



Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor

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River's Edge Utility, Inc. - IURC Cause No. 43115

PUBLIC FIELD HEARING – BASIC FACTS

An Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) public field hearing is a formal, legal proceeding.

- It is presided over by an Administrative Law Judge and recorded by a court reporter, with at least one Commissioner present.

The sole purpose of the field hearing is to accept sworn testimony from consumers under oath.

- Field hearings do not include presentations by utilities.
- Wastewater One, LLC, filed written testimony and exhibits with the IURC on June 19, 2009.
- IURC Commissioners are not allowed to answer questions, as they will ultimately weigh the evidence and render a final decision.
- IURC and Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) staff will be available to answer procedural questions on an individual basis.

Consumers may make sworn written or oral comments on the pending case.

- Consumer comments are given equal consideration whether they are written or oral.

Attorneys for the case's formal parties – including the OUCC and utilities – may participate.

- As this is a legal proceeding, the attorneys are entitled, but not required, to ask questions following your testimony.

No final decision in the case will be made tonight.

- IURC final orders are issued during regular weekly meetings of the full Commission.

CASE OVERVIEW

In Cause No. 43115, the **Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC)** is considering the petition, testimony and exhibits filed by **Wastewater One, LLC** on June 19, 2009.

- Wastewater One is seeking authority to purchase the assets of River's Edge Utility, Inc. and to increase its rates and charges.
- According to its filing, Wastewater One's proposal would raise the monthly combined water and sewer bill for a metered residential customer using 5,000 gallons per month from \$45.10 to \$157.00. In its testimony and exhibits, the company states that the majority of the requested increase would cover proposed operating and maintenance costs.

The **Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC)** is a separate agency from the IURC, and is the statutory representative for the interests of all utility consumers (residential, commercial and industrial) in cases before the IURC.

- The OUCC is currently scheduled to file testimony in this case on September 16, 2009. In the meantime, the agency's technical and legal team assigned to this case continues to review Wastewater One's request.
- After being filed with the Commission, the OUCC's testimony will be available online at www.in.gov/oucc/2566.htm.

An IURC public field hearing is scheduled for September 1, 2009 in Charlestown, at which oral and written comments will be accepted for the evidentiary record in this case. The following steps are scheduled beyond the field hearing date:

- September 16, 2009: Deadline for OUCC testimony
- October 2, 2009: Deadline for Wastewater One rebuttal testimony
- October 15, 2009: A technical evidentiary hearing is scheduled in Indianapolis. While these hearings are open to the public, participation is typically limited to technical witnesses who have filed written testimony on behalf of the case's formal parties.

IURC final orders are issued at the Commission's weekly Conferences. Conferences are typically held on Wednesday afternoons, with agendas posted 48 hours in advance at www.in.gov/iurc/2428.htm.

A settlement agreement is possible in any legal proceeding. All hearing and filing dates in any legal proceeding are subject to change.

GENERAL AGENCY INFORMATION

Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC)

- State agency
- Represents the interests of all Indiana utility consumers – including residential, commercial and industrial customer interests – in cases before the IURC and federal utility regulatory commissions
- Staff of attorneys, accountants, engineers, economists, consumer services and support personnel

Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC)

- State agency
- Regulates many, but not all, Indiana utilities
- Regulates utility rates, financing, service territory, quality, etc.
- Authority to investigate utility rates and practices
- Neutral, fact-finding body
- Required by law to make decisions that balance the interests of utilities and consumers