



Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor

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For Immediate Release  
February 2, 2015

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## Consumer comments invited in IPL rate case

The Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) is inviting written comments from Indianapolis Power & Light Co. (IPL) customers regarding the utility's pending rate case.

The OUCC – the state agency representing consumer interests in cases before the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) – is scheduled to complete its review of IPL's request and file testimony on April 6, 2015.

IPL provides electric service to about 470,000 customers in Marion County and portions of nine surrounding counties. The utility's request would raise a monthly residential bill for 1,000 kWh from \$97.82 to \$103.95, according to the OUCC's calculations.

- This would include increasing the flat, monthly customer charge from \$11.00 to \$17.00.
- The “energy charge,” or the part of the base rate that varies by usage, would also rise.
- The current residential base rate of \$66.50 for 1,000 kWh received IURC approval in IPL's last base rate case in 1995.
  - However, bills have increased since then due to rate recovery mechanisms – or “trackers” – which allow rate increases for specific items on a regular, expedited basis.
  - Trackers are separate from base rates and are subject to OUCC review and IURC approval, with all Indiana investor-owned utilities using them to varying degrees.
  - IPL uses trackers to recover costs for generating fuel, energy efficiency programs, and environmental mandates.
- The request would give IPL a \$67.8 million increase in overall annual operating revenues.
- IPL states in testimony that it is seeking the new rates due to increases in operating and maintenance costs, and to pay for capital improvements.

A number of additional parties have formally intervened in this case and are also scheduled to file testimony on April 6, 2015. They include the Citizens Action Coalition of Indiana, The Kroger Co., and several of IPL's industrial customers (including Allison Transmission, Inc., Eli Lilly and Company, Ingredion, Inc., Linde LLC, Rolls Royce Corporation, and Vertellus Agriculture & Nutrition Specialties, LLC).

An IURC public field hearing, allowing for sworn oral testimony by consumers, will be held at a date, time and location to be determined.

(Continued)

Consumers who wish to submit written comments may do so via the OUCC's Website at [www.in.gov/oucc/2361.htm](http://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](mailto:uccinfo@oucc.IN.gov)
- **Fax:** (317) 232-5923

Written comments the OUCC receives by March 31, 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. 44576.**"

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

For more information on this case including links to IPL's testimony, please visit [www.in.gov/oucc/2723.htm](http://www.in.gov/oucc/2723.htm). The page will be updated based on case developments.

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(IURC Cause No. 44576)

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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