

NEWS RELEASE

Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Utility Commission Receives Patriot Award

INDIANAPOLIS (May 21, 2015) – The Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (Commission) was presented with the Patriot Award by the Indiana Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (INESGR). The distinguished award was accepted by Chair Carol Stephan on behalf of the Commission for its efforts in supporting Andy Mapes, Commission policy analyst. Mapes also serves as a Captain in the Indiana Army National Guard.

The Patriot Award is given by the INESGR to acknowledge the efforts employers make to support citizen warriors through a wide-range of measures including flexible schedules, time off prior to and after deployment, caring for families, and granting leaves of absence if needed.

“Supporting our nation's service members is part of the culture at the Commission and in state government,” said Chair Stephan. “Although we never expected to receive an award, we are truly honored and hope we can be an example of how to support our military service members, whether in state government or in any industry.”

“The Patriot Award was created by ESGR to publicly recognize individuals who provide outstanding patriotic support and cooperation to their employees, who like the citizen warriors before them, have answered their nation’s call to serve,” said Steve Lynch INESGR State Chair.

As an Army Guardsman, Captain Mapes currently leads C Company, 638 Aviation Support Battalion as its commander, which requires him to plan and execute monthly drill exercises as well as an annual training event. Recently, Captain Mapes received orders to attend the Army’s aviation officer basic course and rotary wing flight school starting in July 2015, which will require him to be stationed in Fort Rucker, Ala., for approximately one year. To support his service, the Commission has made accommodations by providing him flexibility and hiring a temporary employee to continue ongoing projects and initiatives so as to provide him a seamless transition back into his civilian role and employment with the Commission.

About the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC)

The IURC is a fact-finding body that hears evidence in cases filed before it and makes decisions based on the evidence presented in those cases. An advocate of neither the public nor the utilities, the IURC is required by state statute to make decisions that balance the interests of all parties to ensure the utilities provide safe and reliable service at just and reasonable rates. For more information, please visit www.in.gov/iurc.

About the Indiana Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (INESGR)

INESGR is a Department of Defense office, led and operated by dedicated volunteers and staff whose mission is to gain and maintain employer support for the Guard and Reserve by recognizing outstanding support, increasing awareness of the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, resolving conflicts through mediation, and developing initiatives to increase employment opportunities for military service members and veterans. With the dedication of over 75 volunteers across Indiana, ESGR reaches out to employers and military service members in functional areas such as employer and military outreach, public affairs, mediation, training, and employment programs throughout the State.

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