



## JEFFERSON COUNTY RURAL WATER DISTRICT # 13

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To: Kansas Corporation Commission  
Re: Westar Energy's proposed rate increase

11-1-11

To whom it may concern;

Please consider this letter a formal protest AGAINST Westar Energy's proposed rate increase. Jefferson County RWD#13's Board of Directors unanimously voted on September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011 to approve this correspondence.

This will be the fifth rate increase by Westar since 2008. We are also a utility and try very hard to not increase rates unless absolutely necessary. We have absorbed the 4 previous rate hikes without increasing our customer's rates. This increase could possibly generate an increase for water to our customers. Westar is creating a domino effect among other utilities every time they increase their rates. It costs more for us to run the equipment necessary to produce water and eventually we will have to raise rates just to keep up with Westar.

Not only will customers feel the pinch in their budget from Westar, but from other companies and utilities that must increase their rates too. Westar's rate request will affect more than just electric bills for customers. We absorb some of the extra costs to produce our water and feel that Westar Energy should absorb theirs too. It will cut into their profits but will help customers overall.

Respectfully,

Mike Stieben  
Board President