



For Immediate Release

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Rivers Edge Water Rate Case: Consumer Comments Invited Public Hearing Set for March 28 in Charlestown

Customers of Wastewater One, doing business as Rivers Edge Utility, Inc., have 2 opportunities to comment on the utility's rate increase 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 Tuesday, March 28, 2017.

The IURC's March 28 hearing will start at 6:00 p.m. in the Charlestown Senior High School Auditorium (1 Pirate Place).

- 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

The OUCC needs to receive all written consumer comments no later than Friday, March 31, 2017 so that it can: 1) Consider them 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 "IURC Cause No. 44876-U." Consumers with questions about submitting written comments may call the OUCC toll-free at 1-888-441-2494.

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A monthly water bill for a residential customer using 5,000 gallons would rise from \$39.85 to \$67.15 under the utility's request. Rivers Edge cites higher operating and maintenance costs in its filing with the IURC, along with multiple capital improvements including new tanks and the replacements of well pumps, valves, and pipes. Current water rates for Rivers Edge – which provides service in Clark County – received approval in 2010.

The OUCC – which represents consumer interests in all cases before the IURC – is reviewing the proposed rate increase and has until April 7, 2017 to file its report and recommendations.

Case updates are being posted on the OUCC's website at www.in.gov/oucc/2566.htm.

(IURC Cause No. 44876-U)

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.

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