OUCC OUCC Office of Utility Consumer Counselor 15 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 South, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

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Consumer News...For You!

State & Federal regulatory case updates Case comment timeframes * Seasonal savings & safety tips

NIPSCO Rate Case

The OUCC has <u>filed testimony</u> recommending a substantial reduction to NIPSCO's request for a \$368.7 million electric base rate increase. Instead, the OUCC's analysis shows that an increase of \$203.2 million is warranted based on the case's evidence and applicable law. NIPSCO's rebuttal testimony is due on Jan. 16, 2025, with an evidentiary hearing scheduled to start on Feb. 5, 2025. A final order from the IURC is expected in the summer of 2025.

NIPSCO's electric utility provides service to more than 487,000 customers in 20 northern Indiana counties. Natural gas rates and charges are not at issue in this case.

Warm Your Home for Less

We've welcomed in the new year, but the cold is still here. It's not to late to make your home more energy efficient so you can save money on your energy bills.

- Set ceiling fans to rotate clockwise. This will push warm air down and help keep it in the room.
- Close fireplace dampers when they aren't in use.
- Use towels and blankets under or along drafty doors and windows.
- Keep vents unblocked. Make sure they're not covered by rugs or furniture.
- Close doors to rooms not in use frequently.
- If you are using a space heater, use extreme caution.

If you face difficulty with your bills, contact your utility directly to make payment arrangements.

Qualifying households can still receive financial assistance through the federally funded Low-Income Home

Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). If you know consumers who qualify, they can apply online through the <u>Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority's (IHCDA's) website</u>. LIHEAP applications are also accepted at local intake offices. There is an office in each Indiana county.

Township trustees and additional local-level sources can help with utility bills. <u>Indiana 2-1-1</u> can also connect consumers with more information.

Consumer Comment Filings

In addition to filing written testimony and exhibits based on its legal and technical reviews, the OUCC invites written comments in all cases. Consumer comments can be filed using our <u>online form</u> or by mail as long as they are received in time to be included with OUCC testimony. Comments must include:

- your name,
- the utility's name, and
- the five-digit IURC cause number (if possible).

Please let us know in your comment if you are a customer of the utility involved in the case.

Comments are filed as public documents. Please do not include any sensitive personal information.

Consumers may want to be aware of the following rate cases:

- By Jan. 30: Jackson County Water Cause No. 46156
- By March 13: Anderson Municipal Water Cause No. 46171
- By March 26: Columbus City Utilities (Water) Cause No. 46173

Submit a Comment

New Year...New Resolutions

Still looking for a resolution that's easy to keep? We have some ideas for you:

- Check your toilet for leaks once a month.
- Turn off the faucet while brushing your teeth.
- Run the dishwasher only when fully loaded.
- Look into new technology if you plan to water the lawn this summer.

Get year-round water savings tips for your home or business at www.IN.gov/OUCC.



Now available at www.IN.gov/OUCC



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