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Consumer News... For You! The OUCC's October 2017 Newsletter

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Frince OUCCC Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor Consumer News.... For You!

OCTOBER 2017

WINTER IS COMING

With the heating season just around the corner, Indiana's major natural gas utilities are projecting similar bills to last winter. The projections from <u>Citizens Gas</u>, <u>NIPSCO</u>, and Vectren (<u>North</u> and <u>South</u>) assume normal weather from November through March. The OUCC's website offers a <u>variety of tips</u> to help you prepare. We also recommend <u>budget billing</u> for stability from month to month.



NIPSCO NATURAL GAS RATE CASE



Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO) has filed a rate case for its natural gas utility. The OUCC's attorneys and technical staff are reviewing more than 6,300 pages of testimony, exhibits, and work papers NIPSCO has filed, and expect to file testimony in late January. A full schedule for filings and hearings will be set in the coming weeks with a Commission order expected next summer. Case updates and more information are available on the <u>OUCC website</u>.

OCTOBER FIELD HEARINGS

This month's IURC public field hearings in the Indiana Michigan Power (I&M) rate case have been well-attended, with an Oct. 30 hearing scheduled in Muncie. Written consumer comments are also invited through Nov. 2. Separately, an Oct. 24 public field hearing is scheduled in the South Bend municipal water rate case.





WE'RE HIRING!

The OUCC's electric and water/wastewater divisions are looking for qualified accountants to fill <u>current openings</u>. If you're interested in joining a high-performing team that's dedicated to consumer advocacy, this could be the opportunity you're looking for. Each position is posted for a limited time.

DON'T FEAR THE VAMPIRES!

We're not talking about trick-or-treaters or the characters in scary movies. We're talking about ENERGY vampires. Electronic devices use power when in standby mode, and cutting down on that usage can trim dollars and cents from your electric bills. Our friends at the US Department of Energy offer <u>4 helpful tips</u> for slaying the energy vampires this Halloween.



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.

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