Mr. Borum-please acknowledge receipt of these comments, thanks.

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Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
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After reading IURC's decision regarding the CPCN under docket 44446, today, I feel compelled to file these comments regarding the Vectren 2014 Integrated Resource Plan.

It is clear to me that yesterday’s decision by the IURC indicates that the Commission is going to allow ever greater ratepayer money to be squandered on old, dirty and inefficient coal fired power plants indefinitely into the future, regardless of considerable evidence that these expenditures will serve only to enhance the profitability of investor owned utilities across the state.

Even Vectren acknowledges that the Culley 2 and 3 plants are not currently operated in an economic fashion but the Commission has chosen to allow increased capital to be spent on them instead of even investigating the possibility of retirement of antiquated, half century old plants.

As a result of the Commission’s recent order, the increased “investment,” and I use that word sarcastically, in Culley and even Brown 1 and 2 will make Vectren’s IRP a self fulfilling prophesy without being backed up by any sort of reasonable economic analysis. Besides increasing stranded costs that Vectren’s ratepayers will have to endure when the plants become so old and perform so poorly that they will be physically required to close, ratepayers will be forced into paying unnecessarily just to keep the coal dinosaur alive for who knows just how long.

When I first decided to write comments on this current IRP, I thought I would keep it short and to the point by simply saying what I said in the very first IRP public meeting last March, “I believe this IRP could have been written in 1979 when AB Brown 1 first came on line. Nothing in this (draft) document has changed at all from that date. Vectren will still rely on Warrick, Culley and AB Brown but at ever increasing costs due to intentionally increased investment as it seeks to control its voluminous emissions of a variety of pollutants.”

When the Indiana legislature first allowed for CWIP type investments without sufficient Commission or other public oversight on anything that could be called “pollution control” or that could conceivably be called the oxymoron, “clean coal,” it opened a very wide door to abuse of
ratepayer trust. The result in this case is that Vectren has the highest electric rates in the midwest and this IRP will assure that customers continue to invest bad money after good money well into the future.

One is left to wonder just when will the madness end? Maybe in a state with one party rule, we will all become mere servants to the insidious monopoly business model and it will never end.

Thanks for this opportunity to comment.

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