

**From:** [Gerwatowski, Ronald \(PUC\)](#)  
**To:** [Massaro, Luly \(PUC\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Harrington, John \(PUC\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Energy Rate Increase  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 20, 2023 12:15:38 PM

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**From:** Marie Carpinelli <mariecarpinelli@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 20, 2023 11:31 AM  
**To:** Anthony, Abigail (PUC) <Abigail.Anthony@puc.ri.gov>; Caramello, Christopher (PUC) <Christopher.Caramello@puc.ri.gov>; Gerwatowski, Ronald (PUC) <Ronald.Gerwatowski@puc.ri.gov>; Revens, John (PUC) <John.Revens@puc.ri.gov>  
**Subject:** Proposed Energy Rate Increase

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Good morning,

I hope this email will find its way to the correct PUC officials, before the public hearing.

We, the people of the State of Rhode Island, can't handle anymore. In this current economy, and with our paychecks staying the same, we cannot afford any more rate increases. At the very least, not until this economy stabilizes and prices come down. We are having to make choices of heat, food, or other daily living expenses, and our medications. And you are breaking our backs. Another increase will assuredly cause more fires this winter, due to improper heating equipment, or deaths. You approved a major rate hike last year for the "winter" and as everyone in the state knew beforehand, it NEVER went back down. You can't keep thinking this will not be an incredible detriment to the people in your state; in YOUR care.

Please, for once, stand up for the people you support in the State of Rhode Island and say NO!

We aren't asking you; we are begging and pleading with you.

Marie Carpinelli

**From:** [Gerald Willis](#)  
**To:** [PublicComments, PUC](#)  
**Subject:** Please reject RI Energy's proposed rate hike  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 20, 2023 10:30:34 AM

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Dear PUC,

I am a former landlord who owned a number of properties in Central Falls and Woonsocket.

Today, I'm writing my concerns about RI Energy's proposed rate hike, which if implemented, will lead to an increase in hardships for both tenants and landlords.

In Rhode Island, low-income families are paying disproportionate percentages of their monthly income towards utility bills. Unaffordable prices can force households to choose between energy bills and other necessities like food, rent, and medical care – thus worsening chronic health conditions. Every year in Rhode Island over 20,000 households are put through the trauma of utility termination as a result of unaffordable bills.

As a former landlord, I personally witnessed many families having to make these hard choices. Often tenants – Rhode Island residents – would forgo important things just to pay the utility bills.

This will also lead to landlords not receiving their rents, and because many landlords rely on this income themselves, it puts them in a financially precarious position too. Finally, it will lead to more evictions, which hurts tenants and their families and will make it harder for them to secure future housing.

**Please reject this latest attempt by RI Energy to raise energy costs on Rhode Islanders.**

Thank you,

Gerry Willis

**From:** [Jean Geminiani](#)  
**To:** [PublicComments, PUC](#)  
**Subject:** Rate increase  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 20, 2023 10:43:55 AM

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I can not afford another increase on a fixed income. I am a one and disabled. The oil companies up charge 30-50 cents per gallon as it is. What can we do? Everything has gone up above 8% increase and we probably won't get anything but 3% this coming year. Just as the oil companies have been doing to grant recipients, all of these companies are doing rate increases. When I get my heating assistance grant, it is gobbled up by greedy oil companies. 50 cents above the daily going price is ridiculous. Even if I order over 150 gallons, I still get overcharged to punish the poor. This is called a fleecing of the government. It is illegal and you all know it. So, now all the utilities want on board because they know they can fleece too.. enough already! I do not get much on disability, I freeze in the winter and sweat to death in the summer. What more can I do? You want us all to be homeless? Some of us do not have the golden child any longer. We are struggling, hello???

**From:** [Rick Sellers](#)  
**To:** [PublicComments, PUC](#)  
**Subject:** RI Energy rate change  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 20, 2023 3:32:58 PM  
**Attachments:** [PastedGraphic-1.pdf](#)

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I am a RI resident and my home is serviced by RI Enegy. I oppose any rate increase as I believe that RI is not pursuing "least cost/least impact" electricity for its customers. RI Energy, building on the failed policies of National Grid, are doing everything in their power to slow the adoption of low cost solar and wind in the state, further driving up costs to consumers. RI Energy should be incentivized to adopt a clean energy / low cost power strategy and not receive additional revenues based on the exploitation of its customers rather than the exploitation of low cost, clean energy.

Richard Sellers  
rhsellers@gmail.com  
+1 401 527 7882

**From:** [Sandee Cornell](#)  
**To:** [PublicComments, PUC](#)  
**Subject:** RI Energy Rate Change  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 20, 2023 9:35:58 AM

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Today is the day for the meeting for deciding on a rate hike. Well my husband & I are in our 70's & retired. Last year I had mini splits installed hoping to make it easier for us to heat our home. We have heated with wood for almost 3 decades. So the first year we had them running you jacked up the rates & our bill was about \$400.00. Now that might not be much for the wealthy people that live in our state but unfortunately we are not rich!! The food prices are devouring a large part of our money. We will find it very difficult to pay inflated prices & there are many seniors that can't afford it either! As I see it it is nothing more than greed. This rate hike is not right!

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Daisy Benitez](#)  
**To:** [PublicComments, PUC](#)  
**Subject:** Opposition to rate increase  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 20, 2023 9:10:05 AM

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Hi,

My name is Daisy Benitez I am a resident of Pawtucket. I respectfully request the PUC to stop RI Energy's proposed rate increase. Rhode Islanders are already paying too much for utilities many of us are still in debt because of COVID or other situations please consider the public's comment before voting on anything thanks

**From:** [Remy Elizabeth Fitness](#)  
**To:** [PublicComments, PUC](#)  
**Subject:** PIPP  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 20, 2023 7:55:36 AM

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To Whom It May Concern,

As a RI resident, I am in support of PIPP (Percentage Income Payment Plan).

Sincerely,  
Remy Aull

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Remy Aull  
Creator of The REL VE Movement  
CEO REL VE RELEASE  
release your true self  
reimagine the possibilities

Aull One Wellness Center  
JFB Myofascial Release Therapist  
Stott Pilates Advanced Certification  
Yoga Tune Up Therapy Certification  
Essential Oil Educator  
Holistic Health & Wellness Advocate

[www.aullpilates.com](http://www.aullpilates.com) [[aullpilates.com](http://aullpilates.com)]  
(401)408.5085  
(401)619.4977

**From:** [R Lallo](#)  
**To:** [PublicComments, PUC](#)  
**Subject:** Rate hike  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 20, 2023 8:40:13 AM

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I strongly object to any additional rate hikes. Consumers have been hammered by greedy price increases by all corporations even remotely connected with oil. I don't need to document that profits have been at an all time high....how about a little less greed and a bit more fairness to the population that are struggling to get by.

Jesus just give it a rest.

Richard Lallo

Wickford, RI



**From:** [Leo Tremblay](#)  
**To:** [PublicComments, PUC](#)  
**Subject:** Rate hikes  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 19, 2023 8:07:43 PM

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Too much we just had one cmon. My wages can't keep up

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Donna Sit](#)  
**To:** [PublicComments, PUC](#)  
**Subject:** RI electric rate change  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 19, 2023 9:25:49 PM

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----- Forwarded message -----  
From: **Donna Sit** <[jjiansit@gmail.com](mailto:jjiansit@gmail.com)>  
Date: Tue, Sep 19, 2023, 7:27 PM  
Subject: Stop the electric rate hike  
To: <[omments@puc.ri.gov](mailto:omments@puc.ri.gov)>

Please stop the RI Energy to increase the rate for the upcoming season. Can't afford to live.  
Kwok Sit

**From:** [Maria Duarte](#)  
**To:** [PublicComments, PUC](#)  
**Subject:** RI energy rate change  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 20, 2023 2:38:47 AM

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Why are the rates being raised. I'm in housing does that apply, plus I'm a sick patient having. Heart m monitor I can't afford to have my lights. Rates skyrocket and I am living in housing with a heart monitor. How's that gonna work for me sincerely, concerned Citizen!! Miss Duarte.

**From:** [David Brunetti](#)  
**To:** [PublicComments, PUC](#)  
**Subject:** RI Energy Rate Change  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 20, 2023 8:02:09 AM

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To Whom it May Concern,

Below is my comment regarding the proposed forthcoming energy rate change. Simply stated, RI Energy should freeze any rate increases for low-income, unemployed, disabled people and seniors on fixed incomes so that they don't have to choose between food, medicine, and heat during the cold weather months. Instead of trying to hike these rates, RI Energy should be working to pass PIPP - the percentage income payment plan.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide you with my comment on this issue.

Sincerely,  
David A. Brunetti  
935 Sherman Farm Road,  
Harrisville, RI 02830

**From:** [Joseph Tudino](#)  
**To:** [PublicComments, PUC](#)  
**Subject:** RI Energy Rate Change  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 19, 2023 8:57:31 PM

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Good evening,

My name is Joseph Tudino and I am a Rhode Island Energy gas and electricity customer for my residential and business sites. Last winter's rate increases were very high and outpaced inflation, which was already very high. A supply crisis was cited as a major reason, but that issue appears to have been resolved, so logically electricity rates should come back down.

Additionally, RI Energy should freeze any rate increases for low-income, unemployed, disabled people and seniors on fixed incomes. Instead of trying to hike rates RI Energy should be working to pass PIPP: Percentage Income Payment Plan.

Thank you,  
~Joseph Tudino

**From:** [Cam Blain](#)  
**To:** [PublicComments, PUC](#)  
**Subject:** Stop rate increases for marginalized RI residents  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 20, 2023 7:55:35 AM

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Hi, Please stop rate increases for marginalized RI residents. People who cannot pay their energy bills will suffer in the cold if the rate increases go into effect for them. Have a heart!

Thanks,

Camille Nixon

70 Bradford St.,

Warren, RI 02885

(508) 222-3824

**From:** [Mary Pendergast](#)  
**To:** [PublicComments, PUC](#)  
**Subject:** Utility Rate Hike  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 19, 2023 7:01:28 PM

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Dear Friends,

I am Mary Pendergast from the Sisters of Mercy and the Poor People's Campaign.

I am in several groups who work with people who are homeless. On Friday I was on a zoom call with Stefan Pryor, the Housing Secretary, and many RI clergy and religious. The latest Point in Time homeless count of people who are not in shelters, because they are full, but who are outside in tents, or in abandoned buildings, or in unacceptable conditions was 400+.

Secretary Pryor was desperate, in my opinion, to find shelter, rooms, apartments, empty buildings for the 400+ because fall turns to winter pretty quickly, and the threat of death outside is a very real probability.

I am trying to explain that the homeless situation is already critical. You must be aware of the housing shortage our state is experiencing. Please understand that

raising utility rates is absolutely going to put more people out of housing and into the streets.

If you could allow a percentage of income payment plan, I am telling you that you will be saving lives. The situation is dire. We are not at all playing on a level field.

Please, this year, put people ahead of profit.

Sincerely,

Sister Mary Pendergast, RSM

99 Fillmore St

Pawtucket, RI

4016634530