



Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor

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Lebanon municipal electric rate case: Public hearing June 11

The Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) is encouraging Lebanon municipal electric customers to comment on the utility's pending rate case, through both written comments and the case's upcoming field hearing in Lebanon.

The OUCC – which represents consumer interests in cases before the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) – is accepting written consumer comments for the case record through July 5, 2012.

In addition, an Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) **public field hearing** will be held on **Monday, June 11, 2012** in the Lebanon Middle School Seminar Room (1800 N. Grant St.). The hearing's public comment portion will begin at 6:00 p.m.

- Sworn oral and written comments regarding the rate case will be accepted during the field hearing.
- Oral and written consumer comments carry equal weight and will become part of the official evidentiary record considered by the IURC in reaching its final decision.
- Commissioners are not allowed to answer consumer questions during the formal field hearing. (However, OUCC and IURC staff will be available.)

An OUCC informational session on the regulatory process and public field hearing procedures will precede the hearing, starting at 5:30 p.m.

Lebanon's pending proposal would increase the monthly residential electric bill for a customer using 1,000 kilowatt hours (kWh) from \$91.37 to \$108.07. The city is also proposing to issue up to \$13 million in long-term debt. According to its testimony, the utility is seeking the changes due to increases in operating and maintenance costs along with proposed capital improvements (including new substations, replacement of aging infrastructure at existing substations, and a new operations building).

Lebanon's current electric rates were approved in 1995. The city's municipal water and sewer rates are not at issue in this case and are not under IURC jurisdiction.

The OUCC is reviewing the city's request and is scheduled to file testimony on July 12, 2012.

(Continued)

Consumers who cannot attend the field hearing may provide written comments to the OUCC online at www.in.gov/oucc/2361.htm, or by mail, email or fax:

- **Mail:** Consumer Services Staff
Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor
115 W. Washington St., Suite 1500 South
Indianapolis, IN 46204
- **email:** uccinfo@oucc.IN.gov
- **Fax:** (317) 232-5923

Written comments should include the consumer's **name, mailing address** and a reference to "**IURC Cause No. 44142.**"

For more information, please visit the OUCC's Website at www.in.gov/oucc/2692.htm.

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(IURC Cause No. 44142)

The Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) represents Indiana consumer interests before state and federal bodies that regulate utilities. As a state agency, the OUCC's mission is to represent all Indiana consumers to ensure quality, reliable utility services at the most reasonable prices possible through dedicated advocacy, consumer education, and creative problem solving.

To learn more, visit www.IN.gov/OUCC or follow us at www.twitter.com/IndianaOUCC.