



For Immediate Release

May 4, 2017

News Media Contact:

Anthony Swinger, (317) 233-2747 or

aswinger@oucc.IN.gov

Eastern Bartholomew Water Rate Case: Consumer Comments Invited, May 18 Hearing Scheduled in Taylorsville

Customers of Eastern Bartholomew Water Corporation have two opportunities to comment on the utility's pending rate request.

The Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) continues to invite written comments for the case record. In addition, the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) will hold a public field hearing on Thursday, May 18, 2017 in Taylorsville.

The IURC's May 18 hearing will start at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria at Taylorsville Elementary School (9711 Walnut St.).

- Consumers will be able to speak directly to the Commission, under oath and on the record, regarding the rate case.
- Consumers will also be able to submit written comments for the case record.
- Comments will carry equal weight whether they are oral or written.
- Commissioners are not allowed to answer questions during the field hearing. However, OUCC staff will be available before, during and after the hearing to address questions about the process.

Consumers who are unable to attend the field hearing but wish to submit written comments may do so via the OUCC's Website at www.in.gov/oucc/2361.htm, or by mail, email, or fax:

- 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
- Fax: (317) 232-5923

Written comments the OUCC receives by June 14, 2017 will be filed 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. 44903.**" Consumers with questions about submitting written comments may call the OUCC toll-free at 1-888-441-2494.

(Continued)

Current base rates for Eastern Bartholomew Water Corporation – a not-for-profit utility serving more than 5,100 customers in Bartholomew, Decatur, and Jennings Counties – were approved in 2008. The utility’s pending request would raise the monthly residential water rate for 5,000 gallons from \$22.83 to \$33.77.

Testimony and exhibits filed by the utility cite increases in operating and maintenance costs while proposing a number of capital improvements. Specific projects include a new water treatment plant, a new storage tank, new office and maintenance buildings, main extensions, new meters and hydrants, and GIS mapping of the utility’s water distribution system.

The OUCC – the state agency representing consumer interests in cases before the IURC – is reviewing the utility’s request and anticipates filing testimony on May 23, 2017.

Case updates are being posted on the OUCC’s website at www.in.gov/oucc/2507.htm.

(IURC Cause No. 44903)

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, www.twitter.com/IndianaOUCC, or www.facebook.com/IndianaOUCC.

Sign up for our monthly newsletter at www.IN.gov/OUCC/2356.htm.