

FILED July 22, 2022 INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

STATE OF INDIANA

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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APPLICATION OF INDIANAPOLIS POWER & LIGHT COMPANY D/B/A AES INDIANA FOR APPROVAL OF A FUEL COST FACTOR FOR **ELECTRIC SERVICE DURING THE BILLING MONTHS OF SEPTEMBER 2022 THROUGH** NOVEMBER 2022, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF I.C. 8-1-242, AND CONTINUED USE OF RATEMAKING TREATMENT FOR COSTS OF WIND POWER PURCHASES PURSUANT TO CAUSE NOS. 43485 AND 43740, AND CONTINUED **RECOVERY OF THE COSTS OF THE FUEL HEDGING PLAN PURSUANT TO I.C. 8-1-2-42.**

CAUSE NO. 38703 FAC-136



INDIANA OFFICE OF UTILITY CONSUMER COUNSELOR

PUBLIC'S EXHIBIT NO. 3

OUCC's CONSUMER COMMENTS

July 22, 2022

Foriaine Hitz

Lorraine Hitz Attorney No. 18006-29 Deputy Consumer Counselor
 From:
 noreply@formstack.com

 To:
 UCC Consumer Info

 Subject:
 OUCC_Contact_2361

 Date:
 Friday, July 1, 2022 1:51:41 PM

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Formstack Submission For: OUCC_Contact_2361 -COPY

Submitted at 07/01/22 1:51 PM

Title:	
Name:	Jennifer Bucki
Email:	kidjbucki@aol.com
Address:	711 E 81st St Indianapolis, IN 46240
Telephone (Best number to reach you between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm, Eastern Time, Monday through Friday)::	(317) 726-1046
If providing comments on a specific case, please	

indicate the cause number and/or name of utility::

IURC Cause No. 38703-FAC 136

The IURC need only to look at the utility's financials to see that AES Indiana does not need to raise rates. Holders of preferred stock continue to rake in annual dividends of \$5.65/share (ie, annual yield over5.5%). To add further insult to injury, the CEO of AES Indiana's parent organization made over \$14.3 million last year - excluding benefits. The IURC has an obligation to protect Indiana citizens against corporate profiteers and it would fail to uphold its public duty if it continues to allow AES Indiana to abuse adjustable rate mechanisms, more commonly called "trackers" and "riders".

The IURC has been manipulated by the utility to the detriment of the public such as when IPL, prior to the transition to AES Indiana, convinced the IURC to approve additional trackers. Those changes have lead to more frequent and larger bill increases for consumers. AES Indiana has just raised their FAC rate effective May 31, 2022, increasing prices by over 5% for the average residential customer but the utility has bellied up to the trough asking for an additional 18.9% rate hike to cover fluctuating fuel costs caused by inflation, delivery, etc. The facts showed that this increase is NOT warranted. According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, inflation has averaged 2.41%/year since 2001 vet residential electric rates rose over 74% from 2001-2018 (Indiana Energy Association figures) which does NOT include the rate increase approved on October 31, 2018.

AES Indiana has been allowed to pass along all of the costs associated with its debacle at Eagle Valley. Not only are consumers paying for excessive cost overruns from the initial construction but they also are paying for the \$600 million plant to sit idle and for the power that AES Indiana is buying from the grid to cover the outage. Furthermore, AES Indiana intends to saddle consumers with the costs of the actual repairs related to equipment and labor. The public cannot know the full impact of that burden until the utility files that rate case in the coming months/years.

Your Comments::

From:	<u>Ryan Heathco</u>
То:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	AES Rate Increase
Date:	Thursday, July 7, 2022 6:57:12 AM

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To whom it may concern:

AES has no justification for raising rates by 19%. AES recently acquired IPL. This is a national company buying small utilities and price gouging. Everyone is negatively impacted by inflation and Hoosiers can't absorb this increase. Please deny their request.



Ryan Heathco | Lead Minister | Ben Davis Christian Church (317) 241-3944 | 701 S. High School Rd. Indianapolis, IN 46241

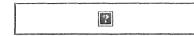
Equipping people for life on mission. Want to know more? Go to our website: <u>www.bdcc.org</u>
 From:
 noreply@formstack.com

 To:
 UCC Consumer Info

 Subject:
 OUCC_Contact_2361

 Date:
 Thursday, June 30, 2022 11:39:58 AM

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Formstack Submission For: OUCC_Contact_2361 - COPY

Submitted at 06/30/22 11:39 AM

Title:	
Name:	Deborah Perez
Email:	shaylatyrian@gmail.com
Address:	5550 Riva Ridge Dr Indianapolis, IN 46237
Telephone (Best number to reach you between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm, Eastern Time, Monday through Friday)::	
If providing comments on a specific case, please	

indicate the cause number and/or name of utility::	AES Indiana FAC rate increase	
Your Comments::	I have no problem with AES increasing their rates based on increasing natural gas costs. That's perfectly fair. But as a customer already paying extra for green power, I don't think this increase should apply to customers like me who have chosen green power. The cost of generating green power hasn't changed. Let the customers using fossil fuels pay the extra cost of their fuel.	

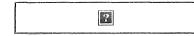
 From:
 noreply@formstack.com

 To:
 UCC Consumer Info

 Subject:
 OUCC_Contact_2361

 Date:
 Monday, June 27, 2022 9:46:18 AM

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Formstack Submission For: OUCC_Contact_2361 - COPY

Submitted at 06/27/22 9:46 AM

Title:	
Name:	Michael Harrison
Email:	Majik711@aol.com
Address:	7632 Southern Lakes Dr. Indianapolis, IN 46237
Telephone (Best number to reach you between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm, Eastern Time, Monday through Friday)::	
If providing comments on a specific	

case, please

indicate the cause number and/or name of utility::

enough is enough. A rate increase was just approved in May of 2022. Give customers some breathing room or time to adjust to last increase. I am a senior citizen, barely making ends meet now, am not eligible for any assistance programs, and make a very meager pension of just over a \$1000 a month. My wife who is still employed, retires in Feb. of 2023, so income will go Your **Comments::** down substantially at that point. I am against any increases until at least next summer of 2023 at very minimum. Makes one wish we had a choice like other states for whom we can get service from, but we do not. This is Indiana, and a monopoly unfortunately. Please consider my pleas, along with many other Hoosiers who do not want another increase so suddenly.

 From:
 noreply@formstack.com

 To:
 UCC Consumer Info

 Subject:
 OUCC_Contact_2361.

 Date:
 Wednesday, June 29, 2022 10:11:45 AM

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Formstack Submission For: OUCC_Contact_2361 - COPY

Submitted at 06/29/22 10:11 AM

Title:	Mrs.
Name:	Val Ford
Email:	ford.6735@att.net
Address:	6735 Middleton Ct Indianapolis, IN 46268
Telephone (Best number to reach you between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm, Eastern Time, Monday through Friday)::	(317) 757-9010
If providing comments on a specific case, please indicate the cause number and/or name of utility::	AES
Your Comments::	Raising cost of electricity in midst of inflation is not in the best interest of customers. How will Senior Citizens and Families survive with this increase. There has to be a better

solution.

Thank you.

 From:
 noreply@formstack.com

 To:
 UCC Consumer Info

 Subject:
 OUCC_Contact_2361

 Date:
 Tuesday, June 28, 2022 12:53:08 PM

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Formstack Submission For: OUCC_Contact_2361 - COPY

Submitted at 06/28/22 12:52 PM

Title:	Ms.	
Name:	Mary Mildenberg	
Email:	mmildenberg13@gmail.com	
Address:	344 N Arsenal Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46201	
Telephone (Best number to reach you between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm, Eastern Time, Monday through Friday)::	(317) 796-9859	
If providing comments on a specific case, please		

indicate the cause number and/or name of utility::	AES Indiana
Your Comments::	I believe that AES Indiana should not be able to hike our bills because this a result of the utility's delay in switching to more affordable, clean energy solutions. I already do my part, with paperless billing, 100% green power participation, and coolcents participation. My bills have steadily gone up even though I no longer live with a roommate. I do not understand how they can hike rates up with no accountability.

From:	robert5407
To:	UCC Consumer Info
Subject:	Aes rate hike proposal
Date:	Monday, June 27, 2022 4:26:28 PM

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My main concern is that they come across they have not raised rates and that's not true. They have raised rates already and have gotten to be a problem to budget to pay our monthly bill.

If the proposed rate proposal is for higher fuel costs. Utilities are different than other prices with other items. The prices will come down but when Utilities raise it never comes down. For this reason I am so against any further increases and that goes for all Utilities. They bring in millions a month from bills paid and need to use present funds for their operation. 25 dollars more is ridiculous and should be shut down. It is an insult to be asked for that when they take care most problems right from the main office. Flipping a switch that's no travel.

They should be asked to make improvements with what they have.

Robert Sparks 5407 West 35th Street Indianapolis Indiana

46224

Sent from my Galaxy

 From:
 noreply@formstack.com

 To:
 UCC Consumer Info

 Subject:
 OUCC_Contact_2361

 Date:
 Monday, June 27, 2022 12:10:11 PM

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Formstack Submission For: OUCC_Contact_2361 - COPY

Submitted at 06/27/22 12:10 PM

Title:	Ms.
Name:	Nancy Petrick
Email:	nancy.petrick@sbcglobal.net
Address:	5921 N Kingsley Dr Indianapolis, IN 46220
Telephone (Best number to reach you between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm, Eastern Time, Monday through Friday)::	(317) 496-2989
If providing comments on a specific case, please indicate the cause number and/or name of utility::	38703-FAC136
Your Comments::	Since IPL is now AES, it seems they are always raising rates. I can not afford another rate increase! they just raised rates this spring.

 From:
 noreplv@formstack.com

 To:
 UCC Consumer Info

 Subject:
 OUCC_Contact_2361

 Date:
 Monday, June 27, 2022 8:58:43 AM

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Formstack Submission For: OUCC_Contact_2361 - COPY

Submitted at 06/27/22 8:58 AM

Title:	Ms.
Name:	Patricia Hemmerle
Email:	pat.hemmerle@sbcglobal.net
Address:	6164 N Park Ave N Park Ave Indianapolis, IN 46220
Telephone (Best number to reach you between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm, Eastern Time, Monday through Friday)::	(317) 257-2702
If providing comments on a specific case, please indicate the cause number and/or name of utility::	38703-FAC136
Your Comments::	I can not handle the price increase AES is proposing. Since they just implemented a rate increase in May 2022, this seems

excessive during this inlationary period. Please deny this increase.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that a copy of the foregoing Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor Public's

Exhibit No. 3 OUCC's Consumer Comments has been served upon the following counsel of record in the

captioned proceeding by electronic service on July 22, 2022.

Teresa Morton Nyhart Jeffrey M. Peabody BARNES & THORNBURG LLP tnyhart@btlaw.com jpeabody@btlaw.com

Foriaine Hitz

Lorraine Hitz Deputy Consumer Counselor

INDIANA OFFICE OF UTILITY CONSUMER COUNSELOR

115 West Washington Street Suite 1500 South Indianapolis, IN 46204 <u>infomgt@oucc.in.gov</u> 317/232-2775 - Lorraine's No. 317/232-2494 – Phone 317/232-5923 – Facsimile