

ORIGINAL

Commissioner	Yes	No	Not Participating
Swinger	√		
Deig	√		
Veleta	√		
Zay			√
Ziegner			√

STATE OF INDIANA

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

**PETITION OF NORTHERN INDIANA PUBLIC)
SERVICE COMPANY LLC FOR APPROVAL)
OF A REVISED GREEN POWER RIDER RATE)
TO BE APPLICABLE FOR ELECTRIC)
SERVICES RENDERED ON OR AFTER JULY)
1, 2026, WHICH WILL REMAIN IN PLACE)
FOR THE PERIOD JULY THROUGH)
DECEMBER 2026, PURSUANT TO)
IND. CODE § 8-1-2-42, AND MODIFICATION)
OF THE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS)
APPROVED IN THE JUNE 18, 2025 ORDER)
IN CAUSE NO. 44198 GPR 17.)**

CAUSE NO. 44198 GPR 19

APPROVED: JUN 30 2026

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

**Presiding Officers:
Bob Deig, Commissioner
Steve Henke, Administrative Law Judge**

On March 19, 2026, Northern Indiana Public Service Company LLC (“NIPSCO”) filed its Verified Petition with the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (“Commission”) to change: (1) its Green Power Rider (“GPR”) rate for electric services rendered on or after July 1, 2026, to remain in effect for the period July through December 2026 (“Forecast Period”) or until replaced; and (2) its reporting requirements approved in the Commission’s June 18, 2025 Order in Cause No. 44198 GPR 17. NIPSCO supported its Petition with testimony from (1) Jennifer Jonkman, Senior Regulatory Analyst for NiSource Corporate Services Company, and (2) Patrick J. Pluard, Director of Portfolio Optimization in NIPSCO’s Energy Supply and Optimization Department.

On May 4, 2026, the Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (“OUCC”) filed testimony of Thomas W. Malan, an Electric Division Utility Analyst. NIPSCO filed a Notice of Intent Not to File Rebuttal Testimony on May 8, 2026.

The Commission noticed and held an evidentiary hearing on May 27, 2026 in Indianapolis. NIPSCO’s and the OUCC’s written testimony and documents were admitted as exhibits without objections.

Based on the law and facts, the Commission finds:

1. Notice and Jurisdiction. The Commission noticed the public hearing in accordance with Ind. Code §§ 5-3-1-8, 8-1-1-8. NIPSCO is a public utility as defined in Ind Code. § 8-1-2-1(a). The Commission first approved NIPSCO’s GPR and GPR rate in Cause 44198 on December 19, 2012 (“First Order”). Under Ind. Code § 8-1-2-42, the Commission has jurisdiction over NIPSCO and changes in NIPSCO’s schedules of rates and charges, which is the subject matter

of this Cause.

2. Petitioner’s Characteristics. NIPSCO is an Indiana limited liability company organized with its principal office at 801 East 86th Avenue, Merrillville, Indiana. NIPSCO renders electric public utility service in Indiana and owns, operates, manages, and controls plant and equipment in Indiana for the generation, transmission, distribution, and furnishing of electric service.

3. Relief Sought. As more fully explained in its caption, NIPSCO petitions the Commission to increase its GPR rate to \$0.003363/kWh during the Forecast Period—up from its current GPR rate of \$0.003130 per kWh—and modify its reporting requirements from those approved on June 18, 2025 in Cause No. 44198 GPR 17.

4. Background. Over fourteen years ago, with its First Order, the Commission approved NIPSCO’s pilot GPR at a rate of \$0.002163/kWh. In the First Order, the Commission required annual reporting of:

- the number and type of customers enrolled in the GPR;
- the number, costs, locations, and suppliers of renewable energy certificates (“RECs”) purchased with the GPR (including a discussion of Hoosier REC sources)
- the costs and a summary of the GPR; and
- copies of marketing materials sent to customers.

In addition to these reporting requirements, the First Order approved NIPSCO’s GPR petition to allow customers to designate a portion of their electric charges to the purchase (and related costs) of RECs. The First Order explained the costs included in the GPR and the methods of retroactive reconciliation and prospective estimation used to calculate the GPR rate. The First Order permitted the semi-annual adjustment of the GPR rate, but imposed only annual reporting requirements.

Since the First Order, the Commission has revised the GPR rate at NIPSCO’s request on a few occasions. Most relevantly for this Cause, in Cause No. 44198 GPR 8, the Commission consolidated NIPSCO’s reporting requirements to coincide with the tracker filings and eliminate other reporting requirements at NIPSCO’s recommendation. Then, at NIPSCO’s request in Cause No. 44198 GPR 17, on June 18, 2025, the Commission reinstated semi-annual GPR filings, but kept its reporting requirements due on an annual basis.

5. Evidentiary Summary.

A. GPR Enrollment and Consumption. NIPSCO’s proposed GPR rate includes a reconciliation of REC costs, and marketing and certification expenses for the period July through December 2025 (the “Reconciliation Period”). Ms. Jonkman testified that, during the Reconciliation Period, NIPSCO’s GPR program enrolled 1,609 customers: 1,543 residential, 65 commercial, and one industrial. Within the 65 commercial customers, there were 11 large

commercial customers (*i.e.*, customers receiving service under Rates 623, 624, and 626) and 16 Dusk to Dawn Area Lighting customers (*i.e.*, customers receiving service under Rate 660). She explained that NIPSCO reviewed participants' usage during the Reconciliation Period and used that data to calculate a monthly average green power usage amount for residential, commercial, large commercial, Dusk to Dawn Area Lighting, and industrial customers. These calculations were based on actual total monthly usage and green power participation rates.

Ms. Jonkman testified that the average monthly residential green power usage weighted for aggregate participation was approximately 690 kWh. The average monthly green power usage for non-residential customers was approximately:

- Industrial customers: 24,915,072 kWh,
- Large commercial customers: 486,958 kWh,
- Dusk to Dawn Area Lighting: 459 kWh, and
- Other, smaller commercial: 5,746 kWh.

NIPSCO's forecasted customer counts stem from its operational plan projections for the GPR program and planned marketing. Using the customer enrollment projections and the new average usage levels, NIPSCO estimated green power sales for the Forecast Period will be 186,049,992 kWh—about a 1% decrease compared to the actual green power sales during the Reconciliation Period.

Ms. Jonkman testified that NIPSCO's proposed GPR rate charges \$0.003363 per kWh. Ms. Jonkman stated the estimated monthly bill impact of the proposed GPR rate for an average green power residential customer is an increase of about \$0.16 from the current factor.

OUCG witness Malan testified that based on information NIPSCO provided in its case-in-chief, NIPSCO's proposed GPR rate calculation appears reasonable and the OUCG does not oppose NIPSCO's proposed GPR rate in this Cause.

B. Marketing and Certification Costs. Ms. Jonkman sponsored Attachment A, Schedule 3 of NIPSCO's Exhibit 1, which included certification expenses of \$14,650 and marketing expenses of \$18,362 in this GPR filing. She stated that the estimated marketing expenses included in this filing were determined by dividing the estimated marketing expenses by the estimated sales, yielding a component rate of \$0.000099 per kWh—less than the capped marketing expense component rate of \$0.001150 per kWh. Because the marketing expenses are less than the cap, NIPSCO requests recovery of the full amount of estimated marketing expenses.

Mr. Malan testified that NIPSCO's forecasted Marketing and Certification costs are reasonable and consistent with previous GPR rulings and recorded costs. He confirmed that NIPSCO's estimated marketing costs are less than the approved cap and do not exceed \$100,000 annually.

C. Reconciliation. Ms. Jonkman testified the reconciliation consists of four components: (1) certification expenses, (2) marketing expenses, (3) REC costs, and (4) prior period variance.

Ms. Jonkman stated that the actual certification expenses for the Reconciliation Period were compared to the certification expenses collected to determine any under- or over-recovered certification expense.

Ms. Jonkman stated that the actual marketing expenses allowed for recovery for the Reconciliation Period were compared to the marketing expenses collected to determine any under- or over-recovered marketing expenses when compared to the cap factor (\$0.00115 per kWh). The capped marketing expense amount is calculated by multiplying the semi-annual sales by the marketing expense cap factor to establish the maximum allowed marketing costs for recovery, with the lesser of actual marketing expenses or the capped marketing expenses reflected as the actual, allowed marketing costs. To determine the marketing expenses collected for the Reconciliation Period, the marketing rate factor approved in Cause No. 44198 GPR 17 was multiplied by the actual sales to determine the marketing expenses collected. The amounts collected were subtracted from the total allowed costs to determine the calculated variance.

Ms. Jonkman explained that the REC costs were reconciled by taking the actual REC costs for the Reconciliation Period and subtracting the REC revenues collected for this period. Ms. Jonkman testified the REC revenues consist of the actual sales for the Reconciliation Period multiplied by the estimated REC price (\$/kWh) billed for the Reconciliation Period.

Ms. Jonkman stated that the variance is the difference between the prior period variances from Cause No. 44198 GPR 17 and the amount of the prior period variance that was actually collected or refunded for the Reconciliation Period. Ms. Jonkman testified that the variance for the Reconciliation Period is an under-collection of \$86,427 due to a higher average REC price than the forecasted amount and volumetric variance.

D. RECs. Mr. Pluard testified that NIPSCO purchased a total of 187,630 RECs from the open market for a total cost of \$464,818.94. He stated that the average cost of RECs in the Reconciliation Period was \$2.48/REC, inclusive of the unit purchase value, a Midwest Renewable Energy Tracking System (“M-RETS”) REC retirement fee, and brokerage fees. He noted a purchase of RECs was performed on a quarterly basis to establish the quarterly price for the RECs. He stated that the quantity of RECs retired within M-RETS was based upon the actual GPR sales during the quarterly allocation periods. This enabled GPR customers to receive RECs at a cost most reflective of market conditions throughout the year. Additionally, he stated that the allocation mechanism allowed for the RECs to be allocated quarterly instead of waiting for a single large allocation at the end of the year. According to Mr. Pluard, this approach potentially prevented higher market prices due to large annual volumetric needs.

Mr. Pluard stated that the RECs for this GPR were sourced from open market purchases, and all utilized RECs were located within the Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc.

(“MISO”) balancing area.

Mr. Pluard testified that NIPSCO considered purchasing RECs sourced from Indiana, but found no published market for Indiana-sourced generation. He stated that recent indications suggest Indiana-sourced RECs could be sold in adjacent states with state-specific renewable portfolio standards, but these may not be green-e certified (as currently required in NIPSCO’s GPR) and are typically sold at a premium. Mr. Pluard stated that NIPSCO will continue to explore the option of acquiring RECs sourced in Indiana during its GPR purchase process.

Mr. Pluard testified the actual price NIPSCO paid for the RECs for the Reconciliation Period was an average of \$2.48 per REC. He noted that in Cause No. 44198 GPR 17, the price for RECs for the Reconciliation Period was estimated to be \$1.84 per REC. He stated RECs now typically trade in the \$2.70 to \$3.00 per REC range.

Mr. Pluard testified that future REC prices are unknown, and that identifying the exact drivers affecting the price of RECs within the open market is not possible. He stated that, generally, the price of RECs is driven by a variety of market conditions, including proposed modifications to state renewable portfolio standard requirements, addition of new renewable resources, customer demand, technology, and location of renewable generation. Mr. Pluard testified that overall, the price for RECs has continued to moderate over the last year, which is reflected in NIPSCO’s estimated cost for RECs for the Forecast Period. He stated that purchases made in the open market may be subject to brokerage fees and that, for purposes of calculating the GPR in this filing, NIPSCO used a forecasted price of \$2.72 per REC. Mr. Pluard confirmed that NIPSCO will continue to explore all options prior to making any purchase or transfer decisions. While the sources of future RECs are not known, Mr. Pluard testified that the RECs that NIPSCO purchases for the GPR program will continue to be sourced from the MISO balancing area.

Mr. Pluard testified that NIPSCO will continue purchasing RECs on a quarterly basis in 2026, which will be more indicative of the REC value throughout the year and may reduce volatility associated with making a large, annual single purchase. He testified the final purchase will occur in the first quarter of 2027 after actual sales for the annual billing period have been confirmed.

Mr. Malan testified the OUCC does not take issue with NIPSCO’s REC procurement strategy.

E. Modification of Reporting Requirements. Ms. Jonkman described NIPSCO’s request to modify the reporting requirements approved last year in Cause No. 44198 GPR 17 to those approved in Cause No. 44198 GPR 8. Ms. Jonkman discussed prior orders from the Commission affecting NIPSCO’s reporting requirements. Ms. Jonkman also communicated NIPSCO’s request to reinstate the reporting requirements from Cause No. 44198 GPR 8, which contained fewer categories of information and required filing alongside tracker filings (as opposed to standalone filing as an annual report in Cause No. 44198).

6. Commission Discussion and Findings. Based on the evidence discussed as above, the Commission finds the proposed GPR rate of \$0.003363 per kWh was properly calculated, and approves the GPR rate contained in NIPSCO's Exhibit No. 1, Attachment 1-A, Schedule 1, for bills rendered during the billing cycles of July through December 2026. This rate will remain in place until replaced by a different, approved GPR rate.

Further, the Commission finds NIPSCO's proposed modification to reporting requirements is a reasonable streamlining of the administrative process, and unopposed by the OUCC. However, NIPSCO provided no evidence to support the elimination of reporting on the customers enrolled in the GPR program for the prior calendar year (including breakdowns by customer type), and the Commission has found these data helpful in analyzing the GPR.

Accordingly, the Commission modifies NIPSCO's reporting requirements. Beginning with Cause No. 44198 GPR 20, NIPSCO must include at least the following data for the prior calendar year regarding its GPR program with its semi-annual tracker filing:

- (1) monthly numbers of customers enrolled in the GPR program for the prior calendar year, including breakdowns of residential, commercial, and industrial customers,
- (2) quantities and sources of RECs purchased for the GPR program,
- (3) price and total costs of the RECs purchased for the GPR program, inclusive of fees and costs,
- (4) administrative costs of the GPR program by major category, and
- (5) marketing costs of the GPR program by major category.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED BY THE INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION that:

1. NIPSCO's requested GPR Rate of \$0.003363 per kWh is approved, for electric services rendered on or after July 1, 2026, and will remain in place until replaced by a different GPR rate approved in a subsequent filing.

2. The Commission modifies NIPSCO's reporting requirements as explained in this Order.

3. Before implementing the newly approved GPR Rate, NIPSCO must file an amendment to its tariff and rate schedules under this Cause for approval by the Commission's Energy Division. Such rate will be effective on or after the Order date, and is subject to the Commission's Energy Division's review and agreement with the amounts reflected.

4. This Order is effective on and after its approval date.

SWINGER, DEIG, AND VELETA CONCUR; ZAY AND ZIEGNER ABSENT:

APPROVED: JUN 30 2026

**I hereby certify that the above is a true
and correct copy of the Order as approved.**

**Dana Kosco
Secretary of the Commission**