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**NEWS
RELEASE**

08/04/2025

City Prepares for Public Utility Commission Hearing in El Paso Electric Rate Case

EL PASO, Texas—The City of El Paso continues its efforts to protect residents and businesses from unjustified rate increases as the El Paso Electric (“EPE”) rate case advances to a formal hearing.

The hearing, scheduled for August 7–15, 2025, will include testimony and cross-examination from EPE, the City of El Paso, and other intervenors.

EPE’s application for a rate increase was filed with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (“PUCT”) in January 2025. The PUCT referred the case to an Administrative Law Judge (“ALJ”) to conduct the hearing and issue a proposal for decision.

EPE is seeking a \$93 million increase to its annual revenue requirement, driven largely by \$1.55 billion in infrastructure investments from January 2021 to September 2024 and a proposed 10.7% Return on Equity (Profit).

If approved as proposed, most customer classes would see higher bills, with different impacts depending on usage patterns.

Following City Council’s June 24 unanimous vote to deny the proposed increase, the City has actively continued to:

- Engage in extensive discovery and legal analysis
- Prepare and file rebuttal and cross-rebuttal expert testimony related to key components of EPE’s request
- Advocate for lowering the company’s proposed Return on Equity (Profit), changing how costs are distributed among customer classes, and scrutinizing major project expenses such as the Newman Unit 6 power plant

“This week’s hearing is a critical step in ensuring that any changes to electric rates are fair, transparent, and backed by solid evidence,” said City Attorney Karla Nieman. “We remain committed to protecting El Paso ratepayers and holding utilities accountable.”

After the hearing concludes, the parties will file post-hearing briefs, and the ALJ will issue a proposal for decision in the coming months. The Public Utility Commission, which has the final say on the outcome of the case, is expected to make a final decision by January 2026.

Moving forward with the hearing will provide the parties additional information which may help in considering potential settlement negotiations in the rate case.

The City’s intervention in utility rate cases has historically provided residents and businesses over \$189 million in rate relief. This work is part of the City’s broader commitment to balance affordability with reliable electric service.

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Media Contact: Laura Cruz Acosta
Strategic Communications Director
Cruz-AcostaLA@elpasotexas.gov
915.212.1071