

MEDIA ADVISORY

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION (IURC)

101 W. Washington Street, Suite 1500 E., Indianapolis, IN 46204

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 25, 2020

CONTACT INFORMATION:
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Opportunity for Public Comment on Columbus Municipal Water Utility's Rate Case

****Please note virtual access, operational changes due to COVID-19 below****

- WHAT:** A field hearing will be held in Columbus by the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (Commission) to hear from the public on the rate case petition of Columbus Municipal Water Utility under [Cause No. 45427](#).
- WHEN:** December 2, 2020, at 6 p.m. local time
- WHERE:** Virtually via WebEx (details below) or Hotel Indigo Columbus Architectural Center – Belvedere Room, 400 Brown Street, Columbus, IN 47240
- WHY:** Columbus Municipal Water Utility has filed a petition before the Commission for a new schedule of rates and charges for water utility service.
- HOW:** During field hearings, ratepayers have the opportunity to speak directly to the Commission or submit written comments. Due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, the Commission will be hosting this field hearing primarily virtually. If ratepayers would like to watch the field hearing but do not plan to provide comments, they may do so at the YouTube link here: https://youtu.be/2_QWw0xeEGc.

There are 3 options for providing comments:

1. **Written Comments.** Ratepayers may submit written comments to the Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor at www.in.gov/oucc/2361.htm. Please note that written comments sent to the OUCC carry the same weight in the evidence of the case as those spoken at field hearings. Ratepayers also can submit their comments by mail or email:

Mail: Consumer Services Staff
Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor
115 W. Washington St., Suite 1500 South
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Email: uccinfo@oucc.IN.gov

Written comments should include the ratepayer's name, mailing address, and a reference to "Cause No. 45427."

2. **Comments via teleconference.** Ratepayers who wish to provide verbal comments to the Commission via WebEx teleconference are required to register by noon on Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2020 by calling 1-317-232-5888. Beginning at 5:45 p.m. on the day of the field hearing, ratepayers who have registered in advance may then join the field hearing virtually via WebEx. To join that day, ratepayers should call 1-415-655-0001 and enter the access code 172 212 7359# beginning at 5:45 p.m. local time. From there, the OUCC will call on ratepayers to speak, and comments will be recorded by the court reporter for addition to the case record. Please note that because this is a pending case, the commissioners and judge are not allowed to answer questions or engage in any discussion about the case.
3. **In-person comments.** If a ratepayer does not wish to provide written comments or is unable to join the WebEx on their own, they may come to the designated field hearing location (address above) to provide comments to the Commission via WebEx from there with the assistance of Commission staff. The OUCC will call on ratepayers to speak in the order they arrive at the location, and comments will be recorded by the court reporter for addition to the case record. Please note that because this is a pending case, the commissioners and judge are not allowed to answer questions or engage in any discussion about the case.

COVID-19 EXPECTATIONS FOR ATTENDING IN PERSON: Ratepayers who plan to attend this field hearing in person must enter only at the main building entrance and must then follow signage to the Belvedere Room, which is located in the south hallway off the lobby and restaurant. Customers will be called up to speak in the order they arrive, and we ask that customers avoid congregating in groups before and after the hearing. All attendees must wear masks, and we recommend all attendees observe appropriate social distancing in accordance with CDC guidelines. Hand sanitizer will be available to attendees.

If you would like to access case-related documents under Cause No. 45427, visit the Commission's Online Services Portal at <https://iurc.portal.in.gov/searchlegalcase/>. Instructions on how to best use this database can be found at <https://iurc.portal.in.gov/User%20manual.pdf>.

**If an accommodation is required to allow an individual with a disability to participate, please contact Stephanie Hodgin at 317-233-4723 or stehodgin@urc.in.gov at least 48 hours in advance.

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