CenterPoint Energy Electric Rate Case

IURC Public Field Hearing - Cause #45990



Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor



Two separate state agencies are involved in this hearing.

The **Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC)** is holding the hearing to receive public comments on the pending case. It will make a final decision this fall.

The **Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC)** represents the public in Commission cases & facilitates public participation in field hearings.

This hearing's purpose is to receive public testimony.

To speak, fill out the top half of a speaker form & return it to the OUCC table.

Field Hearing Basics

- One purpose: To let consumers speak directly to the IURC under oath for the official case record.
- No utility presentation. Utilities make their cases through written testimony.
- The Judge & Commissioners cannot answer questions. The IURC cannot answer questions. This is a legal proceeding & it is bound by similar ethical rules as a judge in court.
- OUCC staff are available to answer questions about the process.
- No final decision tonight.

Natural gas rates & charges are not at issue in this case. The Commission will rule on the pending electric rate request later this year.

Provide Written Comments

Comments must be <u>received</u> by end of day on March 5.

Mail

OUCC Public Comments 115 West Washington Street Suite 1500 South Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Email

uccinfo@oucc.in.gov

Web

www.in.gov/oucc/contact-us

*Consumer comments will be filed as public documents. Please do not include any sensitive personal information.



Written consumer comments carry the same weight as oral testimony at field hearings.

Important Reminders for Speakers

- This is a formal, legal hearing. Before speaking, you will be sworn in.
- When the OUCC attorney calls your name, please approach the podium. You will be asked to state & spell your name for the court reporter.
- A court reporter will transcribe your comments for the formal record. Make sure you speak directly into the microphone so that your comments are accurately transcribed.
- Please focus your comments on CenterPoint Energy's electric rate request.

Case information on back



CenterPoint Energy Electric Rate Case

Case Overview

CenterPoint Energy Indiana's electric rate request is pending in IURC Cause No. 45990.

The utility's proposal would raise rates by \$118.8 million in three phases. The third phase would take effect in March 2026.

CenterPoint Energy's testimony & exhibits show its request would raise a monthly residential bill as follows:

Tariff	Current: 750 kWh/month	Requested: 750 kWh/month	Current: 1000 kWh/month	Requested: 1000 kWh/month
Residential Sales - Rate RS	\$161.20	\$195.85	\$207.20	\$253.40
Residential Sales - Rate RS-T (Transitional)	\$148.27	\$173.90	\$189.97	\$224.14
Residential Sales - Rate B (Water Heating Service)	\$105.69	\$147.45	\$136.00	\$191.69

Petitioner's Exh. 21, Pages 148-150

Each CenterPoint Energy residential electric bill (Rate RS) includes a monthly customer service charge of \$10.84 that does not vary by customer or usage. This charge would rise to \$23.20 under the utility's request.

The volumetric portion of the base electric rate would also rise under the utility's proposal.

CenterPoint Energy's current base electric rates received IURC approval in April 2011. However, billing amounts have since changed through tracker adjustments, which allow utilities to raise or reduce rates for specific costs subject to OUCC review & IURC approval. All five Indiana investor-owned electric utilities use trackers to recover costs to varying degrees. CenterPoint Energy uses trackers to recover costs for transmission & distribution infrastructure improvements, fuel & purchased power, regional transmission costs, compliance with federal environmental rules, and energy effficiency programs.

OUCC attorneys, accountants, economists, & engineers are reviewing CenterPoint Energy's testimony & exhibits. The OUCC will file testimony based on its analysis on Mar. 12, 2024.

Additional parties that have intervened in this case include the Evansville City Council, Citizens Action Coalition of Indiana, SABIC Innovative Plastics, and industrial customers including Consolidated Grain and Barge, CountryMark Refining and Logistics, Marathon Petroleum Company, and Toyota Motor Manufacturing of Indiana. Any testimony the intervenors file will be due on Mar. 12, 2024.

Interested in updates on the case? Scan this code with your phone camera to subscribe to our monthly newsletter.



CenterPoint Energy Electric Rate Case Timeline

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

Mar. 5, 2024 C

Public Comment Deadline

The OUCC accepts written comments online & by mail.

Mar. 12, 2024

OUCC Testimony

OUCC attorneys & technical experts will file recommendations.

Intervenors may also file testimony.

Apr. 9, 2024

Rebuttal Testimony

The utility may file testimony in response.

Apr. 30, 2024

IURC Evidentiary Hearing Starts

Attorneys for the OUCC, utility, & intervenors may cross-examine each other's technical witnesses.

Jun./Jul. 2024 🤇

Closing Briefs

The OUCC, utility, & intervenors may file closing briefs in the weeks following the evidentiary hearing.

Fall 2024

Order

The IURC issues a final order after considering all evidence.