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Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor

115 West Washington Street, Suite 1500 South, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

www.IN.gov/OUCC • 1-888-441-2494

Consumer News...For You! February 2026

*Speaking Out * Case Updates * NIPSCO Gas TDSIC*

Speaking Out

The OUCC consumer services staff reviews every comment the agency receives, then directs the comment to the OUCC team assigned to the case.

There are multiple ways to share your comments on pending matters such as by mail, online, email, or speaking at a [public field hearing](#).

- **Online:** [Contact Form](#)
- **Email:** uccinfo@oucc.in.gov
- **Mail:**

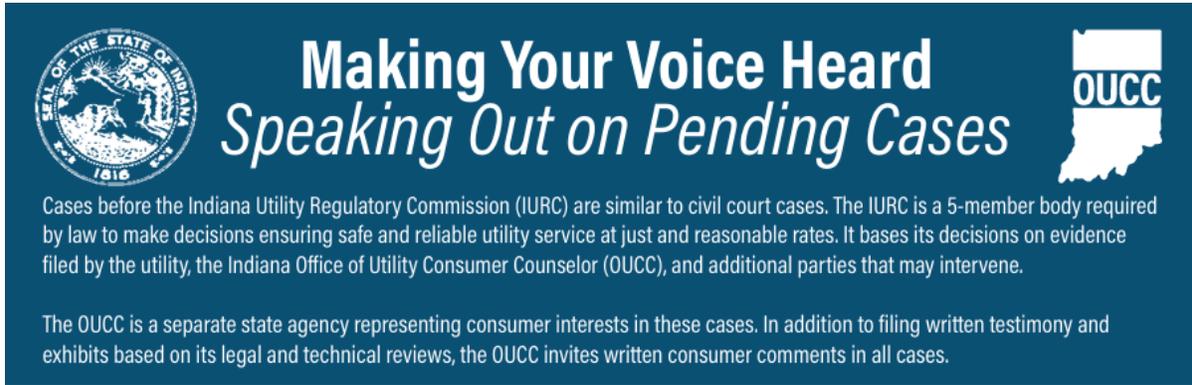
Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC)
115 W. Washington St., Suite 1500 SOUTH
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Things to include in your written comments:

- Your Name
- City and Zip Code
- Telephone number or E-mail address
- The utility's name and whether you are one of its customers
- The 5-digit cause number (if available)
- Whether your comments are on your behalf, or on behalf of an organization, business, etc.

Customers should not include sensitive information such as payment information or account numbers. Copies of bills are welcome and we encourage the redaction of sensitive information.

Consumer comments do not need to be technical in nature but should focus on the issues relevant to the specific case. Most importantly, your comments can and should reflect your personal experience as a customer. They may also include any professional knowledge and/or observations you wish to share.



Making Your Voice Heard
Speaking Out on Pending Cases

Cases before the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) are similar to civil court cases. The IURC is a 5-member body required by law to make decisions ensuring safe and reliable utility service at just and reasonable rates. It bases its decisions on evidence filed by the utility, the Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC), and additional parties that may intervene.

The OUCC is a separate state agency representing consumer interests in these cases. In addition to filing written testimony and exhibits based on its legal and technical reviews, the OUCC invites written consumer comments in all cases.

Case Updates

- The [City of Bloomington](#) is seeking a 2-phase rate increase. Under the city's pending proposal, monthly water charges for a residential customer using 4,000 gallons would rise from \$26.22 to \$31.35. Out-of-town customers using 4,000 gallons would rise from \$27.69 to \$32.04. There is a **public field hearing** on February 25, 2026 at 6:00 PM at Bloomington City Hall Council Chambers (401 North Morton Street).
 - The comment deadline is March 3, 2026.
- [Crossroads Utilities](#) is seeking a rate increase, if approved, would raise a monthly residential sewer bill from \$39.86 to \$109.28. A **public field hearing** is scheduled for March 2, 2026 at 5:45 PM at the Lawrenceburg Public Library District - Eleanor Ewbank Meeting Room (120 Mary Street).
 - Consumer comments are due March 3, 2026.
- The OUCC and [City of Fort Wayne](#) have entered into an agreement in principle on the pending water rate case. The formal settlement agreement and testimony will be due by February 25, 2026.
- [American Suburban Utilities](#) has filed for a sewer rate increase. Residential bills will raise from \$65.57 to \$82.85. A **public field hearing** has been scheduled for March 12 at 5:45 PM at West Lafayette Public Library's Elm, Maple & Walnut Rooms (208 West Columbia Street).
 - Consumer comments are invited through April 14, 2026.
- The OUCC and the [City of Lafayette](#) have reached a settlement agreement and the OUCC filed testimony in support on Feb. 12, 2026.
- A final order for the pending [AES Indiana](#) rate case is expected by June 24, 2026.
- The OUCC is requesting full denial of [Duke Energy's](#) nearly \$300 million Demand Side Management (DSM) plan.

NIPSCO Gas TDSIC Plan

NIPSCO's gas utility has filed a new Transmission, Distribution, and Storage System Improvement Charge (TDSIC) case under [Cause No. 46342](#).

The Indiana General Assembly enacted the Transmission, Distribution, and Storage System Improvement Charge (TDSIC) statute in 2013 and updated it in 2019.

Under the statute, a utility may file a five-to-seven year TDSIC plan with the Commission. If the plan is approved, the utility can then recover 80 percent of the costs as they are incurred through TDSIC tracker filings as often as

every six months. The remaining 20 percent are deferred until the utility's next base rate case, which must be filed before the end of the plan's term.

NIPSCO's initial filing requested recovering approximately \$765 million in proposed projects. After a discovery made by the OUCC, NIPSCO's request was revised for approximately \$741 million in recovery over a five year period.

The proposal seeks to increase capacity for gas delivery to Stueben and Lagrange Counties, replace aging gas lines, and various other projects to monitor and improve gas lines.

The OUCC is reviewing the request and will file testimony by March 11, 2026.

The OUCC is inviting comments on the case through March 4. Comments can be submitted [here](#).



Our Mission

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.



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