

## For Immediate Release Feb. 7, 2024 News Media Contact: Olivia Rivera, (317) 232-3394 or <u>orivera@oucc.in.gov</u>

## Edwardsville Water Rate Case: Public Comments Invited Corrected Version

If you want to comment on Edwardsville Water Authority's proposed rate increase, you are invited to do so.

The Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC), the state agency representing consumer interests in cases before the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC), is reviewing the utility's request and is scheduled to file testimony on Apr. 4, 2024.

While using its legal and technical resources to analyze the request, including examining the utility's books and operations, the OUCC is inviting written comments from customers through Mar. 28, 2024.

Edwardsville Water Authority provides service to about 4,600 customers in Floyd and Harrison counties. Its current base rates received Commission approval in 2015.

According to its testimony, the utility's request would raise the monthly residential rate for a customer using 5,000 gallons from \$45.89 to \$53.83. In its testimony, the utility states it is seeking the changes due to higher operating and maintenance costs, along with infrastructure improvements.

Consumers who wish to submit written comments for the case record may do so via the OUCC's website at <u>www.in.gov/oucc/2361.htm</u>, by email at <u>uccinfo@oucc.IN.gov</u>, 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 Mar. 28, 2024**, so that it can: 1) Consider them 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, city and zip code,** and a reference to either "**IURC Cause No. 45997**" or **Edwardsville Water**. Consumers with questions about submitting written comments can contact the OUCC's consumer services staff toll-free at 1-888-441-2494.

An IURC evidentiary hearing is scheduled to start on May 13, 2024. While evidentiary hearings are open to the public, participation is typically limited to attorney and Commission questioning of technical witnesses. A final Commission order is expected in the fall of 2024.

The OUCC is posting case updates online at <u>www.in.gov/oucc/watersewer/key-cases-by-utility/edwardsville-water-corp/</u>. Case updates are also available through the agency's monthly electronic newsletter. Consumers can subscribe at <u>www.in.gov/oucc/news</u>.

(IURC Cause No. 45997)

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.