



**For Immediate Release**

**Aug. 14, 2023**

News Media Contact:

Olivia Rivera, (317) 232-3394 or

[orivera@oucc.in.gov](mailto:orivera@oucc.in.gov)

## **AES Indiana Electric Rates: Public Comments Invited**

### ***IURC Hearings Scheduled for Aug. 24 and Oct. 2***

The Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) is inviting public comments on AES Indiana's pending rate request through Oct. 6, 2023.

In addition, the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) will hold two public field hearings in the case on Aug. 24, 2023, and Oct. 2, 2023.

The OUCC – the state agency representing consumer interests in cases before the IURC – is using its technical and legal resources to review AES Indiana's proposal. Formal testimony from the OUCC is due Oct. 12, 2023.

#### **Written Consumer Comments**

Consumers who wish to submit written comments for the case record may do so via the OUCC's website at [www.in.gov/oucc/2361.htm](http://www.in.gov/oucc/2361.htm), by email at [uccinfo@oucc.IN.gov](mailto:uccinfo@oucc.IN.gov), or by mail at:

Public Comments  
Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC)  
115 W. Washington St., Suite 1500 SOUTH  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

The OUCC needs to receive all written consumer comments **no later than Friday, Oct. 6, 2023**, so that it can: 1) Consider comments in preparing its testimony and 2) File them with the Commission to be included in the case's formal evidentiary record. Comments should include the consumer's name and a reference to either "**IURC Cause No. 45911**" or **AES Indiana Rates**. Consumers with questions about submitting written comments can contact the OUCC's consumer services staff toll-free at 1-888-441-2494.

#### **Public Field Hearings**

The IURC has scheduled two public field hearings in Indianapolis, on Aug. 24, 2023, and on Oct. 2, 2023.

- **Thursday, Aug. 24, 2023:** Indianapolis Public Library – Central Library in Clowes Auditorium (40 East Saint Clair Street). Parking validation will be available to attendees who use the Library Parking Garage.
- **Monday, Oct. 2, 2023:** New Augusta Public Academy North (6450 Rodebaugh Road) in the Auditorium. Attendees should use Door 1 to enter.

**(Continued)**

Each hearing will begin at **6:00 p.m.**. Consumers are encouraged to arrive by 5:45 p.m. for an overview of field hearing procedures and the rate case process. Attendees are required to comply with all local health and safety regulations. No final decisions about the case will be made at the hearings.

The sole purpose of a field hearing is to receive public testimony. A final decision in this case is expected next year.

- Consumers can speak directly to the Commission under oath and on the record.
- Oral comments presented during the field hearings will become part of the case record. They will carry the same weight as written consumer comments submitted to the OUCC by Oct. 6, 2023.
- Utilities do not make presentations or answer questions during field hearings. The focus, again, is on public input. In this case, AES Indiana filed testimony and exhibits in June 2023.
- Commissioners are not allowed to answer questions about the case. They will ultimately render a decision after weighing evidence from the utility, the OUCC, and intervening parties.

## Case Overview

AES Indiana's request would raise annual revenues by \$134 million. Monthly service charges for most residential customers would rise from \$16.75 to \$25.00. The volumetric part of each customer's base rate would also increase.

In its testimony, the utility states it is seeking the increase due to numerous infrastructure projects, a new data and operations system for customer service, meter data management, and field services management, vegetation management costs, and inflationary impacts on operational costs.

AES Indiana serves more than 519,000 electric customers in Marion County and portions of its surrounding counties.

The utility's current base rates were approved in 2018.

Additional parties that have intervened in this case include the Citizens Action Coalition of Indiana, The Kroger Co., and industrial customers (including Allison Transmission, Eli Lilly & Co., Indiana University, Indiana University Health, Marathon Petroleum, and Messer). Any testimony they file is due by Oct. 12, 2023.

A settlement agreement is possible in any legal proceeding. If an agreement is reached, the settling parties are required to present evidence showing it to be in the public interest. The IURC may approve, deny, or modify any settlement it considers.

The OUCC is posting case updates online at [www.in.gov/oucc/electric/key-cases-by-utility/ipl-rates/aes-2023-rate-case/](http://www.in.gov/oucc/electric/key-cases-by-utility/ipl-rates/aes-2023-rate-case/). Case updates are also available through the agency's monthly electronic newsletter. Consumers can subscribe at [www.in.gov/oucc/news](http://www.in.gov/oucc/news).

(IURC Cause No. 45911)

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.

## AES Indiana Rate Case Timeline

All dates are subject to change. A settlement is possible in any legal proceeding.

