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Howard County Utilities rate case: IURC public hearing Nov. 6

The Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) encourages Howard County Utilities customers to comment in the utility's pending rate case. Howard County Utilities is a privately owned entity providing sewage disposal service to 212 customers in the Green Acres Subdivision near Kokomo.

On Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2019, the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) will hold a public field hearing in the case. The hearing will start at 6:00 p.m. at the Green Acres Golf Course Clubhouse (1300 Greenacres Dr.) in Kokomo.

Customers will be able to speak directly to the Commission, under oath and on the record, during the hearing. They may also submit written comments for the case record.

No final decision will be made at the Nov. 6 hearing.

The OUCC, the state agency representing consumer interests in cases before the IURC, is using its legal and technical resources to review the utility's request. OUCC testimony is due on Nov. 21, 2019.

Howard County Utilities' request would raise its flat, monthly residential sewer rate from \$69.00 to \$153.92. Current rates were approved in 2008, with the utility citing increases in operating and maintenance costs in its pending request.

Consumers who wish to submit written comments for the case record – either before or after the IURC hearing – may do so via the OUCC's website at www.in.gov/oucc/2361.htm, by email at ucc.IN.gov, or by mail at:

Consumer Services Staff Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor 115 W. Washington St., Suite 1500 South Indianapolis, IN 46204

The OUCC needs to receive all written consumer comments no later than Nov. 14, 2019 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**, **mailing address**, and a reference to "**IURC Cause No. 45283-U**." Please do not include account numbers and other sensitive information. Consumers with questions about submitting written comments can contact the OUCC's consumer services staff toll-free at 1-888-441-2494.

Updates on this case are being posted on the OUCC's website at www.in.gov/oucc/2932.htm. Case updates are also available through the agency's monthly electronic newsletter. Consumers can subscribe at www.in.gov/oucc/2877.htm.

(IURC Cause No. 45283-U)

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. Visit us at www.IN.gov/OUCC, www.IN.gov/OUCC, www.IN.gov/OUCC, www.IndianaOUCC, or www.IndianaOUCC.