



Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor

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Brown County Water Utility rate case: Consumer comments invited

The Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) is inviting written comments from Brown County Water Utility, Inc. customers on the utility's pending rate request.

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 is scheduled to complete its review and file testimony with the Commission on September 10, 2015.

Brown County Water Utility is a not-for-profit entity serving more than 5,600 customers in Brown, Johnson, Monroe, and Morgan Counties. Its request would raise the monthly residential bill for 5,000 gallons from \$64.28 to \$68.35. The utility is also seeking IURC approval to issue up to \$9.3 million in long-term debt.

According to its testimony, the utility is requesting the changes due to increases in operating and maintenance costs, and to pay for a number of capital improvements. Projects noted in testimony include replacements of storage tanks, mains, booster stations, meters, valves and hydrants, along with upgrades to facilities and meter reading systems. For more information on the case, including the utility's testimony, please visit www.in.gov/oucc/2505.htm.

Brown County Water Utility's current rates were approved in 2007.

Consumers who wish to submit written comments 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
Indianapolis, IN 46204
- email: uccinfo@oucc.IN.gov
- Fax: (317) 232-5923

Written comments the OUCC receives by September 3, 2015 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. 44648.**"

Consumers with questions about submitting written comments can contact the OUCC's consumer services staff toll-free at 1-888-441-2494.

(Continued)

A technical evidentiary hearing in this case is scheduled for October 8, 2015 at the PNC Center (101 W. Washington St.) in Indianapolis. While IURC evidentiary hearings are open to the public, participation is typically limited to attorney and Commission questioning of witnesses who have filed technical, written testimony on behalf of the case's formal parties.

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(IURC Cause No. 44648)

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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