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# City of El Paso Awaits Final PUC Decision in El Paso Electric Rate Case

**EL PASO, Texas**—The City of El Paso is closely monitoring the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT), which is expected to issue its final decision this week in the El Paso Electric (EPE) rate case.

In January 2025, EPE filed its rate case requesting a \$93 million rate increase to its annual revenue requirement for Texas ratepayers. If approved as originally filed, the City has estimated the typical residential bill would rise about \$22.39 per month, about a 23% increase. Over the past year, the City has actively participated in the regulatory process to advocate for a fair, evidence-based outcome that protects residents and businesses.

“Our priority throughout this case has been to ensure that any rate changes are fair, justified, and supported by the facts,” said City Attorney Karla Nieman. “We remain focused on protecting El Paso customers and will carefully review the Commission’s final decision once it is issued.”

The City’s involvement has included legal analysis, expert testimony, and participation in a contested hearing before Administrative Law Judges. In December, the judges issued a Proposal for Decision recommending several amendments that would scale back key parts of EPE’s request, including:

- Lower profit allowance: 9.4% return on equity instead of 10.7%
- No rooftop solar minimum bill changes: keep the current minimum bill in place pending further review
- Cost sharing of Newman 6 power plant: EPE requested Texas ratepayers pay the full \$217 million costs; the recommendation is that New Mexico ratepayers share some of the costs

The PUCT will now consider the Proposal for Decision and issue its final order.

Mayor and City Council have remained engaged throughout the process, receiving regular briefings and discussing strategy as allowed under the Texas Open Meetings Act.

Background:

- January 2025: EPE filed its rate increase request with the PUCT.
- June 24, 2025: El Paso City Council voted to deny the proposed increase at the local level and directed continued advocacy through the state process.
- August 2025: The case proceeded to a formal hearing before Administrative Law Judges.
- December 2025: Administrative Law Judges issued a Proposal for Decision, which now moves to the PUCT for final consideration.

The City has a long history of advocating on behalf of ratepayers. In the last six general rate cases filed by EPE since 1994, the City’s involvement has resulted in \$188.8 million in savings for ratepayers. More recently, since 2017 the City’s involvement has resulted in \$317.3 million in savings for ratepayers across both electric and gas utility rate cases and various interim utility filings.

The City will provide additional information after the Commission announces its final decision.

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**Media Contact:** Laura Cruz Acosta  
Strategic Communications Director  
Cruz-AcostaLA@elpasotexas.gov  
915.491.0758