



For Immediate Release

Oct. 20, 2022

News Media Contact:

Olivia Rivera, (317) 232-3394 or

orivera@oucc.in.gov

NIPSCO Electric Rate Case: Public Comments Invited

If you would like to comment on Northern Indiana Public Service Company's (NIPSCO's) recently filed electric rate case, you have the chance to do so.

The Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC), the state agency representing consumer interests in cases before the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC), is inviting written consumer comments for the official case record through mid-January.

NIPSCO's request would raise an average monthly residential electric bill (668 kilowatt hours) from \$107.78 to \$127.21 under a two-phase increase taking effect in September 2023 and March 2024. The bill would then rise to \$133.43 under a new "tracker," or rate adjustment mechanism, that would gradually raise rates beginning in July 2024.

In its testimony, the utility states it is seeking the increase due to numerous infrastructure projects, including the transition from its coal-fired generating fleet to more renewable electricity production.

NIPSCO serves more than 483,000 electric customers in 20 counties. Natural gas rates are not at issue in this case.

OUCC analysts and attorneys are reviewing NIPSCO's testimony and exhibits. The agency is scheduled to complete its review and file testimony on Jan. 20, 2023. Public comments are invited in writing through Jan. 13, 2023.

Consumers who wish to submit written comments for the case record may do so via the OUCC's website at www.in.gov/oucc/2361.htm, by email at uccinfo@oucc.IN.gov, or by mail at:

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

The OUCC needs to receive all written consumer comments **no later than Jan. 13, 2023**, so that it can: 1) Consider comments in preparing its testimony and 2) File them 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 either "**IURC Cause No. 45772**" or "**NIPSCO Electric Rates**". Consumers with questions about submitting written comments can contact the OUCC's consumer services staff toll-free at 1-888-441-2494.

In addition, the OUCC has filed a pending request for two IURC public field hearings to be held in the utility's service territory. Comments offered at field hearings carry equal weight with written consumer comments the OUCC receives and files for formal case records.

Several additional parties have intervened in this case, including the Citizens Action Coalition of Indiana, United States Steel Corporation, and NLMK Indiana. Any testimony they file is also due by Jan. 20, 2023.

The OUCC is posting case updates online at www.in.gov/oucc/electric/key-cases-by-utility/nipSCO-electric-rates/nipSCO-electric-rate-case-20222023/. Case updates are also available through the agency's monthly electronic newsletter. Consumers can subscribe at www.in.gov/oucc/news.

(IURC Cause No. 45772)

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.

NIPSCO Electric Rate Case Timeline

All dates are subject to change. A settlement is possible in any legal proceeding.

Jan. 13, 2023

Public Comment Deadline

The OUCC accepts written comments online and by mail.

Jan. 20, 2023

OUCC Testimony

OUCC attorneys & technical experts will file recommendations.

Feb. 16, 2023

Rebuttal Testimony

Utility may file testimony in response.

Mar. 13, 2023

IURC Evidentiary Hearing Starts

Attorneys for the OUCC, utility, & intervenors may cross-examine each other's technical witnesses.

Spring 2023

Closing Briefs

The OUCC, utility, & intervenors may file closing briefs in the weeks following the evidentiary hearing.

Summer 2023

Order

The IURC issues a final order after considering all evidence.