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# OUCC

Indiana Office of Utility  
Consumer Counselor

## Consumer News.... For You!

OCTOBER 2018

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### INDIANA AMERICAN WATER RATE CASE

The OUCC's analysts and attorneys have started reviewing Indiana American Water Company's (IAWC's) newly filed [rate case](#). In a more than 8,000-page filing of testimony, exhibits, and work papers, IAWC is requesting a two-phase increase with raises to take effect in July 2019 and July 2020. Written consumer comments are invited, and the OUCC will file testimony on a future date to be determined.




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### NIPSCO GAS SETTLEMENT APPROVED

A settlement agreement in the Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO) gas [rate case](#) has received IURC approval, reducing the utility's request by \$48.9 million and limiting the increase in the monthly residential customer charge to \$3. The OUCC, industrial customers, and NIPSCO reached the agreement, which will also provide rate credits due to federal income tax relief.

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### MORE CASE UPDATES

- The IURC evidentiary hearing on Vectren's [proposal](#) to build a new natural gas-fired power plant and install coal emissions technology is underway. The hearing will last for several days with a Commission order expected early next year.
- Written consumer comments in the [Fort Wayne](#) municipal water utility rate case are invited through October 23.
- Indiana American Water Company's (IAWC's) proposal to buy the [Sheridan](#) municipal water and wastewater utilities has received Commission approval. The OUCC and the utility negotiated a settlement agreement that will allow the transaction to go forward.
- Northern Indiana Public Service Company's (NIPSCO's) three-year electric [energy efficiency](#) plan has received Commission approval. A settlement agreement on NIPSCO's proposed natural gas energy efficiency plan is pending.
- Hearings involving several natural gas and water utilities in the IURC's [Tax Cuts and Jobs Act](#) investigation are scheduled in the next few weeks. Issues include rate credits for taxes collected at the former 35 percent rate since January 1.

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### PLANT A TREE NOW FOR EFFICIENCY LATER

Landscaping, if done properly, can make your home more energy efficient year-round. The same trees that provide shade in the summer can make good windbreaks around your house in the winter. Deciduous trees' leaves help shade the building from sunlight during the summer and allow winter sunlight to reach the building, helping keep it warm. [Purdue Consumer Horticulture](#) recommends sycamore and most maple trees, among other specific species, for a successful fall planting. And if you're planting or doing any other digging, make sure you [call 811](#) or complete the form at [www.811now.com](http://www.811now.com) at least two business days in advance.



**FROM INDIANA TO UGANDA**

OUCC Chief Technical Analyst Ed Rutter visited Uganda last month to share ideas and expertise on financial reporting for the nation's growing electric utility industry. Rutter's proficiency is based on 40 years of experience including service at the OUCC, consulting for state public service commissions, and developing broadband and cable television systems in Eastern Europe during the late 1980s and early 1990s. The National Association of Utility Regulatory Commissioners (NARUC) invited Rutter and other American experts to participate in the forum in Kampala.

**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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