

IURC Media Advisory
Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
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For Immediate Release

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IURC Releases Report on IPL Manhole Incidents, Holds Public Meeting

Meeting scheduled for December 19th at 10:00 a.m.

What: The Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) ordered an independent third-party investigator to review Indianapolis Power and Light's (IPL) operations and maintenance procedures in July 2011. The IURC's decision to bring in an independent third-party investigator stemmed from a series of manhole explosions downtown that occurred within a short period of time.

O'Neill Management Consulting, LLC was selected through an RFP process and contracted to perform the audit, which can be found on the IURC's website at: www.in.gov/iurc. The investigator's report addresses matters concerning the integrity of IPL's underground network, its operations and maintenance procedures, and how it documents the incidents. Additionally, the report identifies deficiencies that need to be addressed and offers recommendations on how to make the downtown network safer. The report was finalized on December 13, 2011.

The IURC has scheduled a public meeting so that O'Neill Management Consulting, LLC can provide an overview of the report and allow the IURC to ask any questions it may have regarding the report. The public will also be given an opportunity to direct comments or questions to the IURC. Also in attendance will be the Office of Utility Consumer Counselor, the state agency representing the public in all cases before the IURC.

When: The IURC public meeting will be held on December 19, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

Where: PNC Center, 101 W. Washington Street, Room 222, Indianapolis, IN 46204

The Commission will also live stream the meeting online at:
<http://www.in.gov/iurc/2624.htm>.

Why: There were a number of questions left unanswered about the safety of the system and any underlying factors that may have contributed to the frequency of the incidents. Additionally, the IURC sought to determine if IPL's procedures are in line with industry standards and best practices.

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The Commission 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 adequate and reliable service at reasonable prices. For more information, please visit: www.in.gov/iurc.