



Vectren South Gas Rate Case

IURC Cause No. 45447

The Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission's (IURC's) public field hearing is an opportunity for consumers to speak on the record to the judge and commissioners. No final decision will be made during the hearing, and an IURC order will be issued on a future date.

The IURC is the state agency that has jurisdiction over Vectren's rates and charges. State law requires the IURC to balance utility and ratepayer interests, and to base its decision in each case on the evidence in the record.

The Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) is the separate state agency that represents the interests of all ratepayers in IURC cases.

The Feb. 1 field hearing has one purpose: To give consumers the chance to speak.

- **An IURC public field hearing is a formal, legal proceeding.** An Administrative Law Judge presides with at least one IURC Commissioner present.
- **You may speak, provide written comments, or do both.**
 - An OUCC attorney will call on speakers during the hearing. All speakers will be sworn in and asked to spell their names for the court reporter, who will record comments made under oath for the case record.
 - If you prefer to submit written comments, the OUCC needs to receive them by the close of business on Friday, Feb. 12.
- Field hearings do not include presentations by utilities. Vectren filed its testimony and evidence in October 2020.

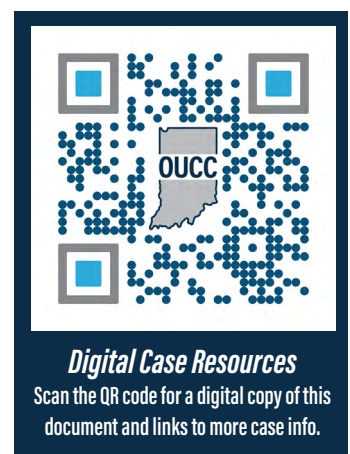
Agencies & Roles:

Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC)

- State agency
- Represents the interests of all Indiana utility consumers, including residential, commercial, and industrial, in cases before the IURC and federal utility regulatory commissions
- Staff of attorneys, accountants, engineers, economists, consumer services, and support personnel

Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC)

- State agency
- Regulates rates, financing, etc. for many, but not all, Indiana utilities.
- Conducts public hearings including the Feb. 1 field hearing
- Required by law to make decisions that balance the interests of utilities and consumers



The Case & Process:

- **Vectren's request is pending under IURC Cause No. 45447.** The utility is seeking a two-phase increase in natural gas rates and charges in its southwestern Indiana (Vectren South) service territory. Its testimony and exhibits show that its request, when fully implemented, would change total residential gas charges as follows:

Monthly Usage	Current Gas Bill	Proposed Gas Bill
20 therms	\$37.38	\$49.12
50 therms	\$53.88	\$71.15
100 therms	\$79.80	\$104.30

- Each Vectren South residential gas bill includes two monthly fixed charges that do not vary among customers: 1) An \$11.00 customer service charge and 2) A \$14.12 Compliance and System Improvement Adjustment (CSIA) which recovers specific costs for infrastructure projects and compliance with federal pipeline safety mandates. Vectren South's pending request would replace both charges with a \$35.00 monthly customer service charge. The remainder of the bill varies by customer usage.
- Current base rates for Vectren South's gas utility received IURC approval in 2007 and were reduced in 2018 due to the federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. Total billing amounts have also varied due to changes in wholesale commodity costs along with incremental increases to pay for specific infrastructure and federally mandated costs as allowed by Indiana law.
- Electric rates are not at issue in this case. Vectren's request for a natural gas rate increase in its North territory is pending in a separate case.
- **The OUCC has until Feb. 19, 2021 to take a formal position.**
 - Under Indiana law, the OUCC represents the interests of all consumers (residential, commercial, and industrial) in cases before the IURC and federal utility commissions. Our attorneys, accountants, engineers, and economists are reviewing the utility's request. We will file testimony with the IURC based on our review. It will be posted at www.in.gov/oucc along with future case updates.
- Additional intervenors include the Citizens Action Coalition of Indiana, Direct Energy Business Marketing, and a group of Vectren's industrial and commercial customers (AK Steel, Alcoa, CountryMark Refining and Logistics, and Toyota Motor Manufacturing of Indiana). Any testimony intervenors may file is due by Feb. 19, 2021.
- Vectren will have until Mar. 19, 2021 to file rebuttal testimony.
- An IURC evidentiary hearing is currently scheduled to start on Apr. 12, 2021 and is scheduled to last up to 8 days as needed. At evidentiary hearings, attorneys and Commissioners may question technical witnesses for the case's formal parties. Closing briefs will be filed several weeks after the evidentiary hearing concludes.
- The final order in this case is expected later this year. Final orders are issued at the IURC's weekly conferences, typically on Wednesdays. Agendas are posted 48 hours in advance at www.in.gov/iurc/2428.htm.
- A settlement agreement is possible in any legal proceeding. All dates are subject to change.

All publicly filed documents are available online. To view the IURC's public case file:

- Visit <https://iurc.portal.in.gov/advanced-search/>.
- Enter 45447 in the "Cause Number" field, check the "I'm not a robot" box, and click "Search."
- The Cause Number, 45447, will then appear near the bottom of the page. Click the blue cause number and you will be directed to the file.

Indiana Office Of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC)

115 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 South, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 • Phone: 317.232.2494 • Toll-Free: 1.888.441.2494

Visit us online: www.in.gov/oucc • Subscribe to our newsletter: www.in.gov/oucc/news

Our Mission: 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.