

# Crawfordsville Electric Light & Power Rate Case IURC Cause No. 45420

Thank you for attending the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission's (IURC's) public field hearing this evening. No final decision will be made tonight, and an IURC order will be issued on a future date.

The IURC is the state agency that has jurisdiction over Crawfordsville Electric Light & Power's (CEL&P'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.

Tonight's 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.
  - To speak, please complete the top half of the witness form and turn it in at the OUCC table. During the hearing, an OUCC attorney will call speakers forward. 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 this evening, please use the witness form. If your comments are already written, you may attach them to the form.
- Field hearings do not include presentations by utilities. CEL&P filed its testimony and evidence in August.

# **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 tonight's proceeding
- Required by law to make decisions that balance the interests of utilities and consumers



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#### The Case & Process:

- CEL&P's request is pending under IURC Cause No. 45420. If approved, the utility's request would raise rates in two phases with increases taking effect in June 2021 and June 2022. When fully implemented in 2022, the monthly residential electric rate for a customer using 1,000 kilowatt hours (kWh) would rise to \$120.47. The current rate for such a customer is \$105.32.
  - CEL&P is not proposing an increase in its \$15.00 monthly residential customer charge.
  - In its testimony, the utility cites increases in operating and maintenance costs as reasons for its request, along with a six-year capital
    improvement plan. Specific improvements in the proposal include substation improvements, new transmission lines, enhanced
    protection and control systems, new meters, and additional infrastructure improvements.
  - CEL&P's current base rates were approved in 2016 and rank fifth lowest among the electric utilities the IURC regulates.
- The OUCC has until Dec. 23, 2020 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, and economists are reviewing the utility's request.
  - We will file testimony with the IURC based on our review. Our testimony will be available online at <a href="https://www.in.gov/oucc/2584.htm">www.in.gov/oucc/2584.htm</a> after it is filed. We will be posting case updates on the same page.
- CEL&P will have until Jan. 20, 2021 to file rebuttal testimony.
- An IURC evidentiary hearing is currently scheduled to start on Feb. 16, 2021 in Indianapolis and is scheduled for up to 3 days if needed.
   Evidentiary hearings are open to the public, but participation is typically limited to attorney and Commission questioning of technical witnesses.
- Closing briefs from CEL&P and the OUCC are expected in March and April.
- The final order in this case is expected in the summer of 2021. 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/2755.htm**.
- A settlement agreement is possible in any legal proceeding. All dates are subject to change.

### For More Information:

The OUCC is posting case updates at <a href="https://www.in.gov/oucc/2584.htm">www.in.gov/oucc/2584.htm</a>. Updates are also available through the agency's monthly newsletter; to subscribe, visit <a href="https://www.in.gov/oucc/news">www.in.gov/oucc/news</a>.

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

- · Visit <a href="https://iurc.portal.in.gov/advanced-search/">https://iurc.portal.in.gov/advanced-search/</a>.
- Enter 45420 in the "Cause Number" field, check the "I'm not a robot" box, and click "Search."
- The Cause Number, 45420, 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.

