

Disconnection Info

5 of Indiana's 6 large electric & natural gas utilities will [report monthly data](#) to the OUCC under a new settlement agreement. 3 of the state's smaller natural gas utilities will also report data under a separate agreement.

Reports will include monthly total numbers of residential disconnections, accounts that are at least 60 days delinquent, & residential customers on payment arrangements. Total dollar amounts of the arrearages will also be reported.

The reports will provide a meaningful benchmark for examining how consumers are coping with increased energy costs. Participating utilities will provide the information through early 2024.

The OUCC's recent [news release](#) has more information.

Winter is Coming

Consumers across the United States are very likely to face higher utility bills this winter. Indiana's major natural gas utilities are projecting higher bills due to increased costs in the wholesale natural gas market.

Qualifying households can receive financial assistance through the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program ([LIHEAP](#)), which is federally funded & administered by the Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority (IHCDA). If you know consumers who qualify, they can apply [online](#) or at a local [intake office](#). There is an office in each Indiana county.

Township trustees, utilities, & additional local-level sources can help with utility bills. [Indiana 2-1-1](#) can connect consumers with more resources.

It's important to consider different ways you can make your home more energy efficient this winter, including the low-cost and no-cost steps that can add up to savings. Changing the direction of your ceiling fan, replacing old weather stripping, & getting your furnace tuned up are all great ways to improve energy efficiency. The OUCC offers [additional tips](#).

If you would like to learn more about your natural gas bill, our [brief video](#) offers an overview.

Comments Invited

The OUCC invites [written consumer comments](#) in all pending dockets before the IURC including the following rate cases:

[Citizens Gas of Westfield](#) - Comments Due: Nov. 25, 2022

[Jackson County Water Utility](#) - Comments Due: Dec. 1, 2022

[NIPSCO Electric](#) - Comments Due: Jan. 13, 2023

ASU Rates

All filings are complete in the [American Suburban Utilities](#) (ASU) rate case. The case's formal parties have recently submitted closing arguments, including the OUCC's [reply brief](#).

ASU provides sewage disposal service in Tippecanoe County & is seeking to raise its flat, monthly residential rate from \$59.08 to \$88.89. It had requested a new rate of \$99.66 when it started this case.

The OUCC is recommending a \$9.49 rate reduction, based on its legal & technical analysis. A Commission order is expected in the months ahead.

Case Updates

Energy

- The OUCC is recommending denial, at this time, of Duke Energy's proposed cost recovery for [coal ash removal](#). A Commission hearing is set for late November.
- The IURC's evidentiary hearing on NIPSCO's Michigan City [coal ash plan](#) is scheduled for Nov. 10.
- A rate settlement between the OUCC and Community Natural Gas Co. has received Commission [approval](#). The agreement reduces the utility's requested increase of nearly 26 percent to 16 percent. Community Natural Gas provides service in 10 southern Indiana counties.
- OUCC analysts & attorneys continues to review [gas cost adjustments](#) for utilities throughout the state.

Water/Wastewater

- The IURC has [extended the deadline](#) for its final order in the [Community Utilities of Indiana](#) (CUII) rate case until January 2023. CUII serves parts of 4 northwest Indiana counties.
- The [Evansville](#) municipal water utility is seeking Commission approval for more than \$68 million in new financing. OUCC testimony is due Nov. 18.
- [Fort Wayne City Utilities](#) is requesting approval to issue \$13 million in long-term debt in order to replace lead service lines. The OUCC is scheduled to file testimony on Dec. 2.

Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor



2021-2022 Annual Report

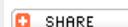
Learn more about the OUCC's accomplishments this budget year, in our new [annual report](#).

Our Mission

To represent all Indiana consumers to ensure quality, reliable utility services at the most reasonable prices possible through dedicated advocacy, consumer education, & creative problem solving.

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