



Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor

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Anderson municipal water rate case: Consumer comments invited

The Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) is inviting written comments on the City of Anderson's request for a water rate increase.

The OUCC, the state agency representing consumer interests in cases before the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC), is reviewing the utility's request and has not yet taken a position in this case. The OUCC anticipates completing its review and filing testimony with the Commission on October 6, 2014.

Anderson's request would raise rates in two phases. For a residential customer using 667 cubic feet (approx. 5,000 gallons) per month, water charges (including the fire protection surcharge) would rise from \$18.87 to \$22.98 upon the issuance of a Commission order, and to \$27.84 on January 1, 2016. The city's current water rates were approved in 2006. Anderson is also seeking IURC approval to issue up to \$14.27 million in long-term debt in this case.

According to its testimony and exhibits, Anderson is seeking the changes for several reasons including higher operating and maintenance costs along with proposed capital improvements. Projects identified in the city's testimony and exhibits include replacing one of the city's two water treatment plants, making substantial upgrades to the other water treatment plant, and the replacements of wells and mains.

More information on this case, including the utility's testimony, is available online at www.in.gov/oucc/2776.htm.

Consumers who wish to submit written comments in this case may do so via the OUCC's Website at www.in.gov/oucc/2361.htm, or by mail, email, or fax:

- **Mail:** Consumer Services Staff
Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor
115 W. Washington St., Suite 1500 South
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- **email:** uccinfo@oucc.IN.gov
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Written comments the OUCC receives by September 29, 2014 will be filed with the Commission and included in the case's formal evidentiary record. Comments should include the consumer's **name, mailing address**, and a reference to "**IURC Cause No. 44510.**" Consumers with questions about submitting written comments can contact the OUCC's consumer services staff toll-free at 1-888-441-2494.

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A public field hearing will be scheduled at a date, time and location to be determined.

Only the city's water rates are at issue in this case. New rates for Anderson's municipal electric utility were approved in a separate case earlier this year. Indiana law does not give the IURC jurisdiction over municipal sewer utilities.

(IURC Cause No. 44510)

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.

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