

For Immediate Release February 3, 2020

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LMH Utilities rate case: IURC public hearing Feb. 13

The Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) encourages LMH Utilities customers to comment in the utility's pending rate case. LMH is a privately owned entity providing sewage disposal service to more than 1,200 customers in Dearborn County.

On Thursday, Feb. 13, 2020, the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) will hold a public field hearing in the case. The hearing will start at 6:00 p.m. in the Bright Elementary School Cafeteria (22593 State Line Rd., Lawrenceburg).

Customers will be able to speak directly to the Commission, under oath and on the record, during the hearing. They may also submit written comments for the case record.

No final decision will be made at the Feb. 13 hearing.

The OUCC, the state agency representing consumer interests in cases before the IURC, is using its legal and technical resources to review the utility's request. OUCC testimony is due on Feb. 20, 2020.

Under LMH's updated request, filed on Jan. 17, 2020, a monthly residential sewer bill for 5,000 gallons would rise from \$44.86 to \$55.45. The utility's original request, filed on Oct. 16, 2019, would have raised that amount to \$87.16. The utility cites operating and maintenance cost increases in its filings, along with a lack of customer growth. Current rates for LMH were approved in 2009.

Consumers who wish to submit written comments for the case record – either before or after the IURC hearing – may do so via the OUCC's website at www.in.gov/oucc/2361.htm, by email at uccinfo@oucc.IN.gov, or by mail at:

Consumer Services Staff Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor 115 W. Washington St., Suite 1500 South Indianapolis, IN 46204

The OUCC needs to receive all written consumer comments no later than Feb. 17, 2020 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**, **mailing address**, and a reference to "**IURC Cause No. 45307-U**." Please do not include account numbers and other sensitive information. Consumers with questions about submitting written comments can contact the OUCC's consumer services staff toll-free at 1-888-441-2494.

Updates on this case are being posted on the OUCC's website at www.in.gov/oucc/2497.htm. Case updates are also available through the agency's monthly electronic newsletter. Consumers can subscribe at www.in.gov/oucc/2877.htm.

(IURC Cause No. 45307-U)

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. Visit us at www.IN.gov/OUCC,