



Billing Assistance

Are you concerned about your utility bills as winter approaches? Now is the time to reach out to your providers and discuss payment arrangements.

Indiana has a [winter disconnection moratorium](#), but it only applies to those who have applied for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). If you're unsure where you can apply for assistance, the Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority (IHCDA) offers a county-by-county [directory](#) of local intake offices. Applications are [now being accepted](#).

For more information on local financial resources, Indiana's [2-1-1 helpline](#) can be reached at any time. Township trustees and certain utility companies offer assistance, too.

I&M Rates

The OUCC is inviting [written public comments](#) in the Indiana Michigan Power (I&M) electric [rate case](#).

In addition, the IURC has scheduled 2 public field hearings, where customers will be able to speak for the case record:

- **Fort Wayne: Oct. 16** at Purdue University Fort Wayne, Walb Student Union Classic Ballroom, 2101 E. Coliseum Blvd.
- **South Bend: Oct. 30** at the Century Center Recital Hall, 120 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

Both hearings will begin at 6 PM.

Spoken comments at the field hearings will carry the same weight as written comments the OUCC receives by Nov. 8, 2023. All comments received before the deadline will be filed as evidence with the Commission.

The OUCC's attorneys & technical experts are analyzing I&M's request & are scheduled to file testimony with the Commission on Nov. 15. A Commission order is expected next summer.

AES Indiana Rates

[Written consumer comments](#) are invited in the AES Indiana [rate case](#) through Oct. 6. Comments the OUCC receives by then will be included with the agency's testimony and filed with the IURC on Oct. 12.

AES Indiana's request would raise rates by \$134 million per year. Most rate cases take approximately 300 days to complete, and a final order from the IURC is not expected until spring of 2024.

Additional Cases

Energy

- [NIPSCO](#) is requesting IURC approval to build and operate a new 400-megawatt natural gas-fired power plant in Jasper County. According to the utility's testimony, the construction and financing would cost approximately \$641.2 million. [Written comments](#) from the public are invited as the OUCC reviews the request. The parties have agreed to a Dec. 21 deadline for the OUCC's testimony.
- Indiana's 5 major electric utilities recently made presentations to the IURC regarding their storm outage preparations and procedures. CenterPoint Energy, Duke Energy, Indiana Michigan Power, and NIPSCO provided updates in September. A Commission technical conference with AES Indiana was held on Oct. 2, regarding the pending request from consumer parties for an investigation to assess AES Indiana's practices and procedures for storm outage restoration.
- The OUCC's proposed order on the [CenterPoint Energy electric infrastructure plan](#) is due on Oct. 12.
- CenterPoint Energy's proposed change to its electric [Reliability Cost and Revenue Adjustment](#) (RCRA) would raise a monthly residential bill for 1,000 kWh by \$16.55. The OUCC is recommending the costs be recovered over two years instead of one, cutting the monthly bill impact in half.
- The OUCC has reached settlement agreements in the [Midwest Natural Gas](#) and [Indiana Natural Gas Corp.](#) rate cases.

Water/Wastewater

- The OUCC's closing brief in Indiana American Water's [rate case](#) is due on Oct. 20. A final order is expected in the spring of 2024. OUCC witnesses recommend approval of about one-fifth of the utility's requested increase.
- [Citizens Water](#) is seeking approval of a \$5.91 monthly Distribution System Improvement Charge (DSIC). The OUCC is scheduled to file testimony on Oct. 19.
- OUCC witnesses are recommending a smaller-than-requested increase in the [Ellettsville](#) municipal water rate case.

VAMPIRE POWER

Is your home leaking energy?



This Halloween you might spot mini vampires ringing your doorbell for treats, but there's a sneakier kind of vampire to be on the lookout for: The energy vampire! Lurking phone chargers and idle appliances suck up energy even when they are plugged in but not being used. But don't be scared! Since October is Energy Awareness Month and chilly winter is creeping in, it's the perfect time to embark on a power hunt. Recruit a sidekick – [an advanced power strip](#) – and watch it work its magic in reducing phantom power drains. Plus, it'll pay for itself in no time, leaving you with more treats and fewer tricks!

**WE'RE
HIRING**

Join Our Team
Apply Today



Interested in joining the OUCC team? We have an [opening](#) for an accountant.

Our Mission

To represent all Indiana consumers to ensure quality, reliable utility services at the most reasonable prices possible through dedicated advocacy, consumer education, & creative problem solving.

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