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Consumer comments invited on proposed I&M energy efficiency plan

The Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) is inviting written comments from Indiana Michigan Power (I&M) customers on the utility's proposed energy efficiency plan for 2016.

The state's five investor-owned electric utilities are offering energy efficiency programs under orders the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) approved last year. Senate Enrolled Act 412, which passed the Indiana General Assembly earlier this year, requires those utilities to file proposed energy efficiency plans for upcoming years for IURC approval by the end of 2017. The law also allows electric utilities to recover the costs of the energy efficiency plans through rates.

At www.in.gov/oucc/2612.htm, the OUCC offers:

- Information on the legal requirements for the plans,
- An overview of the issues the OUCC is reviewing in the cases, and
- Links to pages where consumers can review the specific plans and utility filings.

Indiana Michigan Power's (I&M's) plan is pending as IURC Cause No. 43827-DSM5.

- The plan is available for review at <u>www.in.gov/oucc/2820.htm</u>.
- 15 customer programs are included in the proposed plan: Home Energy Products, Income Qualified Weatherproofing, Schools Energy Education, Home Appliance Recycling, Home New Construction, Home Weatherproofing, Home Online Energy Checkup, Home Energy Reports, Residential Peak Reduction, Work Prescriptive Rebates, Work Custom Rebates, Work Direct Install, Electric Energy Consumption Optimization, Home Comfort & Efficiency Pilot, and Small Business Efficiency Pilot.
- According to I&M's testimony, the proposed plan would raise a residential customer's monthly bill (for 1,000 kWh) by \$2.11 in 2016.
- The OUCC is scheduled to complete its review and file testimony on January 13, 2016.
- The Citizens Action Coalition of Indiana (CAC) and a group of industrial customers (including Air Products & Chemical, Inc., ArcelorMittal USA, General Motors LLC, Linde, LLC, and Marathon Petroleum Company LP) have intervened. They are also scheduled to file testimony on January 13, 2016.
- An IURC evidentiary hearing is scheduled for February 10, 2016.

(Continued)

I&M provides electric service to about 458,000 customers in 24 northern and east-central Indiana counties.

Consumers who wish to submit written comments on the plans 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: <u>uccinfo@oucc.IN.gov</u>

• Fax: (317) 232-5923

Written comments the OUCC receives by January 11, 2016 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 the specific utility.

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

Duke Energy, Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO), and Vectren Energy Delivery have filed plans that are pending before the IURC in separate cases. Indianapolis Power & Light Company (IPL) is expected to file a plan in 2016. (IPL received approval of its current two-year plan in 2014, while all other current utility plans were approved only for this year.)

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(IURC Cause No. 43827-DSM5)

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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