



**For Immediate Release**

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## **Shady Side Drive Water rate case: Consumer comments invited**

If you would like to comment on the rate increase requested by Shady Side Drive Water Corporation, you have the opportunity 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 reviewing the utility's request and is scheduled to file its recommendations on February 19, 2018.

Along with its legal and technical review, the OUCC is inviting written consumer comments for the case record through February 12, 2018.

Current rates for Shady Side Drive Water Corporation, a not-for-profit utility providing service in Monroe County, were approved in 2014. Under the utility's pending request, the monthly water bill for a residential customer using 5,000 gallons would rise from \$41.79 to \$54.70. Shady Side Drive Water Corporation cites increases in operating, maintenance, and wholesale water costs in its filing with the IURC.

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](http://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](mailto:uccinfo@oucc.IN.gov)
- Fax: (317) 232-5923

The OUCC needs to receive all written consumer comments no later than February 12, 2018 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. 45014-U.**" Consumers with questions about submitting written comments can contact the OUCC's consumer services staff toll-free at 1-888-441-2494.

Case updates will be posted on the OUCC's website at [www.in.gov/oucc/2771.htm](http://www.in.gov/oucc/2771.htm).

Shady Side Drive Water Corporation is seeking the rate increase through the state's Small Utility Filing Procedure, which is available to utilities with fewer than 5,000 customers and is designed to reduce the time and expense involved with regulatory filings. Savings are gained by allowing utility staff to use standardized forms resulting in utilities needing less assistance from rate consultants or attorneys.

The standard for OUCC and IURC reviews on small utility filings is the same that applies to traditional utility filings. The OUCC conducts its review on behalf of all utility consumers while the IURC's review is conducted on behalf of the public interest (a balancing of utility and customer interests). A settlement agreement is possible in any legal proceedings; such an agreement, if reached, would require IURC approval.

(IURC Cause No. 45014-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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