together consume about 2/3 of the power.**

3) **Lower savings from conscientious, "off-peak" energy use and increase reward for use during peak hours that put more strain on the grid.** As a Time of Use customer explains, he is currently taking advantage of a significant price break from 20 cents to 5 cents per kWh for power he consumes from 8pm to 8am. Alliant's proposed "Time of Use (TOU)" billing changes would senselessly slash the off peak use period by 5 hours per day to 11pm-6am) and reduce savings from this program by 16%,... while rewarding peak user with a rate decrease of few cents per kWh.

Alliant's extraordinarily vague reasons for the cost increases and encouraging increased energy use:

- \*Reductions in conservation-escrow credits relative to the previous rate increase
- \* Increases in the retail allocation of electric costs that result from decreases in wholesale service;
- \* Increases in depreciation expense associated with new utility-plant investments;
- \* Increases in purchased-power capacity;
- \* Changes in capital structure;
- \* Changes in the allocations of common costs between the electric and natural-gas utility.

It would be perfectly relevant to criticize Alliant for wording that makes understanding what we are paying for essentially impossible for college-educated customers to understand. The PSC is supposed to equally protect electric customers' rights and utilities' rights.

We know with high certainty that Alliant is trying to address their dilemma of paying off or "recovering" increasing, long-term costs associated with capital utility spending on transmission and power plant expansion over the last 18 years as our use of electricity drops. Of course, costs will be added for their new natural gas plant in Beloit but hopefully not for Cardinal Hickory Creek!

**-SOUL of Wisconsin**