

Westar Seeks \$17.4M Rate Increase

**TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) - Westar Energy has filed a request to raise its prices by about \$17.4 million, which would raise the average residential bill in Kansas by about \$1.54 per month.**

**Westar spokeswoman Gina Penzig says the company filed the request with the Kansas Corporation Commission to recover costs that weren't available when last year's full price was conducted.**

**The Topeka Capital-Journal reports that the bulk of the \$17.4 million request is related to environmental upgrades at power plants, primarily in the LaCygne Generation Station, to meet federal requirements.**

**Other costs include \$6.5 million used to make investments in the grid design for improved reliability.**

Associated Press