

FILED

JAN 29 2019

INDIANA UTILITY  
REGULATORY COMMISSION

STATE of INDIANA



INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
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INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-3419

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PETITION OF DUKE ENERGY INDIANA, LLC )  
FOR APPROVAL OF A SOLAR SERVICES )  
PROGRAM TARIFF, RIDER NO. 26, AND )  
APPROVAL OF ALTERNATIVE REGULATORY ) CAUSE NO. 45145  
PLAN ("ARP") AND DECLINATION OF )  
JURISDICTION TO THE EXTENT REQUIRED )  
UNDER IND. CODE 8-1-2.5-1, ET. SEQ. )

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

Please be advised that Commissioner David Ober received a letter from Reverend Mark C. Sirnic, Senior Pastor of Bethlehem United Church of Christ, on January 29, 2019, that addresses matters currently pending in this proceeding. The entire text of the letter is attached to this Docket Entry. Disclosure of this written communication is being tendered to the record pursuant to 170 IAC 1-1.5-6.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

David L. Ober, Commissioner

Brad J. Pope, Administrative Law Judge

Date



# Bethlehem United Church of Christ

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January 28, 2019

Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission  
PNC Center, 101 W. Washington Street, Suite 1500E  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Re: Cause 45145

Commissioner David Ober,

I support the Duke Energy proposal for leasing solar energy systems to enable faster growth of renewable energy.

Bethlehem UCC was the first church in Southwest Indiana to install solar panels. Our 54.4 KW system produces approximately 70,000 kwh annually, providing 90% of our electrical needs and reducing our utility bills significantly. However, if solar leasing had been available, we would have installed our system sooner, and we would have installed a bigger system. Many churches in our area would like to follow Bethlehem's lead; however, the initial cost of solar energy is prohibitive to many congregations.

In addition, the previous church I served in Colorado also installed solar panels. These panels were leased, and our arrangement was a win-win for both the church and the lessor. Solar panels are much more prevalent in Colorado; many churches took advantage of this opportunity to reduce their utility costs.

As Vectren customers, we are interested in the Duke Energy proposal because a similar leasing program by Vectren could make affordable energy more accessible to those non-profits with limited financial resources in Evansville.

We encourage the Commission to approve the proposed program. We appreciate your attention to our comments.

Very truly yours,

Rev. Mark C. Sirnic  
Senior Pastor