



Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

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PSC Lowers Electric Rates and Approves Refund for Alliant Energy Customers

MADISON – Today the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC) lowered electric rates for customers of Wisconsin Power and Light, a subsidiary of Alliant Energy. Rates will decrease by 4.5 percent and the utility will also refund nearly \$30 million to customers as a result of lower fuel costs.

“This is a win for Alliant Energy customers,” according to PSC Chairperson Dan Ebert. “Because of the protections we put in place when we first set Alliant Energy’s rates last year, we have been able to move quickly to lower electric rates and get refunds back to ratepayers as fuel costs have dropped.” He also noted that the Commission has lowered rates for Wisconsin Public Service Corporation and Madison Gas and Electric customers over the past few months, as well.

Last year, the Commission approved an interim rate increase for Alliant Energy when unregulated natural gas prices were at an unprecedented high. Fuel costs have since dropped, entitling customers to a refund with 11.5 percent interest. The average residential customer can expect to see a refund of approximately \$25 in addition to the lower electric rates.

The PSC identified that a refund was due to customers as part of their fuel cost audit. The refund approved today is part of an agreement reached by customer groups and Alliant Energy as part of the PSC rate review proceedings. The Citizens Utility Board and the Wisconsin Industrial Energy Group negotiated an agreement with Alliant Energy that determined how to calculate the amount of the refund, calls for refunds to be made as soon as possible and prohibits the utility from requesting a fuel rate increase for the remainder of 2006.

“I support the agreement for several reasons; it provides that Alliant will revise and re-file its risk management plan, waive its right to seek deferral for 2006 and most importantly it will return money to ratepayers at a time when they carry the burden of historically high energy costs,” Commissioner Mark Meyer said.

Documents associated with this case can be viewed on our Electronic Regulatory Filing System at: <http://psc.wi.gov>. Type case number 6680-UR-114 in the boxes provided on the PSC homepage, or click on the Electronic Regulatory Filing System button.

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