

⁴ K.S.A. 66-1223(b). See, *Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board v. Kansas Corporation Comm'n*, 24 Kan. App.2d 63, 68, rev. den. 262 Kan. 959 (1997) ("CURB v. KCC"). See also, *Farmland Industries, Inc. v. Kansas Corp. Comm'n*, 29 Kan.App.2d 1031, 1047-48, 37 P.3d 640 (2001) ("The bulk of current customers otherwise entitled to receive refunds are statutorily represented by CURB. See K.S.A. 66-1223(a)")

CURB also has specific statutory authority to seek judicial review of Commission orders and decisions on behalf of residential and small commercial ratepayers.⁵

4. CURB's express statutory authority referenced above reflects the intent of the Legislature that CURB should participate in cases filed with the Commission. This fulfills the requirement under K.S.A. 77-521(a)(2) because CURB "qualifies as an intervener under any provision of law."

5. The residential and small commercial ratepayers whose interests CURB represents will be bound by any Commission order or activity in this proceeding. If approved, the proposal to promote the development of distribution infrastructure of natural gas in rural Kansas may substantially increase overall utility capital expenditures and expenses, which may affect the allocation of utility costs and the utility rates paid by the ratepayers CURB represents. CURB has a direct interest in ensuring that any changes in terms or conditions of service in this docket do not adversely affect the customers CURB represents, as well as ensuring that Staff's stated goal of developing a mechanism for recovery that assures no cross-subsidization of costs across customer classes is implemented in any policies approved by the Commission in this docket.

6. The representation of CURB's interests in this proceeding by existing parties is inadequate. No other party to this proceeding is authorized to (a) represent residential and small commercial ratepayers before the Commission, (b) function as the statutory official intervenor in cases filed with the Commission, or (c) seek judicial review of Commission orders and decisions on behalf of residential and small commercial ratepayers. While Commission Staff may have authority to investigate, evaluate, testify and offer exhibits on behalf of the *general public* pursuant to a

⁵ K.S.A. 66-1223.

definition contained in a Commission regulation,⁶ Staff does not represent residential and small commercial ratepayers and is expressly denied the right to appeal Commission orders.⁷

7. Accordingly, CURB has a substantial and vital interest in the outcome of this proceeding which cannot be adequately represented by any other party. Pursuant to K.S.A. 77-521(a)(2), CURB qualifies as an intervenor (a) under provision of law and (b) because the rights, duties, privileges, immunities, or other legal interests of residential and small commercial ratepayers may be substantially affected by this proceeding.⁸

8. CURB's requested intervention is in the interests of justice and will not impair the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceedings.⁹

9. CURB therefore requests that the Commission grant CURB's Petition to Intervene and participate fully in this docket, including but not limited to the right to conduct discovery, file pleadings and testimony, present oral argument, and fully participate in any scheduled hearings.

10. In addition to undersigned counsel, please include the following CURB representatives with all electronic notices, pleadings, and correspondence regarding this Application as follows:

Shonda Smith
Office Manager
Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board
1500 SW Arrowhead Road
Topeka, KS 66604
Email: sd.smith@curb.kansas.gov

Della Smith
Administrative Specialist
Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board
1500 SW Arrowhead Road
Topeka, KS 66604
Email: d.smith@curb.kansas.gov

⁶ Staff's authority to represent the general public is not specifically authorized by statute, but merely referenced in the definition section of Commission regulations. K.A.R. 82-1-204(q) ("Technical staff may conduct investigations and otherwise evaluate issues raised, and may testify and offer exhibits on behalf of the *general public*.") (emphasis added).

⁷ K.A.R. 82-1-204(i)(3).

⁸ K.S.A. 77-521(a)(2).

⁹ K.S.A. 77-521(a)(3).

WHEREFORE, CURB respectfully requests the Commission grant its Petition for Intervention in this Docket.

Respectfully submitted,



David Springe, Consumer Counsel #15619
Niki Christopher #19311
Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board
1500 SW Arrowhead Road
Topeka, KS 66604
(785) 271-3200
(785) 271-3116 Fax

VERIFICATION

STATE OF KANSAS

)

)

SS:

COUNTY OF SHAWNEE

)

I, Niki Christopher, of lawful age and being first duly sworn upon my oath, state that I am an attorney for the Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board; that I have read and am familiar with the above and foregoing document and attest that the statements therein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

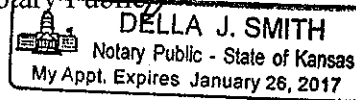
[Handwritten signature]

Niki Christopher

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 13th day of June, 2014.

Debra J. Lewis

~~Notary Public~~



My Commission expires: 01-26-2017.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

14-GIMG-514-GIG

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing document was placed in the United States mail, postage prepaid, or hand-delivered this 13th day of June, 2014, to the following:

ROBERT A. FOX, SENIOR LITIGATION COUNSEL
KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION
1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD
TOPEKA, KS 66604-4027
Hand Delivered


Della Smith
Administrative Specialist