



# Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor

**For Immediate Release**

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## **American Suburban Utilities Rate Case: Consumer Comments Invited. IURC Hearing Mar. 12 in West Lafayette**

If you want to comment on the wastewater rate increase requested by American Suburban Utilities, you are invited to do so through Apr. 14, 2026.

In addition, the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) will hold a public field hearing in West Lafayette on Thursday, Mar. 12, 2026

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 expects to file its testimony on Apr. 21, 2026.

### **Written Consumer Comments**

Consumers who wish to submit written comments for the case record may do so via the form on the OUCC's website at [www.in.gov/oucc/2361.htm](http://www.in.gov/oucc/2361.htm), or by mail at:

Public Comments

Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC)

115 W. Washington St., Suite 1500 SOUTH

Indianapolis, IN 46204

Consumer comments will be included in the formal case record for IURC review. Comments **should not** contain sensitive or personal information as comments will become viewable and searchable online once posted to the IURC's online case file.

The OUCC needs to receive all written consumer comments **no later than April 14, 2026**, 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, and zip code** and a reference to either **IURC Cause No. 46318** or **American Suburban Utilities**.

Consumers with questions about submitting written comments can contact the OUCC's consumer services staff toll-free at 1-888-441-2494.

### **Public Field Hearing**

The IURC has scheduled a public field hearing in this case for Thursday, Mar. 12, 2026, in the Elm, Maple & Walnut Rooms in the West Lafayette Public Library (208 West Columbia Street, West Lafayette).

The hearing will begin at **5:45 p.m.** Consumers are encouraged to arrive by **5:30 p.m.** for an overview of field hearing procedures and the rate case process. Attendees are required to comply with all local health and safety regulations. No final decisions about the case will be made at the hearing.

The sole purpose of a field hearing is to receive public testimony. A final decision is expected this year.

- Consumers can speak directly to the Commission under oath and on the record.
- Oral comments presented during the field hearing will become part of the case record. They will carry the same weight as written consumer comments submitted to the OUCC by Apr. 14, 2026.
- Utilities do not make presentations or answer questions during field hearings. The focus, again, is on public input.
- Commissioners are not allowed to answer questions about the case. They will ultimately render a decision after weighing evidence from the utility, the OUCC, and intervening parties. OUCC staff will be available to answer questions at the hearing.

## Case Overview

Current base rates for American Suburban Utilities – an investor-owned utility providing service to approximately 3,800 residential and commercial customers in Tippecanoe County – received IURC approval in 2023.

According to its filing, the utility is requesting financing authority and seeking a rate increase due to additions, replacements, and improvements to its system, as well as higher operating and maintenance costs. Under Phase I, monthly rates for a residential customer would increase from \$65.57 to \$82.85 under the utility's request. Phase II rates are anticipated in late 2028 but the utility did not indicate an exact dollar amount in its testimony.

Conducting its analysis on behalf of all utility consumers, the OUCC will present the results of its review through a report to the IURC, including formal testimony. The IURC's review is conducted on behalf of the public interest (a balancing of utility and customer interests); it is responsible for resolving any factual disputes that may arise and issuing a final order establishing new rates.

A settlement agreement is possible in any legal proceeding; such an agreement, if reached, would require IURC approval.

The OUCC is posting case updates online at <https://www.in.gov/oucc/watersewer/key-cases-by-utility/american-suburban-utilities/>. Case updates are also available through the agency's monthly electronic newsletter. Consumers can subscribe at [www.in.gov/oucc/news/](http://www.in.gov/oucc/news/).

(IURC Cause No. 46318)

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.