

Electric and Gas

HOT TOPICS

- Press release: U.S. Consumers Will Save \$30 Billion with Proposed Residential Gas Furnace Standards, June 13, 2022
- New Maryland Law Will Protect Low-Income Families from Overpriced Electricity and Gas , June 7, 2021
- Testimony of NCLC attorney Jenifer Bosco before the MA Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities & Energy re: Competitive Energy Suppliers, Jan. 14, 2020; Press Release
- Issue Brief: Still No Relief for Massachusetts Consumers Tricked by Competitive Electric Supply Companies, October 2018
- Report: Competing to Overcharge Customers: The Competitive Energy Supplier Market in Massachusetts, April 2018

Disruption of these life-sustaining services puts lives at risk. NCLC works on federal and state policies to ensure reasonable rates and protections for low-income households.

Administrative & Regulatory Advocacy

- PowerPoint: Competitive Energy Supply A Legacy of Deception, Fraud And Consumer Rip-Offs presented by National Consumer Law Center attorney Karen Lusson before the Arizona Corporation Commission Stakeholder Meeting & Workshop re: Possible Modifications to the Arizona Corporation Commission's Retail Electric Competition Rules, Feb. 25, 2020
- Comments to the MA DPU Re: Request of the Office of Attorney General, Office of Ratepayer Advocacy for Investigation into the Effect of the Individual Residential Supply Market on Low Income Ratepayer Assistance Programs, Jan. 10, 2020
- Comments to the Massachusetts Dept. of Public Utilities on its own Motion into initiatives to promote and protect consumer interests in the Retail Electric Competitive Supply Market, Feb. 19, 2019, Additional Comments re: the Dept.'s Tier Two Initiatives, Apr. 2, 2020
- Comments of National Consumer Law Center on behalf of its low-income clients on Proposed Changes to 940 CMR 19.00, Jan. 13, 2017
- Comments to the CA Public Utilities Commission on the Joint Motion for Settlement regarding its motion to address issue of customers' electric and natural gas service disconnection and Response to Petition for Modification, April 2014
- COMPLAINT OF ENE, NCLC, ET AL. CHALLENGING BASE RETURN ON EQUITY, filed with Federal Energy Regulatory Comm'n Dec. 27, 2012
- California Adopts Order to Reduce Utility Disconnections of Vulnerable Households, April 2012
- Model Settlement Protects Vulnerable Consumers from Utility Disconnections, Dec. 27, 2010

Policy Analysis

Policy Briefs, Reports & Press Releases

- Press release: U.S. Consumers Will Save \$30 Billion with Proposed Residential Gas Furnace Standards, June 13, 2022
- Report: Advancing Equity in Utility Regulation, November 2021
- New Maryland Law Will Protect Low-Income Families from Overpriced Electricity and Gas, June 7, 2021
- Issue Brief: Still No Relief for Massachusetts Consumers Tricked by Competitive Electric Supply Companies, October 2018
- Press Release & Report: Competing to Overcharge Customers: The Competitive Energy Supplier Market in Massachusetts, April 2018

- Press Release: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Slashes Major Rate Relief Due on New England Electric Bills, June 24, 2014; FERC decision, June 20, 2014
- Report: Rethinking Prepaid Utility Service: Customers at Risk, June 2012

Comments and Testimony

- Comments filed with the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities re: Docket No. 20-80, May 6, 2022
- MA S. 2150/H. 3352, An Act relative to electric ratepayer protections. Support Testimony, Jul. 28, 2021
- Comments re: MA Department of Public Utilities Vote and Order Opening Inquiry 21-50, Jun. 14, 2021
- MD S.B. 31, Electricity and Gas Suppliers - Energy Supply Offers. Support Testimony, Jan. 29, 2021
- MD S.B. 681, Comprehensive Protections for Residential Consumers. Feb. 25, 2020. Support Testimony. Slides.
- MD H.B. 1224 / S.B. 685, Protecting Low-Income Consumers. Feb. 25, 2020. Senate Support Testimony. House Support Testimony. Senate Bill Slides. House Bill Slides.
- PowerPoint: Competitive Energy Supply A Legacy of Deception, Fraud And Consumer Rip-Offs presented by National Consumer Law Center attorney Karen Lusson before the Arizona Corporation Commission Stakeholder Meeting & Workshop re: Possible Modifications to the Arizona Corporation Commission's Retail Electric Competition Rules, Feb. 25, 2020
- MD H.B. 260 / S.B. 686, Reporting. Feb. 11, 2020. House Support Testimony. Senate Support Testimony. Slides. Additional Slide.
- Testimony of NCLC attorney Jenifer Bosco before the MA Joint Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure re: Competitive Electric Supply, January 27, 2020
- Testimony of NCLC attorney Jenifer Bosco before the MA Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities & Energy re: Competitive Energy Suppliers, Jan. 14, 2020; Press Release
- Comments to the Massachusetts Dept. of Public Utilities on its own Motion into initiatives to promote and protect consumer interests in the Retail Electric Competitive Supply Market, Feb. 19, 2019
- Public Comment regarding the Madison Gas and Electric Company proposal to increase fixed, monthly residential customer charges from \$10.50 per month to \$19.00 per month, October 3, 2014
- Group comments to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission supporting that the wholesale cost of power be just and reasonable, January 8, 2014
- Testimony re: San Diego Gas and Electric Company's proposal to implement a residential prepaid electric service pilot program, June 12, 2012
- Comments (Aug. 5, 2011) and Reply Comments (Aug. 26, 2011) of the Iowa Bureau of Energy Assistance regarding Prepaid Meters
- Comments - Consumer Groups Representing Residential Ratepayers on FERC Technical Conference on RTO Responsiveness, March 8, 2010
- Comments from Consumer Commenters on FERC RTO/ISO Performance Metrics, March 8, 2010
- Comment of Low-Income Weatherization and Fuel Assistance Program Network on Smart Grid Pilot, June 15, 2009
- Testimony: NCLC testimony on prepayment metering submitted on behalf of the Nevada Bureau of Consumer Protection, June 2004
- Additional Comments to Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy on increasing the penetration rate for discounted electric, gas and phone Service, DTE 01-106,

November 2002.

- Reply Comments to the Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy on increasing the penetration rate for discounted electric, gas and phone Service, DTE 01-106, March 2002
- Initial Comments to Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy on increasing the penetration rate for discounted electric, gas and phone Service, DTE 01-106, January 2002

Letters

- Public Citizen letter re: consumer protections in solar leases, August 2016
- Joint Letter to FERC Chairman Wellinghoff on data regarding “just and reasonable rates” in an upcoming FERC RTO/ISO Performance Metrics Docket, February 19, 2010
- Letter to Congress re: Smart Grid and Energy Efficiency, February 4, 2009

Additional Resources

- *The Need for Essential Consumer Protections*, John Howat’s presentation at New York Low-Income Forum on Energy, June 24, 2015
- *Prepaid Utility Service and Revenue Decoupling* by National Resource Defense Council Energy Program Co-director Ralph Cavanagh and NCLC Senior Energy Policy Analyst John Howat published in the Electricity Policy Journal, May 2, 2012
- NCLC’s Energy and Utility Publications and Resources
- “Stay Connected” Training