FILED December 28, 2023 INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

STATE of INDIANA



INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION 101 WEST WASHINGTON STREET, SUITE 1500 EAST INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-3419 www.in.gov/iurc Office: (317) 232-2701 Facsimile: (317) 232-6758

VERIFIED PETITION OF SOUTHERN INDIANA GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY D/B/A CENTERPOINT ENERGY INDIANA SOUTH ("CEI SOUTH") FOR (1) AUTHORITY TO MODIFY ITS RATES AND CHARGES FOR ELECTRIC UTILITY SERVICE THROUGH A PHASE-IN OF RATES, (2) APPROVAL OF NEW SCHEDULES OF RATES AND CHARGES, AND NEW AND REVISED RIDERS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO A NEW TAX ADJUSTMENT RIDER AND A NEW GREEN POWER RIDER (3) APPROVAL OF A CRITICAL PEAK PRICING ("CPP") PILOT PROGRAM, (4) APPROVAL OF REVISED DEPRECIATION RATES **CAUSE NO. 45990** APPLICABLE TO ELECTRIC AND COMMON PLANT IN SERVICE, (5) APPROVAL OF NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE ACCOUNTING RELIEF, INCLUDING AUTHORITY TO CAPITALIZE AS RATE BASE ALL CLOUD COMPUTING COSTS AND DEFER TO A REGULATORY ASSET AMOUNTS NOT ALREADY INCLUDED IN BASE RATES THAT ARE INCURRED **FOR THIRD-PARTY CLOUD COMPUTING** ARRANGEMENTS, AND (6) APPROVAL OF ALTERNATIVE REGULATORY PLAN GRANTING CEI SOUTH A WAIVER FROM 170 IAC 4-1-16(F) TO ALLOW FOR REMOTE DISCONNECTION FOR NON-PAYMENT.

You are notified that on this date the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission has caused the following entry to be made:

On December 5, 2023, Southern Indiana Gas and Electric Company d/b/a CenterPoint Energy Indiana South ("Petitioner") filed its proposed procedural schedule in this Cause. On December 22, 2023, intervenors Citizens Action Coalition of Indiana, Inc. ("CAC") and the CenterPoint Energy Indiana South Industrial Group ("IG") and the Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor ("OUCC") filed their Joint Parties' Request for Adoption of Proposed Procedural Schedule, indicating that the CAC, IG, and OUCC had agreed to the proposed procedural schedule filed by Petitioner. The Presiding Officers, having reviewed the proposed schedule, now vacate the Prehearing Conference scheduled for January 3, 2024 and establish the following procedural schedule in this matter:

- 1. <u>Test Year and Accounting Method</u>. The forward-looking test year for determining Petitioner's actual and pro forma operating revenues, expenses, and operating income under present and proposed rates shall be the 12 months ended December 31, 2025, adjusted for changes that are fixed, known, and measurable for ratemaking purposes and that occur within 12 months following the end of the test year. The historic base period utilized by Petitioner in this proceeding is the 12-month period ended December 31, 2022.
- **2.** <u>Cutoff date.</u> The rate base cutoff shall reflect used and useful property as of December 31, 2023 (for Petitioner's proposed Phase 1 rates) and December 31, 2025 (for the proposed Phase 2 and 3 rates).
- 3. <u>Notice to Customers</u>. Petitioner shall provide evidence of its compliance with 170 IAC 4-1-18(C) to provide notice to its customers within 45 days of filing a petition with the Commission for a change in its base rates which fairly summarizes the nature and extent of the proposed changes.
- **4.** <u>Petitioner's Prefiling Date.</u> Petitioner has already prefiled with the Commission the prepared testimony and exhibits constituting its case-in-chief.
 - **5. Field Hearing.** A field hearing will be scheduled via separate docket entry.
- 6. <u>OUCC's and Intervenors' Prefiling Date</u>. The OUCC and all intervenors shall prefile with the Commission the prepared testimony and exhibits constituting their respective cases-in-chief on or before March 12, 2024. Copies of the same shall be served upon all parties of record.
- 7. <u>Petitioner's Rebuttal Prefiling Date.</u> Petitioner shall prefile with the Commission its prepared rebuttal testimony on or before April 9, 2024. Copies of the same shall be served upon all parties of record.
- **8.** <u>Cross-Answering Testimony.</u> The OUCC and all intervenors may prefile with the Commission any cross-answering testimony and exhibits responding to the cases-in-chief prefiled by parties other than Petitioner on or before April 9, 2024. Copies of the same shall be served upon all parties of record.
- 9. <u>Settlement Agreement and Testimony</u>. If settlement is reached, the Presiding Administrative Law Judge shall promptly be notified via an email upon which counsel for all parties are copied, and the Settlement Agreement and the parties' supporting testimony shall be prefiled with the Commission on or before April 16, 2024. Copies of same shall be served upon all parties.
- 10. <u>Witness Order</u>. Each party shall file their intended witness order to the Commission and all parties of record in writing at least 72 hours in advance of the evidentiary hearing.

- 11. Evidentiary Hearing. In the event this Cause is not settled, this matter shall proceed to an evidentiary hearing to commence on April 30, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 222 of the PNC Center, 101 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, Indiana. May 1–3, 6, 8, and 10 have also been tentatively reserved for the evidentiary hearing. At such time, the cases-in-chief of Petitioner, the OUCC, and intervenors shall be presented and their respective witnesses examined. Thereafter, Petitioner shall present its prefiled rebuttal evidence as well as any additional evidence rebutting evidence adduced on cross-examination of the OUCC's or intervenors' witnesses.
- Hearing Exhibits. Paper copies of exhibits to be offered at the evidentiary hearing must be: (a) single-sided; and (b) fastened together with staples, binder clips, or other non-permanent bindings that have no more than three holes along the longest edge. Parties shall process exhibits (1) consisting of excel spreadsheets, (2) are oversized, or (3) are voluminous in nature, through an optical character recognition program and offer the exhibits on a compact disc. Parties shall offer confidential exhibits on green paper in an envelope marked "confidential" or, if offered on a compact disc, the compact disc shall be labeled "confidential."
- 13. <u>Sworn Testimony</u>. Any witness testimony to be offered into the record of this proceeding shall be made under oath or affirmation. In accordance with 170 IAC 1-1.1-18(i), if a party offers prefiled testimony of a witness into evidence at the evidentiary hearing, and the witness sponsoring the prefiled testimony is not required to, and does not, attend the evidentiary hearing, the prefiled testimony shall be accompanied by the witness's sworn affidavit or written verification at the time the evidence is offered into the record.
- 14. <u>Post-Hearing Filings</u>. Petitioner shall file its proposed order on or before June 4, 2024. The OUCC and Intervenors shall file their respective proposed orders and/or any exceptions to Petitioner's proposed order on or before June 25, 2024. Petitioner shall file its reply to any other proposed orders, and the OUCC and intervenors shall file any cross-answering responses to the proposed orders of any party but Petitioner, on or before July 2, 2024.
- **15.** <u>Discovery.</u> Discovery shall be conducted on an informal basis, with responses or objections to discovery requests served on or before April 9, 2024 due within ten calendar days. Responses or objections to discovery requests served after April 9, 2024 will be due within five business days. Discovery requests served after 5 p.m. on Monday through Thursday or after noon on Friday or the day preceding a legal holiday will be deemed served the following business day. All discovery requests and responses shall be served on all parties of record.
- 16. <u>Prefiling of Workpapers.</u> When a party prefiles technical evidence with the Commission, the party shall also file a copy of the workpapers used to produce that evidence within two business days after prefiling of the technical evidence. Copies of the workpapers shall also be served on all other parties in this Cause. When submitting workpapers to the Commission, two copies of each document shall be filed with the Secretary of the Commission.
- 17. <u>Number of Copies/Corrections</u>. Filings with the Commission shall comply with General Administrative Order 2016-2. Any corrections to prefiled testimony shall be made in writing as soon as possible after discovery of the need to make such corrections.

- 18. Objections to Prefiled Testimony and Exhibits. Parties shall file and serve on all parties of record, any objections to the admissibility of prefiled testimony or exhibits as soon as an objection can be reasonably determined, but no less than ten days prior to the date scheduled for commencement of the hearing at which the testimony or exhibit will be offered into the record.
- 19. <u>Intervenors</u>. Any party permitted to become an intervenor in this Cause shall be bound by the record as it stands at the time its Petition to Intervene is granted, pursuant to 170 IAC 1-1.1-11.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

David E. Veleta, Commissioner

Jennifer L. Schuster, Senior Administrative Law Judge

Date: December 28, 2023