



For Immediate Release

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Indiana Utilities Corporation Natural Gas Rate Case: Consumer Comments Invited

If you are an Indiana Utilities Corporation customer, you are invited to comment on the utility's proposed rate increase.

The Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC), the state agency representing consumer interests in cases before the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC), is reviewing the utility's request and is scheduled to file testimony on Sept. 19, 2024.

While using its legal and technical resources to analyze the request, including examining the utility's books and operations, the OUCC is inviting written comments from customers through Sept. 12, 2024.

Indiana Utilities Corporation provides natural gas service to approximately 3,500 customers in Harrison and Floyd counties. It is seeking a \$1.1 million increase in its annual operating revenues. The utility's testimony states the increase is necessary to cover higher operating and maintenance costs and pay for infrastructure improvements.

The utility's testimony and exhibits show that its request, when fully implemented in April 2025, would raise total residential natural gas charges as follows:

Monthly Usage	Current Gas Bill	Proposed Gas Bill
50 therms	\$40.01	\$55.93
100 therms	\$66.89	\$93.86
150 therms	\$89.27	\$125.32

Each residential gas bill includes a monthly \$13.13 customer service charge which does not vary based on usage. It would rise to \$18.00 under the utility's request. The remainder of the bill varies by customer usage.

Base distribution rates comprise approximately 60% of a typical residential Indiana Utilities Corp. customer's bill. They cover "non-gas" costs such as operating and maintenance expenses and capital infrastructure improvements. The remaining 40% of a typical monthly bill pays for the natural gas itself, which the utility recovers on a dollar-for-dollar basis subject to OUCC review and IURC approval every six months.

Indiana Utilities Corporation's current base rates received IURC approval in 2019. Total billing amounts have varied since then due to changes in wholesale commodity costs.

A settlement agreement is possible in any legal proceeding. If an agreement is reached, the settling parties are required to present evidence showing it to be in the public interest. The IURC may approve, deny, or modify any settlement it considers.

Consumers who wish to submit written comments for the case record may do so via the OUCC's website at www.in.gov/oucc/2361.htm, by email at uccinfo@oucc.in.gov, or by mail at:

(Continued)

Public Comments
Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC)
115 W. Washington St., Suite 1500 SOUTH
Indianapolis, IN 46204

The OUCC needs to receive all written consumer comments **no later than Sept. 12, 2024**, so that it can: 1) Consider them in preparing its testimony and 2) File them with the Commission to be included in the case's formal evidentiary record. Comments should include the consumer's **name, city, zip code**, and a reference to either "**IURC Cause No. 46068**" or **Indiana Utilities Corporation**. Consumers with questions about submitting written comments can contact the OUCC's consumer services staff toll-free at 1-888-441-2494.

An IURC evidentiary hearing is scheduled to start on Nov. 20, 2024. While evidentiary hearings are open to the public, participation is typically limited to attorney and Commission questioning of technical witnesses. A final Commission order is expected in April 2025.

The OUCC is posting case updates online at www.in.gov/oucc/natural-gas/key-cases-by-utility/indiana-utilities-corp-rates/. Case updates are also available through the agency's monthly electronic newsletter. Consumers can subscribe at www.in.gov/oucc/news.

(IURC Cause No. 46086)

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.