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## **NIPSCO Electric Rate Case: OUCC Challenge and Appeal**

This afternoon, the Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) filed two notices with the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) regarding the IURC's August 25, 2010 order in the Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO) electric rate case.

The OUCC's first filing is a Notice of Contest to the schedule of rates and charges NIPSCO filed with the IURC on September 14, 2010. The IURC's August 25 order required NIPSCO to file new schedules of rates and charges, proofs of revenues, and a cost of service study within 30 days. The order then gave the OUCC and other formal parties to the case up to 10 business days to challenge NIPSCO's compliance filing.

With the Notice of Contest filed, the terms of the Commission order require that a procedural schedule be established for the IURC to consider arguments and evidence from the case's formal parties regarding NIPSCO's compliance filing.

The OUCC's second filing today is a Notice of Appeal, which preserves the agency's legal rights to challenge the IURC's order before the Indiana Court of Appeals.

Both notices are available on the OUCC's Website at [www.in.gov/oucc/2457.htm](http://www.in.gov/oucc/2457.htm).

Today's filings strictly pertain to NIPSCO's electric rate case (IURC Cause No. 43526) and will have no impact on NIPSCO's pending natural gas rate case (IURC Cause No. 43894), in which a settlement agreement among all the parties is pending before the Commission.

(IURC Cause No. 43526)

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](http://www.IN.gov/OUCC).