

<http://www.MSCNews.net/news/index.cfm?nk=28065>

Westar Reaches Settlement in Latest Rate Case

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) - The state's consumer counsel's office says Westar Energy's latest rate request has been settled.

The proposed settlement will give the utility an additional \$30.7 million a year and raise residential customer bills \$3 a month. The Kansas Corporation Commission still must approve the settlement.

The Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board says the settlement drops a proposal by Westar to shift about \$50 million of cost from its large industrial and commercial customers to residential and small-business ratepayers.

The Wichita Eagle reports Westar applied for the rate increase mostly to pay for required environmental upgrades at its La Cygne power plant in eastern Kansas.

Associated Press